3 OCT 2024 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

After the Opening ceremony was conducted, Commander John Barkley called the 3 OCT 2024 American Legion Post 49 membership meeting to order at 1900.

Order of Business

Adjutant Roll Call: **Cmdr. John Barkley**, **1st Vice Cmdr. Earl Lash, 2nd Vice Cmdr Jim Addessi, Adjutant Bob Dargis,** Finance Officer Sean Russell, **Judge Advocate Jason Turner**, Sgt. at Arms Sieg Freitag, Chaplain Larry Girard**,** Service Officer Steve Hamilton**,** Historian Jim McCloughan**, Trustee Bruce Thatcher,** Trustee Patrick Whitlatch, Trustee Willie Reinhardt, Trustee Chuck Aubrey, **Trustee Rich Ely,** Trustee Guy Cherry**, Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch,** Trustee Josh Gunneson, **Service Officer Jason Mayer**, **Trustee Dan Gomez,** member Tim Gregory, member Brad VandenBerg, member Glenn Higgs, **Member Dan Thompson**, member Kane Goodson, member Don Karrus, Member Richard Schmidt, SAL member Paul Middleton.
Quorum (of at least 5 AL members) **present.**

Introduction of guests and prospective new members: None.

Award Presentation: None

Meeting Minutes Membership Mtg minutes dated 12 SEPT2024 reviewed/**approved** on motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded, on voice vote.

Committee reports

1. Finance. Report by Commander Barkley:
-Account status:$223,720.99 30Sept2024 vs $230,437.36 26Sept2023 vs $224,651.82 26Aug2024
-Quickbooks: Aug2024 $ 15,331.52 vs Aug2023 -$ 278.31, July2024 $10,659.40
-Finance Report motion for approval was made by EarlLash, properly seconded, was approved, subject to audit.
-SAL funds available: $21,600
-Aux funds available: $28,000 with $10,000 “reserved for ADA improvements”.

2. Adjutant
-Membership status as of 27Sept2024: 21 new, 45 PUFL, 283 Renewals, 349 / 667 = 52.32%, last goal was 50% by 9-11-24, Next goal is 55% or 377 paid by 16Oct2024.
-Report out on new member application questioned last meeting, was done by the adjutant who made a phone call and spoke with that member, discrepancies were due to new member having been involved in a divorce at the time of discharge, wife was not forwarding notices.
-Several new member applications were circulated and a motion to approve those new members and the adjutant’s report was made by Earl Lash, properly seconded, was approved by the members.

3. Service Officers report Jason Mayer described his recent training.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee
-Third Friday dinner rotation Oct hosted by Lions
-Post 49 hat status: cost including “Post 49” purchase cost & embroidery approx $22 and will sell for $25.
-Fire extinguisher training TBD Saturday during bartender staff meeting. Will forward date when scheduled.
-Oct/Nov 2024 calendar review
-Lakeside Fire/Safety recommended upgrading the hood fire suppression system for approx $1,500 . Looking for a second opinion.
-Emily delivering shirts/patches for honor guard to “Lana's Creative Needle” per Dan Thompson’s recommendation.

5. AL Events

-4Oct Pizza dinner support required at 1630

-Military Honors for Air Force Veteran Staff Sergeant Dale Lee Curran 1030 Sat5Oct2024at Lakeview. The bus will leave at 1000 Sat5Oct.

-Aux asking for Sunday 6Oct breakfast support. Specific gaps/needs unknown.

-Fund raising brainstorming meeting 1800 9Oct.(incl. Jason Turner, Shelley Ammerman, Angela Ely, Mary Fitzgerald, Emily Fitzbaker, Gerry Durkee, John Barkley).

-Navy Birthday Sunday 13Oct. Celebration at 12Noon ?

-Oct AL Exec Com moved to 1600 24Oct. Nov AL Exec Com Mtg moved to 1600 21Nov.

-Bruce Thatcher gave a brief history of the organization, Lest We Forget. They would like South Haven American Legion to host a LWF @ Nite meeting on 11Dec from 1830-2000. On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, the members approved having a joint meeting with LWF on Dec 11, 2024 at 1830.

