



## American Legion Post 155 Carmel, IN

# Meeting Minutes

## Sep 1, 2022

(Next Meeting: Oct 6 – 7pm)

**Opening:** Rick Curtis called the meeting to order at 7pm.

**Opening Prayer:** Joe Hunter-Lattak led us in prayer to start the meeting.

**Salute of the American Flag and Pledge of Allegiance:**

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**American Legion Preamble:**

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

- To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;
- To maintain law and order;
- To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
- To preserve the memories and incidents of our association in all wars;
- To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation;
- To combat the autocracy of both the classes, and the masses;
- To make right the master of might;
- To promote peace and good-will on earth;
- To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;
- To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual Helpfulness.

**Roll Call:** (See Below)

**Reading of the Prior Minutes:** August meeting minutes previously approved.

**Membership Report:** The membership renewal is at 52 percent. The Post's goal is 460. As of this date, 240 have renewed for 2023. Of these, 52 selected the online option to renew. The Post has also reached out to 63 legion members who have not selected a Post to join. They are assigned to Post 777 which is a catch all Post. Of the 63 emails sent out, two individuals have responded positively about joining our Post.

**Finance Report:** Bob presented the financial report. Income for August was \$57,086. Food sales were down slightly but all expenses were dramatically lower, except the electric bill was higher, perhaps because multiple persons have observed multiple cases of electric vehicles being charged at our outdoor outlets. Steps will be taken to end this practice.

**Commander's Comments:**

- Fall Festival Saturday October 29, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. A motion was made and seconded to authorize money to apply to the cost of this event and to match the same commitment from the VFW. It is expected that food and drink sales will cover these costs and any surplus will be shared equally with the Legion and the VFW. Numerous activities are planned and numerous entities will be represented. Trunk or Treat will be

a focus with trunk decorating and prizes awarded. A band will perform outside, weather permitting. The next organizing meeting will be on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the VFW. Volunteer attendance encouraged.

- The SAL Steak Dinner will be Saturday, September 3, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Cost is \$18.00.
- There will be a District 6 visit to the Post on Saturday, September 10, 2022. Scheduled arrival time is 10:40 a.m.. Departure time TBD. Lunch may be served. Details to follow.
- 9/11 commemoration will be in conjunction with the pitch-in for the Colts televised football game. 12:45 p.m. ceremony before the pitch-in begins at 1:00 p.m.
- There will be an event at the Legion for an Iraq War Veteran Reunion on Saturday, September 24, 2022. This is a National Guard Unit from Bloomington that was mobilized. The Auxiliary is coordinating this event. The only involvement by the Post is providing the facility and having the bar staffed, stocked, and ready. The Reunion organization is taking care of everything else, including food being catered in. We were asked to host this because we have a suitable facility that is centrally located to those expected to attend.

#### **Open Business Items:**

- Rick and Joe met to discuss how to remediate the sprinkler question. We believe we have some leeway in managing the sprinklers, but they will need to meet with the Fire Marshall to understand the Carmel requirements.
- Honor Guard. David Leonard will work with Greg Watson to determine who to issue the ceremonial rifles when needed.
- Cassandra (she prefers Cassie) Salz is the new Club Manager. She is training now and will officially assume her duties On September 6, 2022. She is a Carmel native, worked extensively with the USO, and is a Marine Corps mom.
- The new Head Cook is Joel Russell. He has been on the job for a few weeks and has received high praise for the quality of his cooking.
- Honor Guard is developing. Greg Watson is spearheading this effort. SAL recently donated \$250 towards the \$500 budget to acquire the proper uniform and related items. Ongoing process at this point.
- Automatic Sprinkler System issue remains unresolved. Rick cannot get anyone in a position of authority to come to the post, do a walk-through, and render a decision (with documented legal or ordinances cited as evidence and authority). Rick will send a letter to the city as evidence and documentation and wait for a response. Absent a response and firm direction, the thought is to disable the system and not incur any further expenses in maintaining or repairing it.

#### **New Business Items:**

- No Website Report (David Leonard excused absence)
- Treasure Hunt. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to restart the activity with \$2,000. This amount acknowledges the unusual recent frequent payouts and our need to remain fiscally responsible.
- Phil Poor wants to have a banner that can be raised and lowered for times when the Post is open to the public and to draw attention to the fact. Carmel has strict sign ordinances and Exton will check with the city to determine any requirements or prohibitions, etc. At the least, a permit is probably required.
- Rugby Field Improvements. A one page description of Rugby Club proposed improvements was distributed. It essentially involves building up the mid field area that tends to accumulate water and be muddy. We were approached soliciting a donation which will be rejected since we have already eliminated the \$1,000 the Club gives the Post annually. We should get copies of all contracts being entered into for the work since it is our property .
- The Honor Guard Gun Checkout sheet approval was tabled until the October meeting. Greg Watson will write up a formal procedure to accompany this form and the whole package will be reviewed and discussed at that time.
- Steve Brown was nominated and voted in to fill the Historian position.

**Closing:** Rick closed the meeting at 8:15pm.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Excused</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Commander	Rick Curtis	x		
First Vice	Charlie Homes	x		
Second Vice and Adjutant	David Leonard		x	
Finance	Bob Trebing	x		
JAG Officer	Exton Cordingley	x		
Sergeant at Arms	Sam Hasskett			x
Historian	Vacant	x		
Chaplain	Joe Hunter-Lattak	x		
Executive Board	Phil Poor	x		
Executive Board	Greg Watson	x		
Executive Board	Andy Carson			x