

AMERICAN LEGION- FRANK E. ROBINSON POST 586  
TIPP CITY, OHIO

MEMBERSHIP MEETING- Tuesday, 24 February 2026

Post Commander called the membership meeting to order on Tuesday, 24 Feb 26 at 7:03 pm with the Salute to the Colors, Opening Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance, and Preamble.

**Roll Call:** Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice, Adjutant, Historian, Service Officer, Judge Advocate, Sgt-at-Arms, Trustees

- Finance Officer and Chaplain had excused absences
- One non-officer member was in attendance

**Guests:** None present

**Adjutant:**

- It was properly moved and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 27 Jan 2026 membership meeting. The motion was approved.
- Discussion occurred based on the recent email to members of the leadership team from the Adjutant about conducting a general Post files cleanout. Sunday, 15 March at 1400 was selected for the initial clean out. Files to be disposed of will be taken to the public shredding event scheduled for 23 April by Thrivent.

**Committee Reports:**

- Americanism:
  - Brian Fowle will be collecting Boys State applications from local schools this week.
  - The Riders and SAL have each elected to sponsor one boy to Boys State this year.
- House: Per John Kessler, the Trustees are awaiting the fire system inspection to be scheduled. No other significant updates were offered.
- Membership: Brian Fowle briefed that 312 out of 325 members have renewed. Calls to the remaining members are being made.
- Communications/Media: Mike Brenner stated he would have the draft newsletter ready for review by Friday, 27 Feb.
- Honor Guard: Bob Steggemann indicated the Post in New Carlisle has requested help with an event on 14 Mar. Bob stated he will obtain additional details and then reach out to members for assistance.
- Color Guard: NSTR

**Finance Report:** None provided due to absence of Finance Officer

**Service Officer Report:** Bob Steggemann briefed that the Miami County Recorder's office is available to assist veterans and veteran's families in locating DD-214s.

### **Old Business:**

- Fun Run/Walk in Support of Suicide Awareness. Brian Fowle stated he is getting good traction on requests for donations. A planning/volunteer meeting is scheduled for Wed, 25 Feb at 1800.
- Hall Rental Agreement. As background, Frank March initiated an update to the rental agreement document several months ago. The new draft document has received comments and recommendations from multiple members and officers. To facilitate completion of the rental agreement the Commander recommended a committee be formed to work through the recommendations and complete the document. The following individuals volunteered to serve on the committee: Frank March, John Kessler, Bob Steggemann, Jeff Tipton and Chuck Colby.
- Constitution & By-Laws (C&BLs): The Dept of Ohio completed their review of the Post's updated C&BLs and directed that three changes be made to the document. Two of the changes focus on Article XIV, Discipline of Members. Here the Dept provided completely new text for Sections 1 and 2 in order to ensure consistency across the Department. The third and final change affects Article XVIII, Amendments. Here the Department directs the amount of time given to members to consider a recommended amendment to the C&BLs be increased from 20 days to 35 days.
  - Frank March motioned, and Harlan Purves seconded, that the changes be made as directed by the Department. The motion passed.
  - The adjutant will make the changes and send the C&BLs back to the Department for final, formal approval.
- Consolidated Post Report (CPR): Brian Fowle reminded the members that inputs to the CPR are still needed in order to complete the report and submit it to Department by 31 March. Inputs can be sent to Brian or to the adjutant.

### **New Business:**

- Potential Dues Increase: The Department has proposed increasing their dues assessment by \$5 this year. This proposed increase will not become official until voted on at the July convention, however it is believed by many that it is likely to pass given that it has been over 20 years since the last Department increase. It is up to the Post to decide to raise dues to accommodate this likely Department increase. However, if an increase is approved, a Post Data Form needs to be provided to Department not later than 1 April to ensure the new dues amount is reflected in the online systems as well as printed renewal materials.
  - Harlan Purves motioned, Brian Fowle seconded, to raise dues by \$5 to accommodate the likely Department increase. Much discussion ensued, including potentially waiting a year before raising dues. One key discussion point that resonated quite prominently was the need to more broadly "socialize" any

proposed dues increase with the full membership before making a final decision. After much spirited discussion this *motion failed to pass*.

- A second motion was made by Brian Fowle, seconded by Frank March, to recommend a \$5 dues increase be presented to the membership and voted on during the March membership meeting. This *motion was approved*.
- The adjutant agreed to draft an email/letter laying out the case for the dues increase. The adjutant and membership chair (1<sup>st</sup> Vice) will then work together to promulgate the email/letter to the entire Post membership as soon as possible.

**Correspondence:** The Post received a thank you card from Community Minded Women expressing appreciation for the use of the Post facilities for their Quarter Auction.

**Sick Call:** None

**Chaplain:** Mike Brenner provided opening and closing prayer in the absence of the chaplain.

**Commander's Comments:** No additional comments provided.

There being no further business to come before the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Elmore  
Adjutant

Melissa Fowle  
Commander