

THE AMERICAN LEGION-POST 21
126 Atlantic Street NE — McMinnville — OR — 97128
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
February 15, 2017

Commander Gale Sears opened the meeting at 1829 hours

ROLL CALL:

Commander — Gale Sears, present
First Vice — Larry Brown, present
Second Vice — Terry Ward, present
Finance Officer — Mark Rathburn, present
Adjutant — Shirley Brown, present
Judge Advocate — Steve Randles, present
Service Officer — Jeannie Clayton, present

Chaplain — Thomas Clayton, present
Historian — Leroy Brown, present
Sgt. At Arms — Jerry Perry, present
Past Commander — S. Farley, present
At Large — B. Berweger, absent
At Large — F. Martin, present
12 Officers are present being a Quorum
9 Members in the audience

VISITORS: None

AWARDS PRESENTATION — Commander Sears stated that a presentation to Arnie Hollander was to be presented with a gift certificate for his gift of Christmas Trees over the last couple of years. Unfortunately, Mr. Hollander is not here today.

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING —

MOTION: By S. Farley that we approve the minutes from last months meeting of the General Membership.

Seconded by Leroy. Brown — **Passed.**

FINANCE REPORT: No written report provided - Finance Officer reported that the Monthly net income for January is \$958, Club = 18,432, Lottery = \$51,210, Honor Guard = \$2,507, Memorial Garden = \$4,494 ending balance of \$91,284.03. Finance Officer explained that in comparison to last year the club is doing very well.

MOTION: By Leroy Brown that we accept the finance report as presented. Seconded by S. Randles — all in favor. **PASSED.**

COMMANDERS REPORT: Commander Sears talked about 2017 Veterans Build — a program through Habitat for Humanity to construct three homes for qualified veterans in the local community. The goal is to pour the foundations for the three homes in June, but funds will need to be raised. Commander Sears explained that we have will be facilitating the Habitat meetings to show our support and to help Habitat to connect with local veterans. Second Vice — Terry Ward suggested that we do fundraisers and raise money to help; he will check with the activities committee and see what can be done.

Volunteer hours: Commander Sears explained that our members have provided almost 2,000 hours of volunteer hours. Commander Sears asked that when you write down your volunteer hours that you include your Branch of Service and Legion Family so we can track service hours and possibly give an award to the highest branch.

Chamber of Commerce: Commander Sears explained that we are now using the Third-Floor option for advertising with the Chamber and will be using this for advertising the “Battle of the Branches” breakfasts and other events.

Committee Reports:

Auxiliary: Elva Salinas reported that the next meeting will be on February 21st. The Auxiliary is sponsoring the St. Patrick’s Day dinner on March 17th (there will be no prime rib that night) volunteers are needed. The Auxiliary will also be hosting “Cinco de Mayo” in May with a Tamale dinner. Volunteers will also be needed.

Son’s of the American Legion: The Son’s hosted the Valentines Day Brunch and served 44 meals it was very successful. The Son’s now have 105% membership however they only had 4 members present at their last meeting. Would like to invite all Legion Members to attend the meetings they are on the 1st Wednesday of every month. Terry Naig talked about the plaque that was donated to the Son’s by Mike & Frosty, so that members can have a place to show their appreciation for their father’s service. Brass plates are \$15.00, and members of the Sons can have their father’s name put on the plaque.

American Legion Riders: J. Terry reported that the Rider’s have two new members one locally and one from New York who just moved to Portland. They are planning more rides as the weather continues to get better. Asked that everyone please look out for motorcycles.

First Vice: Larry Brown explained that we now have pins for the Vietnam Commemorative and if you served during the Vietnam Era you are eligible to receive a pin, will be giving pins out to all Vietnam Era service members in attendance at the General Membership meeting on Wednesday and at future events to include the Challenge Breakfasts.

