



Woodbury American Legion
----The Fighting 501st-----
Post 501 Membership Meeting
Meeting Minutes 16 November 2023

Meeting called to order, with opening ceremonies at 1832 by Commander Dolan.

Previous Meeting's Minutes

Meeting minutes from 26 October 2023 were read and changes made to financial report as noted. Minutes then approved.

Treasurer's Report

The Financial report was read by the Financial Officer and approved. Current account balances reflect \$ 20535.46 in the Checking Account, \$5 in the savings account and \$ 10,366.52 in Certificate of Deposit, with total financial balance of \$ 30906.98.

Membership

The 2024 membership number is up to 103 renewals which is an increase from last month at 98. Our goal for this year is 130 total. Everyone was encouraged to seek new members and follow up with current members to encourage renewal. We are at 77% of our goal.

Communications

Pictures from Woodbury Days are in the State Legion Newspaper.

Service Officer

No service report was entered at the meeting.

Donation Committee

No donation requests were received this month. It was noted by a member that Veterans on the Lake in Ely is on our list. A motion was made and carried to approve the \$500 donation that was allotted for in this years budget.

Old Business

Woodbury Veterans Day Event Recap

A recap of all the events attended by the Legion on November 10 and 11 was done. Great participation.

- **Buddy Check Update**
Completed Buddy check sheets were turned into the Commander.
- **Mn Dept Fall Conference Feedback**
3 members attended the conference in St Cloud. All reported on what they had learned as all attended different programs
- **Blood Drive Update**
Commander Dolan has talked with the VFW and the Lions Club about assisting with this activity. Both have agreed to participate. We are looking at a March or April time frame. Commander Dolan will continue to coordinate.
- **Woodbury Newcomer Event**
This was done last week. No new members were attained, but community outreach was done.
- **Color Guard Activity**
The Federal Court in St Paul is having their awards ceremony at CHS Field on December 13. Our combined Color Guard has agreed to participate.

New Business

- **Wall of Thanks**
The start date is 25 November at Valley Creek Mall. We will be staffing from 0900-1330. The money raised will be distributed to Open Cupboard, Hastings Veterans Home, Big Marine Campground and The Armed Forces Service Center.
- **Woodbury Group Home and Hastings Adopt a Vet**
It was decided to use the appropriated money for these 2 programs. The Group Home has provided a list of things needed. Commander Dolan will check with Hastings on there needs.
- **Girls State Sponsorship**
Vice Commander Kramer has not heard back from the St Paul Park Auxiliary. She will follow up. We will tentatively put 1 sponsorship in the budget for next year.
- **Post Membership Dues**
At the State Convention it was noted that dues will be going up. National has already decided this and needs any further input by 1 Mar 2024. It was discussed to raise the current dues to \$49 to meet the commitments to both National and State . The discussion was tabled until next month's meeting.
- **Draft 2024 Budget Review**

Bob Wuggazer, Finance Officer, provided a copy of the proposed 2024 Budget. He encouraged everyone to closely review it and we will finalize a vote at the December meeting. We will need to continue to closely monitor our income versus outlay.

Announcements

- St Ambrose Elementary School once again provided cards for Veterans Day. A thank you was sent to the school.
- Our December meeting will be 21 December
- 2024 Awards Banquet is scheduled for 22 February which would be our normal meeting date. We will discuss what to do about this conflict at a future meeting.

Closing Ceremonies and Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 2022p

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Kramer Vice Commander and acting Secretary