

THE AMERICAN LEGION-POST 21
126 Atlantic Street NE — McMinnville — OR — 97128
General Membership Meeting Minutes
DECEMBER 20, 2017

Commander Gale Sears opened the meeting at 1830 hours

ROLL CALL:

Commander — Gale Sears, _____ present
First Vice — Larry Brown, _____ present
Second Vice — Terry Ward, _____ present
Finance Officer — _____ **VACANT**
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 — Bob Berweger, _____ **excused**
At Large — J. Smith, _____ present
At Large — S. Farley, _____ present
At Large — J. Lillibridge, _____ **excused**
_____**10**____ Officers are present being a Quorum
_____**17**____ Members in audience

VISITORS: Elva Salinas presented Angel Mendoza and the Honor Guard a commendation for their help during the Cinco De Mayo festivities in May. Virgil Lucht presented a plaque to Angel Mendoza for his hard work on the Veterans Day Parade.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER MEETING: Motion by Steve Farley that we accept the Minutes from November — Seconded by Steve Randles, all in favor — Passed.

FINANCE REPORT: Commander Sears gave the finance report as the position is still vacant. Payroll taxes have been paid for 2016 & 2017, still working on 2014 & 2015. Christmas tree sales provided a net profit of about \$7,000.00. Cost of goods sold vs. income does not seem to be in line, we are only showing about a \$900 profit, may not be enough to keep the doors open.

MOTION: Jim Smith motioned that we accept the finance report as given, seconded by Steve Farley, all in favor — PASSED.

COMMANDERS REPORT: *Welcome back Bob Berwenger.*

Recommendations were solicited for some type of recognition to Adam Finnium for his hard work on procuring and delivering Christmas trees for sale in December.

MOTION: Steve Farley, seconded by Tony Amodeo that we give Adam a \$200 gift certificate to Cabela's, all in favor — Passed.

Commander Sears announced that we have hired a new Accountant — Karen Grose. She has been working diligently to update quick books and keep everything current. Payroll taxes are still outstanding for 2014 & 2015, letters have been sent to former employees. Currently we have a company that is taking care of payroll so this does not happen again. Presentation of gift certificate to Adam Finnium for Christmas trees.

SECOND VICE: Upcoming events 23rd — White Elephant Christmas Party - \$20 limit. 31st New Year's Eve party. Jan 14th Sea Cadets Awards Banquet; February 4 — Super Bowl Pot Luck, February 11 — Valentine's Day Brunch. February 19th Presidents Day Ice Cream Social. Battle of the Branches begins in March.

JAG: Constitution and by-laws have been finalized — first reading in February, voting in March.

Service Officer: We have recently been contacted by a female veteran with a service dog and puppy; she is currently being charged an extra \$175 for pet deposit and an additional \$35 per pet. Does not want any financial help, just needs help moving when she finds a new place to live sometime in February.

SAL: Angel Mendoza stated that this year's Pearl Harbor Breakfast was exceptional and was attended by many members not only from Post 21 but from other Posts as well including the Executive Board from the Carlton Post.

Oratorical Contest: Joe Lillibridge announced that he is having a difficult time getting in touch with the participants. The subjects have been chosen and we will have two participants from McMinnville and one from Amity.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Historian Leroy Brown stated he is still working on the defibrillator, however his contacts are on Christmas vacation but and hopes to have more information in January.

House Committee: Thank you to all who helped put up the Christmas Lights.

Honor Guard: Still providing full military honors for veterans. Performed ceremony at Evergreen and for Faith Gerstell. Carlton and Newberg are considering forming an Honor Guard.

Angel Mendoza explained about the *2018 Honor American Veterans Flag Event* to be put on by McMinnville Christian Academy, they will be placing an American Flag for every Veteran, (approximately 5,000) from Oregon who has been lost in service to their Country.

MOTION: Rich Pimm, made a motion that we donate \$300 for the purchase of flags, seconded by Steve Farley – all in favor – PASSED.

Rich Pimm would like to make a matching donation out of the Memorial Rose Garden fund.

MOTION: Rich Pimm, that a \$300 matching donation be made from the Rose Garden memorial fund, seconded by Ron Grose – all in favor – PASSED.

It was suggested that the School be put on the Memorial Day Route this coming May. Angel Mendoza stated that the Honor Guard will be doing Guard duty to prevent vandalism during the event.

RIDERS: ROMP has been changed to Aug 10-12 in Redmond - Post 44.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding Christmas bonus for employees/volunteers: Commander Sears stated that the executive board has suggested that a bonus be given to all employees/volunteers but it is up to the general membership to make the final decision.

MOTION: Bob Berweger, that Christmas bonuses be given to the staff/volunteers seconded by Steve Randles – PASSED.

Veterans Build: Veteran is waiting on roof, is out there every day working on home. Suggest that we have a meet and greet. Clair Abrams is liaison between Habitat/Veterans.

100th Year Anniversary Coin for the American Legion, should the Post purchase coins, they are \$10 each.

Bid for changing lights to LED has come in at \$5,500, feeling is we can accomplish by ourselves at a much lower cost. House committee will be looking into accomplishing change.

Commander Sears stated that the post has been donated two framed Army and Air Force patch collections. Many of these patches are from WW2 and some are units that were formed but never activated. Should they be put on display?

MOTION: Rich Pimm, that the framed patch collations recently donated be displayed at the post, seconded by Steve Farley all in favor - PASSED.

It was suggested that the Post build a Kiln to perform Flag burning ceremony, to be researched for next month's meeting.

HAND SALUTE ADJOURNED: 19:55