6. **SAL Events**

Planning Nov 24 Larry Carlson Memorial dinner.

7. Aux Events.

Oct 26 Haloween Children's party.

Old Business

-Lakeview Cemetery Flag replacement proposal update. Mapping completed and next event is survey of Lakeview Cemetery veterans graves by location to check for flag holders.

-Clubroom sound reduction. Waiting Aux approval for cost share of $22,593 total expected cost, more quotes needed.

-Auto Zone debit card status.

-Landscape leveling proposal-deBest update by the Commander, $72,000 for this project.

-State funding for Post 49 improvements TBD.

-Fund raising brainstorming in process (Jason Turner, Shelley Ammerman, Angela Ely, Mary Fitzgerald, Emily Fitzbaker, Gerry Durkee, John Barkley) next meeting 1800 9Oct. Donation letter mailing to all AL Post family members in Oct. Also working on club rental raffle to raise money for capital spending projects.

-$5,000 estimated/approved cost to repair front entrance support posts timing TBD.

-$1,000 estimated/approved cost to move plumbing from outside wall timing TBD.

-Memorial sitting bench donation in the name of Army Vet. Wayne P Lenhart received, discussed and declined by consensus after discussion by members. John to communicate decision to Emily.

- Quote of $2,000 received from fire prevention equipment, waiting other quotes.

Other/New Business

-Memorial brick addition quote dated 17Sep2024 rec'd from deBest for $13,372.57 and includes 5 additional rows of brick added to each side (1680 bricks total), additional gray brick edger material (237 pcs. total), repair/leveling of main walkway. On motion made by Jason Turner, properly seconded, members approved this quote and contract.

-Fleetwood's quotes received for replacement of Post clubroom furnace and A/C systems. Recommendation from AL Post 49 Exec Com to purchase $15,500 higher efficiency/reliability systems. On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, members approved this quote and contract..

-Recognition dinner proposed to recognize the Post 49 honor guard with timing TBD, using funding from the Uniform fund for this event up to $600 for approx. 15 honor guard people and spouses/others. On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, members approved spending up to $600 for this event. It was noted that a Michigan Chaplain Workshop would be put on by the Fifth District Nov 2, 2024 9 am to 2 pm.

Sick call

Dan Farmer still dealing with brain tumor concerns. Rodney Tolbert recently had Hernia surgery. Steve Hamilton is also sick, and Chuck Aubrey reported to have traumatic injuries and hospitalized.

Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL)

-Primal Outfitters Cookout & Fundraiser 1500 Saturday 5Oct at 300 Oak Street
-SHRGC annual banquet 1730 Saturday 5Oct (members with pre registration only)
- Lest We F
orget concert at Lake Michigan College Nov 10, 2024, at 2 PM.

Next meetings

-Membership Mtg 1900, 7 NOV..
-Club Operations Com.1530, Exec Com. Mtg 1600 24 OCT (from 31 Oct).

For The Good of The American Legion.

-**Oct: Sunday Oct 13 Navy Birthday**, Monday Oct 14 Columbus Day, Wednesday Oct 16 Boss's Day, **Saturday Oct 26 Post 49 Halloween Children's Party**, Thursday Oct 31 Halloween
-Nov: Sunday Nov 3 Daylight Saving Time ends, **Sunday Nov 10 Marine Corps Birthday**, Monday **Nov 11 Veterans Day**, Sunday **Nov 24 Larry Carlson Memorial Dinner**, Thursday Nov 28 Thanksgiving Day, Friday Nov 29 Native American Heritage Day
-Dec: Saturday Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, Friday Dec 13 National Guard Birthday, Saturday **Dec14 Post 49 Children's Christmas Party**, Saturday Dec 21 National Wreaths Across America, Wednesday Dec 25 Christmas Day, Thursday Dec 26 Kwanzaa (first day), Tuesday Dec 31 New Year's

Commander John Barkley conducted the closing ceremony and declared the meeting adjourned at 2007 hours.

Respectfully Submitted by
Adjutant Bob Dargis, American Legion Post 49