



Woodbury American Legion

----The Fighting 501st-----

Post 501 Membership Meeting

Meeting Minutes 26 October 2023

Guest Speaker – Ms Julie Nielsen, Superintendent of South Washington County Schools spoke on the upcoming bond issue. She discussed each aspect of the proposed plan and how it will impact Washington County residents.

Meeting called to order, with opening ceremonies at 1850 by Commander Dolan.

Previous Meeting's Minutes

Meeting minutes from 28 September 2023 were read and approved, as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

The Financial report was read by the Financial Officer and approved. Current account balances reflect \$ 21599.51 in the Checking Account, \$5 in the savings account and \$ 10,366.52 in Certificate of Deposit, with total financial balance of \$ 31971.03.

Membership

The 2024 membership number is up to 95 renewals which is an increase from last month at 83. Our goal for this year is 130 total. Everyone was encouraged to seek new members and follow up with current members to encourage renewal.

Communications

There were no new communications to discuss.

Service Officer

No service report was entered at the meeting.

Donation Committee

A request for a donation to the Minnesota Military Museum at Camp Ripley for their expansion was presented. A motion was made and seconded to approve this donation. The sail of the USS Minnesota will be included in the exhibit.

Thank You cards have been received from Legionville and Believet for our previous donations.

Old Business

Buddy Checks

16 October was Buddy Check Week. Commander Dolan passed out sheets to do Buddy Checks to those who were interested.

New Business

- **Business of the Year Award**

A number of years ago, the American Legion gave out an award for the business of the year that has been helpful to the Legion, Commander Dolan proposed that we restart this program. He presented the criteria for selection that had been developed.

Discussion was held on the criteria and possible selections. A motion was made and approved to reinstate this program and present the award at the annual banquet in February 2024.

- **2024 Budget Categories**

The Finance Officer, Bob Wuggazer, went over the budget format. He has divided the spread sheet into

- Administrative costs
- Post Supported Programs
- Scholarships and Awards: Stafford Scholarship and Eagle Scout of the Year
- Recurring Donations
- Miscellaneous Donations

The new format was approved by the membership, and it was suggested and approved That we add Believet to our annual giving list. The format will be used in doing our 2024 budget.

- **Sponsor Blood Drive**

Commander Dolan brought forth the idea of an annual blood drive sponsored by the Legion & VFW posts. He has done the research and presented it to the members. The Red Cross requires at least 30 interested donors. A discussion was held and a motion approved to pursue this. The drive would be located at City Hall.

- **2024 Meeting Places and December 2023 meeting**

City hall meeting rooms will be unavailable next year for 6 of 12 months due to all of the elections. We will be looking for alternate sites. Birdie Golf and the Library were given out as alternate sites. The December meeting will occur on 21 December.

Wall of Thanks

Dale Johnson is planning to step down as the organizer for this event and is looking for someone to take over this activity. Mike Zerr volunteered to take over this project.

Announcements

- 9 November – Woodbury Newcomers Event

We have a table at this event and are looking for people to staff. The event will start at 3pm for set up and go to 7pm.

- 10 November Veterans Day Events

- Woodbury High School Veterans Day Ceremony will be at 0935. Be there at 0900 to enjoy coffee and doughnuts with the JROTC Cadets and other veterans.
- Talamore Senior Living will be doing a flag raising ceremony and then a chili luncheon will be served for all veterans that attend. Time 1115.
- East Ridge High School: the program will begin at 2:20 pm in the gym. Plan on being there at 2pm. Our own Captain Kramer will be the speaker.

Possible dues increase will be discussed at the November meeting.

Closing Ceremonies and Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 2000

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Kramer Vice Commander and acting Secretary