

THE AMERICAN LEGION-POST 21  
126 Atlantic Street NE — McMinnville — OR — 97128  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP  
January 17, 2018

**ROLL CALL:**

Commander – Gale Sears, present	Chaplain – Thomas Clayton, present
First Vice – Larry Brown, present	Historian – Leroy Brown, present
Second Vice – Terry Ward, present	Sgt. At Arms – Bob Berweger, present
Finance Officer – vacant	At Large – S. Farley, present
Adjutant – Shirley Brown, excused	At Large – J. Smith, present
Judge Advocate – Steve Randles, present	At Large – Joe Lillibridge, excused
Service Officer – Jeannie Clayton, present	<b><u>10</u> Officers are present being a Quorum</b>

**House Committee:** Newly appointed chairman CSM (Ret) Ted Campbell not available

**Club Manager:** Gina Eggleton – Ill

**Finance Report:** Commander Sears provided the following:

31 December Post account balance \$42,976.76 Lottery \$40,290.33 Total: \$83,267.09

Current Post account balance \$48,386.54 Lottery \$45,127.09 Total: \$ 93,513.85

2017 Tax data has been provided to Active Tax CPA and 2016 taxes closed. Remaining are the 2014-15 unpaid federal and State taxes not paid by Erica the pervious post accountant.

Motion: By Steve Farley motion that we should accept the finance report as provided. Seconded by Leroy Brown – all in favor – Passed.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING:** Previous meeting minutes were not available.

**COMMANDERS REPORT:** Commander Sears stated Christmas tree sales with donations of \$1,400 dollars and reimbursement of \$1,800 to Mr. Finnicum netted a income of \$5,810.00. Great work by all involved showing the value of the post families working together for a common goal. Commander Sears announced Steve Farley as the upcoming nomination committee chairman. Sears also provided detail as to the duties of the finance officer to encourage a member to step up to the position. Details are available upon request from Commander Sears. Pictures of the National and State commanders have been posted in the post entrance. Commander Sears presented Mr. Pimm a check from the donation from the Frank E Evans memorial foundation. From dollars remaining from the funds provided in support of the dedication last summer. Additionally a thank you note from County commissioner Mary Stern, for the battle opener gift provided by Mr. Berweger representing the Honor Garden.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Commander Sears lead a discussion around member concerns about the post raffle of NFL player Kaepernick #7 jersey; provided by the McMinnville Christian Academy. The proceeds from the raffle are to be returned to the Christian academy to purchase flags honoring American service men and woman who have lost their lives in service to our country during Memorial Day week at the academy.

Flyers produced and displayed within the post announce the burning of the jersey by the winner of the raffle and unfortunately circulated in social media. A great deal of discussion was presented from attending members. Two fields of thought were identified. One: that the association of the Legion with a political protest was in conflict with National Legion constitution and should not be allowed. The other that the burning in protest of Kaepernick NFL jersey is not in keeping with tenets of the American Legion and is not to be considered representative of the members of Post 21. A great deal of discussion ensued on both sides additionally considering the reflection back on the Christian academy. A motion was finally made by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Larry Brown and seconded by Leroy Brown to cancel the raffle and return the jersey and funds collected to the academy to complete the raffle on their terms. After

discussion a hand vote was taken; 11/9 to support the motion to cancel the raffle and return. Passed. Sgt at Arms Mr. Berweger removed the jersey and the raffle monies and will return said to the Christian academy.

A second discussion began as to the approval authority for any future raffles. A motion was made by Thomas Clayton seconded by Ron Grosse to require all raffles to be approved by the executive board and the legion body prior to initiation. After discussion a vote was taken denying the motion. Leaving the decision to the Commander or a member of the E-board to approve such actions.

Mrs. Dawn Witt presented an opportunity for next year working with First Federal banks Yamhill county 501(c) 3 nonprofit organizations to receive community grants. Explaining that if McMinnville American legion is placed on the ballot by First Federal members for 2018 and receives 10 or more votes a grant maybe provided in an amount commensurate with votes received and the nonprofits enrolled. Commander Sears thanked Mrs. Witt for the information and encouraged members to get to First Federal and register the Legion for the coming year.

