



Woodbury American Legion

---The Fighting 501st---

Post 501 Membership Meeting

Meeting Minutes 25 September 2025

Guest Speaker:

Mike Buchan Veteran Service Officer for Washington County. Mike spoke about the new service center in Woodbury and how they hope to be able to staff this one day a week. He also provided information on several programs and on a current scam going on for applying for disability payments through the VA. There are currently individuals who will charge for this service with the guarantee that you will be approved. They are not legitimate. Mike reminded everyone that the Veteran's Service Office provides this service to all veterans for free,

Meeting called to order, with opening ceremonies at 1900 by Vice Commander Kramer.

Previous Meeting's Minutes

Meeting minutes from 28 August 2025 were read, amended for the donation from Northern Tap Room activities and then approved.

Financial Report

The Financial report was read by the Financial Officer and approved as written. Current account balances reflect \$ 19,813.88 in the Checking Account, \$5 in the savings account and \$ 11,186.34 in Certificate of Deposit, with a total financial balance of \$ 31,005.22.

Membership

Currently, we have 88 paid members so far this fiscal year. Our goal is 126 this year.

Communications

There were no communications to share this month

Service Officer

The service officer was not present, so there was no update from him.

Donation Committee

A motion was made and approved for the donation for DVRC Marine on the Sr Croix for \$1000 which is on our yearly list for support.

Old Business

- Joint Annual Picnic

Paul is not here to give us an update on the cost. Another VFW member was present and stated that he did not believe there were any outstanding expenses for the picnic.

- Sept Poppy Days

September Poppy Days went well. There were a few things that were discussed. The main topic was the need for the QR code to be at all sites, and the inclusion of information on both the Legion and VFW for all sites. It was determined that a packet with all this information will need to be included in all of the boxes for next year.

New Business

- **Woodbury Newcomer Event - 23 October – Volunteers**

The Woodbury Newcomer event is scheduled for 23 October 2025 at the MHealth/Fairview building. CDR Dolan is looking for volunteers to staff this event, and he will need some extra assistance in setting up as he recently broke his right arm and will be unable to lift things. Bob W and Tim agreed to contact CDR Dolan and arrange for transfer and setting up of equipment. Jo and Teresa agreed to also staff the event.

- Portable Sound System

The portable sound system that we are looking to purchase was described by Vice Commander Kramer as she had just been shown it by the rep. A motion was made that we go ahead and purchase the equipment and ask the VFW to assist with the purchase. The motion passed unanimously, and Vice Commander Kramer will talk with CDR Dolan to make the purchase.

- Wall of Thanks

Tim Creer was asked about the Wall of Thanks. He has taken this over from Dale Johnson for this year. He was asked if he had contacted Valley Creek Mall and he had not. Tim was encouraged to talk with Dale Johnson about who to contact and make those arrangements. Once that is done, he can start lining up volunteers.

- Joint Color Guard

There has been a request from the Joint Color Guard to have a Lead and Coordinator. The person who was handling this is stepping back. No one volunteered for this position.

Announcements

Kelley Ackerman 3rd District Vice Commander was present at our meeting and discussed several issues. She was very impressed with our meeting and how we address issues, come to a resolution and how involved we are in the community.

She told us about Fund 85 which is a state fund that can be accessed by legion personnel in an emergency

She also discussed the dental are that is being provided for veterans at various sites. Check the state newsletter for dates and locations.

She also encouraged people to use the Legion Plus app which can be downloaded to your phone.

None

Closing Ceremonies and Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 1942

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnne Kramer Vice Commander and acting Secretary