Second Vice: T. Ward there are many upcoming activities and it's going to get pretty busy. Navy Breakfast 3/12/17, St. Patrick's Day dinner 3/17/17, Charity Poker 3/19/17, Army Breakfast 3/26/17, Chili Cook-off 4/1/17, Marine Breakfast 4/9/17, Movie Night 4/15/17, Air Force Breakfast 4/23/17, Cinco De Mayo 5/5/17, Mother's Day Brunch 5/14/17; Army Birthday celebration BBQ 6/4/17. Activities Committee meets third Wednesday of every month; you are welcome to participate and help bring new ideas to the table.

Judge Advocate: S. Randles researched the advertising display and found that the contract is for five years from the date of installation which was 4/23/15, must give 60-day notice if cancelled. The club will receive 10% profit after two years. In regards to the Placemats they feel we don't serve enough meals for the placemats. Steve Farley explained that payment was made for the advertising on the placemats and we should be getting more placemats. S. Randles said he would contact them and request more placemats.

S. Randles relayed the research regarding a Poker Tournament for Lloyd Jackson, The County passed an ordinance in 1974 allowing gambling and no amendments could be found. The City still says no, will continue the research perhaps get in contact with Rick Olson or Alan Springer. There was also a discussion of possibly getting a Monte Carlo Permit but it was thought the Lotter wouldn't allow one because of the competition.

Service Officer/Women's Veterans Liaison: Jeannie Clayton explained that she and the Chaplain attended the District 2 Executive Committee Meeting on Sunday, February 12th at the Carlton Post. The State will only be funding 17 Boys to attend Boys State but they will only be sending one attendant per District. Multnomah County has a new Veterans Service Officer and Polk County just filled their Veteran's Service Officer Position. The Legion is introducing two new programs into the schools. Angels & Does – a program to prevent bullying in schools; and Sun/Days – Fun/Days a program to for skin cancer awareness.

District 2 is at 82% for membership renewal. The Legion Convention this year will be held at the Kah-Nee-Ta Resort in Warm Springs Oregon.

Chaplain/Honor Guard: Thomas Clayton relayed that Four Chaplains Day is February 3rd in Memory of the Four Chaplains aboard the USS Dorchester. The Dorchester was sunk by a German U-boat, there were there were four Chaplains aboard. They gave their life jackets to others so they might survive.

We have lost another member – Robert Abrahamson passed last Friday.

T. Clayton asked that we let all members know that their money is more than just the club the money helps lobby congress to help all veterans.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE: J. Perry explained that the committee will approach a prospective nominee and explain the needs of the position and the requirements. If an individual is nominated for a position, they must be present to accept the nomination. Nominations will be posted in the Club are and in the Newsletter.

HISTORIAN: Leroy Brown, Historian posted pictures at the Super Bowl Party and POW/MIA ceremony on the Historians Facebook page.

Bylaws Committee: The final draft of the amended by-laws will be available for review in the next few days. There will be a link on the Post 21 website, and they will be emailed to those members who request them, there will also be a link printed in the newsletter for members to review. S. Randles stated that if anyone wants a hard copy please let him know. There is a 21-day notice requirement for members to be allowed to review the amended By-Laws. The goal is to vote on them at the next General Membership Meeting.

Nominations Committee: The procedure has been developed that any one who is nominated or wants to be nominated will meet with one of the members of the committee where the duties and responsibility of the position will be explained and the nominee will be asked if he/she feels they can fulfill the requirements of the position. If a

person is nominated, they must appear at the meeting, if a nominee can not attend a meeting they must submit a letter of acceptance or notify the committee that they will or will not accept the nomination.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: 911/Remembrance Day – Angel is working on putting together a committee to have a 911 Remembrance/Patriot Day observed and will be forming a committee to see that we can get this done by September.

NEW BUSINESS:

Habitat for Humanity will be doing a dedication for the new home – the Garcia Family.

R. Pimm – Request guidance as to placement of the Memorial Stone for the USS Evans.

Commander Sears explained that the Executive Committee has authorized the purchase of a pre-paid credit card. Procedures and guidelines will be set up for its use.

SICK OR INJURED: Steve Farley stated his mother is not doing well and asked for prayers.

hand **SALUTE:**

CLOSING PRAYER: T. CLAYTON

ADJOURNED: 19:45