**1st Vice:** Larry Brown spoke of membership presenting a challenge for each member to recruit one new member for the year. VFW, DAV and Legion member Joan Palacios concurred, encouraging members to just introduce them selves as a situation exists and ask if they are veterans. His efforts have worked very well. Also carry with you an application.

**2nd Vice:** Terry Ward made comment that the activities meeting is open to all who want to attend and or have a activity they would like to have or promote. Announced upcoming activities include:

February 4<sup>th</sup> **Super Bowl** 1530-1830 potluck,

Feb 11<sup>th</sup> **Valentines day** brunch 1000-1400, Menu; Ham-egg scramble w/cheese, hash browns fruit, chicken fried steak and chocolate hearts, \$8.00.

Feb 19<sup>th</sup>. **Presidents day** ice cream social 1400-1600 donations welcome.

**Battle of the branches Breakfasts:** 0800-1200 PIC's not assigned

Mar 11<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps

Mar 25<sup>th</sup> Air Force

April 8<sup>th</sup> Navy

April 22<sup>nd</sup> Army

March 16<sup>th</sup> **St. Patricks Day** 1700-2000 hrs \$12.00 PIC Sim Sears

**JAG:** Steve Randles announced a hearing date for John Petersons protest of transfer is schedule for April 14<sup>th</sup> time to be announced. By-laws and constitution review and changes have been completed. Changes will be read and announcement of the changes will be done as required for the February 2018 meeting.

**Chaplain:** Brad Shelburne has passed away. Full military honors to be performed 27 January at 11 am Macys funeral home. Robert Mettling (Bear) has been placed in the Chehalam Valley care center in Newberg.

**Veterans Service Officer:** Jeanne Clayton: announced that a veteran needing a porch has been accomplished through the support of the Newburg Post 57. 2018 Derby races are in the planning stage and that Congressional HR 2683 protecting veteran's act – The Veteran administration is not paying out patent services in a timely manner. The bill allows veterans 1 year for provider payments prior to collections affecting a veterans credit.

**Historian:** Leroy Brown announced he had completed two picture books this year and hopes to do much better after his retirement in February or March.

**Auxiliary:** Working to establish a highway Rotary sign to identify the American Legion Auxiliary in McMinnville. Mr. Pimm included that the Legion should have first recognition within the effort.

Aux members will be updating the ladies restroom the 5<sup>th</sup> of February

**SAL:** Terry Naig thanked everyone for their support of the Iron Sides Seas cadet awards banquet held last weekend. And that dues time is here encouraging members to renew as soon as possible.  
At Large: nothing to report.

### **Committee Reports:**

**House:** New Chairman CSM (ret) Ted Campell. Mr. Naig announced that new membership on the house committee is needed as required by the post by-laws. Members from each family and the riders is required, to complete the committee. Gene Hamilton is repainting he building Legion signage Mr. Naig will be hanging them after they have cured from paint, as Gene will be on vacation.

**Baseball:** Mr Berweger provided a \$1,000 financial requirement to support three McMinnville junior baseball teams and placement of our Legion banner at the park. A motion was made by Steve Farley seconded by Leroy Brown to support the teams and banner requirement of \$1,000; considering Commander Sears provides an opportunity for the other families to financially assist. After discussion a vote in favor was received. Passed.

**Public Service:** Clara Abrams announced a planned meet and greet for the veterans Habitat build scheduled for March in the honor room. Considering a raffle of some sort, to raise funds to support. Finger food menu.

**Unfinished Business:** Leroy Brown stated that he had not completed his communications with Scott Law concerning defibrillator availability and training for the staff. He will continue to attempt communicate with Mr. Law.

**Good of the Order:** Volunteer hours posted for mid Dec – mid January  
Army = 78.5 Navy = 37 Marines = 12 Air force = 6 total 133.5

**Sick or injured members:** Covered by the Chaplin above

Meeting was adjured at 2000 hrs.

Next meeting 19 February 1830 hrs.