

August 4, 2022 Post 266 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Paul Holtapp lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

POW/MIA Cover Placement: Sergeant-at-Arms Cheek placed the POW/MIA cover on the empty chair.

Chaplin Kay gave a prayer.

Preamble of the Constitution of The American Legion: led by Commander.

Auxiliary: reported we need 3 grave flag holder markers. A bronze 5" AL emblem on a 12" rod cost \$40.95 plus tax. Also reported, 50 nonmember veterans lack a flag holder.

Minutes: reviewed the minutes of our June/July meeting; revised 7/19 baseball color guard by adding Steven Youngberg. Motion to approve by James Cheek and second by Jared Weinman; approved.

Financial: reviewed financial report. Motion to approve by Merlin Kay and second by Don Laaker; approved.

Old Business:

Gifts For Yanks Who Gave Money Jar – We continue collections to support the Fund.

Sons of the American Legion: Commander Jared announced KMTV-3 interview on 8/12 on PACT Act (burn pit toxic exposure) VA medical benefits passage. Jared and Glenn Turner did an excellent job addressing the issue.

Fireworks: Preliminary sales and expenses reported. Motion by Merlin Kay and second by George Westphal to include building insurance, fire extinguisher and sprinkler system in expenses in expenses before splitting earning between Legion, Auxiliary and Sons. Motion passed.

Buddy Check Program – No veteran left behind. Lyle Sass reported 35 lead volunteer callers with 22 actively making calls.

Unserviceable US Flags – No update from Sally Habrock, completion of the collection box pending.

Consolidated Post Report – continue to track your activities to provide our adjutant input on community involvement hours for the Department summary to Congress.

Replacement Rifle Jim Cheek, update on return of rifle with cracked receiver – no change, waiting on DOD.

Inventory Review – Need revised – hats, coats, gloves, ties, flags, hat pins, etc., including sizes. We will hold its review for future meeting to see which items we will restock.

New Business:

Membership: time for 2022-23 notices to pay dues, if you do not pay online with National, Glenn will take your money. Current status: 51 out of 114 members for 45%. New member rebate: \$5.00 when signed up by November 1st.

National Convention: Commander attending National Convention in Milwaukee, August 26th through September 1st. VC Donny Laaker and Adjutant Glenn Turner will be manning the Post. Either may contact me by phone or email. If the agenda allows, I will attempt to be here for our next meeting. A resolution announced is for multi-year dues paying, either for 3 or 5 year term. There would not be a discount you just avoid paying annually. Sense of members: mixed support or opposition.

Wi-Fi: Motion by Lyle Sass and second by Jim Cheek to add Wi-Fi to Hall. Will benefit fireworks sales, meet requests by renters and other uses. Committee established to present details; members: Steven Youngberg, Jared Weinman and Rick Reed. Motion passed.

Shell Presentation Boxes: Motion by Dick Musel and second by Donny Laaker to purchase 10 boxes used for shells presented to member families at Honor Guard ceremonies. Motion passed.

Plastic Table: Motion by Deb Niesen to purchase an 8 ft. table to replace a damage one.

First by Dick Musel and second by Donny Laaker; motion passed.

Honor Guard: Conducted HG for Yutan Post member James Weinberger on 8/5 at Bellevue Cemetery. Received \$75 thank you donation. Participants: Larry Arp, Bill Botos, Steve Botos, Ken Dirksen, Merlin Kay, Donny Laaker, Deb Niesen, Jim Osterchill, Steven Youngberg and Les Brauer.

Grounds Services: Questions raised about gutter cleaning, tree trimming and retaining wall repair or replacement; no action taken. Also, there may an assessment for alley paving.

Next Meeting: September 1st; Sons will meet on August 11th and September 8th.

Announcements:

Assistant Department Adjutant Brent Hagel-Pitt is retiring, applications being accepted, must be a veteran.
NE 37th Annual Vietnam Veterans Reunion – August 11-14 at Younes Conference Center, 416 W. Talmage Rd, Kearney. For info see www.vetsreunion.com

Veterans Appreciation Day at State Fair: Monday September 5th, see www.statefair.org for details. Patriotic Productions will display their Nebraska Remembering Our Fallen exhibit throughout the entire fair in the Nebraska Building. It commemorates the brave Nebraskans we've lost in military service since 2001.

Commander's Home Coming: Legion Don Suchy, Sons Chris Casey, Auxiliary Vicki Ozenbaugh; Saturday October 1st at Seward, training begins at 1pm with banquet following.

National Crisis Line: new phone number, 988 then press 1 for Veterans' Crisis Line

No other new business

POW/MIA chair cover: retrieved by Sergeant-at-Arms Cheek.

Adjourn: motion by Dick Musel and second by Jared Weinman to adjourn; motion passed.