

**American Legion Post
266 Bennington,
Nebraska**

Meeting Minutes from August 5, 2021

At 7:05 PM the Auxiliary and Post members said the Pledge of Allegiance and recited the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion together. Post Chaplain Kay said a prayer.

At 7:09 PM Chris Casey, the Nebraska Commander of the Sons of the American Legion gave a presentation on starting a Chapter in Bennington. Some highlights are you must have at least 10 members to have a Chapter. You must have at least a Commander and an Adjutant. They provide manpower to the American Legion. Their big program is Child Welfare Program. Yearly dues start at a minimal \$15.00

- Commander Brauer opened the monthly meeting at: 7:39 PM
- Members Present: 18
Guests: 1 (Chris Casey, see above)
- June 2021 minutes presented. 1st : James Cheek 2nd : Larry Arp, Approved.
- Financial update: Was motion to table to next month. 1st : Lyle Sass 2nd : James Cheek, Approved. Habrock to report on fireworks sale.

Old Business

- **Recess:** Photo (*all members*) with Chris then he goes to table for sign-ups.
- **Old Business:**
- Review any open items from New Business of last meeting. Consult with Adjutant as needed.
- Officer 2 year terms. Reviewing State and District Constitution for guidance on implementation. Open to suggestions. Do not need to rush this since we have until June 2022 to implement any change in that election. I will have a proposal before then for review and approval. You may go online to the Department web site to review the state constitution and by-laws. Since I will be at National A.L. Convention, I will have a few copies at our October meeting. Adjutant, do you have any other old business? **No** Do any members have any? **No**
- [Http://www.nebraskalegion.net](http://www.nebraskalegion.net)
- (*What was the issue I said would be reviewed by post executive committee? I did not put in my notes.*)The only thing was the Finance report I know of.
- **New Business:**
- I attended the Department Convention. Our post received some awards, I will read them, then I want a photo with past officers who contributed to our earning them. The photos are for our Facebook and Post website. Also, they will be sent to the Department and maybe they will be in a future copy of the Legionnaire. Current and past officers get together for the transition photo. After photo, collect plaques and check.
(*In photo: Past Commander Musel and Commander Brauer; Past Adjutant Youngberg and Adjutant*

Turner; Past Finance Officer Habrock and Finance Officer Reed; Past Sargent-At-Arms Arp and Sargent-At-Arms Cheek.)

- I have a few copies of my convention notes. Since we have a full agenda, I will skip reading them tonight. I may cover them in a future meeting along with National Convention notes.
- After photo: Did you see the ad in the Douglas County Post Gazette? I took it upon myself to do that without your approval. I did it to support Chris and his presentation of SAL info. Also, it may promote increasing our membership and possibly add younger members. I paid \$100 for the ad. I will accept a motion for reimbursement or one of tough luck you should not be spending money without approval. 1st motion: Steve Youngberg, Second motion: Glenn Turner, discussion, Approved
- Honor Guard: Since our last meeting, we did a funeral honor guard for Don Warner and a color guard for Bennington baseball. (*Musel question: who did baseball color guard? Answer: Brauer, Kay and Osterchill. No question about honor guard – IMO that was because we had 12 members there so most knew who served.*)
- Our past officers have served us well. In recognition and on behalf of the post, I have certificates for Dick, Sally, Steven and Larry. Also, we are presenting them with monogrammed coffee cups. Please come forward.
Does anyone have comments for them? Take photo.
- Gifts For Yanks Who Gave. The Department asks us to donate \$50 as we did before. This is for veterans in the state's veteran homes and the VA Medical Center. Motion, second, discussion, vote. (*Approved*)
- Membership Dues: The Adjutant has information on collections and gets notices for those that renew online. There are monthly goals; the first of 50% is Sept. 9th. Cash awards will continue for this year including for attaining 100% and for new members (\$5.00) signed-up by Nov. 1st. Adjutant, where do we stand? (As of 3 August we have 12 online renewals and 31 mail in renewals for a total of 43 which is 34% renewal rate. We have 128 members assigned.)
- Department Headquarters Building: It is 60 years old and is not American with Disabilities Act compliant. The Department and Auxiliary Executive Committees authorized the sale of current building and purchase of another for both headquarters. How about a motion for \$1,000 to support the building fund? (*No motion. Musel raised question on hall refurbishing – remove both carpeted ledges, replace paneling on both walls and all support pillars. Musel agreed to contact Fix-it-Phil to get a quote. Suggestion: use profits from fireworks, as done with wall replacement, before dividing remainder between Post and Auxiliary.*)
- Leadership Training / Homecoming: Saturday Aug 14 at Valparaiso. Meet new Dept. & Sons Commanders and Auxiliary President. I have registered. If you want to attend, I have forms. (*No one indicated they would also attend.*)
- State Fair: Military, Veterans Appreciation Day, Sept. 6. Free Admission with proper identification. I searched the web site but did not find what qualifies as proper identification. I suggest you call 308-382-1620 for information if you are going.
- Also of interest at the fair: Older Nebraskans Day (60 and older) features The Happy Together Tour, which brings some of the original iconic bands and musicians of the 1960s. Monday, Aug. 30, 2 pm, Heartland Events Center. Tickets are \$15 and include gate admission. All seats are reserved.
- District 8 officers Whirlwind-Hat's-Off Tour: Friday Sept. 10 at 6.20 pm. At the American Legion in Bennington. I ask members to attend to meet officers. Auxiliary will provide snacks and drinks. (*Auxiliary*

agreed to do it. Remind them at next meeting.)

- Auxiliary Sponsored Scavenger Hunt: Photo contest; costs: individual \$25, group of 2-4, \$45. Flyers and info. at <https://nebraskalegionaux.net/fundraisers/>
- Since I am attending the National Convention, Vice-Commander Laaker will conduct the Sept. meeting.
- Adjutant Glenn and/or Finance Officer Rick do you have any items/comments to discuss? *(No comments from either.)*
- *(Member Arp raised issue by Nichole Johnson of color guard for Fireman's 9/11 program; agreed to find out details. After meeting, Brauer met with Auxiliary President Annette Kay for Nichole's contact info. Brauer called Nichole. Details: meet at fire station at 8.30 am, present colors, sing National Anthem, retire colors. **Need 5** volunteers – 3 flags, 2 dummy rifles – **get names of volunteers**, Brauer will be one, if there is a 6th, he can act as squad leader, if no volunteers, expect calls. Use parking lot behind station. Other activities: reading of names of firemen lost on 9/11, bag piper, prayer, breakfast, open house of station.)*
- Motion to adjourn at 8:32 PM 1st Steve Youngberg, 2nd Donald Laaker