

June 2, 2022 Post 266 Meeting Minutes

Note: minutes include information from July activities.

Call to Order: Steve Botos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

POW/MIA Cover Placement: Sargent at Arm Cheek placed the cover on the empty chair.

Chaplin Kay: Gave a prayer.

Preamble of the Constitution of The American Legion: led by Larry Arp.

Auxiliary: Announced Bennington Dayz food service 11am to 3pm.

Minutes: May meeting, no revisions, motion by Joe Fredrick and second by Pete Hunt to approve, passed

Financial: No revisions, motion by Jim Cheek and second by Larry Arp to approve, passed.

Have you reviewed the financial report? Any questions or?

Old Business:

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Money Jar – Donated \$320. Collections switched to support Gifts for Yanks Who Gave Fund.

JAVELAN Service Dogs: \$500 donation paid, not on June financial report but did clear in July.

Sons of the American Legion: SAL Squadron officers installed June 9th: Commander - Jared Wineman, Adjutant – Lyle Sass, Finance - Geoff Getzschman and Sargent at Arms – Mike Valasek. We had strong support from Legion Department and SAL Detachment Officers: Ron Riley – Legion District 8 Commander; James Keyes – SAL District 8 Commander; Michael Sheridan – Legion Area A Vice-Commander; Jim Costello – Legion Alternate National Executive Committeeman; Bud Neel – SAL Alternate National Executive Committeeman and past SAL Commander. Celebrated with a cake, \$36.99.

SAL Bank account established at Bennington Bank; signers include Glenn Turner, Jared Weinman, and Geoff Getzschman.

Fireworks: Numerous volunteers including baseball players helped with set-up and day of product arrival. Legion (595 1/4hrs), Auxiliary (134 3/4hrs.) and Sons members volunteered (71 3/4hrs) during sales June 25 through July 4. Permits: state, \$26.62; city, \$250. Refer to financial report for other expenses; phone installation, fire extinguishers and fire suppression checks, sales tax, etc. Provided 5 doz. Donuts for players, \$53.95.

Buddy Check Program – No veteran left behind. Lyle Sass said calling continues; often encounters no answer so message left, few return calls. Effort needs to continue. Hopefully, you are reading the Buddy Check Updates in the Legion national magazine.

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. Glenn sent the report, due to Department June 1st.

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

Inventory Review - Completed – 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.

Memorial Day: Thanks for the great turnout to preform honor guard at cemeteries; Flower Hill, German and Prairie View. The flag bearers had quite a challenge hanging on against the strong winds. We included the SAL flag for the 1st time. Attendees where: Bill Botos, Steve Botos, Dick Musel, Ken Dirksen, Van Mohr, Gale Sass, Lyle Sass, Steven Youngberg, Jim Cheek, Merlin Kay, Jaren Weinman Jerry Valasek, Deb Niesen, Glenn Turner, Les Brauer and Sons Jaydon Weinman and Geoff Getzschman. Pastor Paul Moessner provided the memorial address.

Bennington Dayz Parade: Saturday June 4th met at hall at 10am; parade started at 11am, assembled at Bennington Middle School. Attendees: Glenn Turner, Bill Botos, Steve Botos, Steven Youngberg, Jerry Valasek, Merlin Kay, Larry Arp, Jared Weinman, Jaydon Weinman, Deb Niesen, Geoff Getzschman, Ken Dirksen, Rick Reed, Les Brauer and Grayson Reed who played a drum to keep marchers in step.

Roof Repair: Apple Roofing replaced 17 missing shingles; \$725 repair bill paid.

Building Insurance: annual premium of \$5725.01; paid.

New Business:

Membership: time for 2022-23 notices to pay dues, if you do not pay online with National, Glenn will take

your money. June status: no change from May; 112/120 = 92.5%

Department Convention: June 24-26 at Columbus Ramada, includes Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders. See information in April/May Legionnaire. We need to elect and alternates. Jared Weinman and Commander Brauer nominated as delegates; no 3rd delegate or any alternates. Motion by Larry Arp and second by Joe Fredrick to approve delegates passed. Both attended. July/August Legionnaire listed new Department officers. It also had a photo of Steven Youngberg receiving his Department Public Relations Award for our Post web site.

Numerous resolutions proposed and passed; some made constitutional changes; see department web site to review resolutions. WWW.nebraskalegion.net. Included changes: reduced state convention quorum from 25% of Posts attending to 20% since the last 2 conventions had difficulty meeting the quorum requirement; Department Executive Committee meetings allowed to be help electronically not just in-person, a response to recent uncontrollable (COVID) circumstances; reimbursement of \$400 for National Convention Delegates except for those whose expenses are paid by National; add Robert's Rules of Order as amended for use in all meeting except for any superseded by Department, District, County or Post By-laws.

Post Officers Election: Current officers reelected. No other nominations. Motion by Dick Musel and second by Steve Botos to close nominations. Motion by Joe Fredrick and second by Ken Dirksen to approve nominations, passed.

Rain Coats: Steven Youngberg proposed buying rain coats for Honor/Color Guard. Motion by James Cheek and second by Ken Dirksen to approve purchase, passed. 20 received.

Banner for Parades: Motion by Jerry Valasek and second by James Cheek, passed.

National Convention Reimbursement: Motion by Deann Zens and second by Jared Weinman for \$1,000 to cover Commander's convention expenses.

Walter Merica Honor Guard: Sunday July 10th at Fair View, Papillion. Received \$100 thank you donation. Attendees: Deb Niesen, Jim Osterchill, Larry Arp, Jim Cheek, Gale Sass, Jared Weinman, Patrick Donnelly, Merlin Kay, Steven Youngberg, Les Brauer.

Baseball Color Guards: Performed 3 CG's. May 29: Merlin Kay, Ken Dicksen, Les Brauer; July 15: Merlin Kay, Jared Weinman, Jaydon Weinman, Patrick Donnelly, Jerry Valasek, Deb Niesen, Les Brauer; July 19: Deb Niesen, Merlin Kay, Patrick Donnelly, Les Brauer.

Next Meeting: No July meeting so August 4th is our next meeting. FYI – Commander is attending our National Convention in Milwaukee, August 24th through September 1st. VC Donny Laaker and adjutant Glenn Turner will be manning the Post. Either may contact me by phone or email.

Announcements:

State Boys State – June 5-11 at University of Nebraska, Lincoln; sponsored Jesse Grothendick

State Junior Law – June 21-24 at Nebraska State Patrol Training Center, no sponsorships from Post.

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

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

No other new business.

Sergeant-at-arms retrieved the POW/MIA chair cover.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn 1st Joe Frederick, 2nd Richard Musel; passed.