

May 5, 2022 Post 266 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: VC Donny Laaker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Chaplin Kay: gave a prayer.

Recitation of the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion: led by Lyle Sass

Auxiliary Announcement: Bennington Dayz food service 11am to 3pm on Saturday June 4th.

VSO Presentation by Benson Elmore Douglas County Veterans Service Officer; very informative; answered many questions. Contact: 1111 So. 41st St; Suite 110; Omaha, 68105; Ph: 402-444-7180; Fx: 402-444-5114. Veterans Crisis (suicide risk) Line; 800-273-8255; confidential chat: VeteransChrisLine.net

Minutes: motion by Jared Weinman and second by Deb Niesen to approve minutes of our April meeting; approved.

Financial: motion by Donnie Laaker and second by James Cheek to approve financial report; approved.

Old Business:

\$500 Scholarships to BHS Students: Commander presented certificates on Sunday April 24 to the 4 approved for 2022: awardees: Walker Behnken, Austin Hofts, Jacob Kuhl, who sent a thank you card and Nicholas Calderon.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Money Jar – collected and paid \$320. We will continue collections and support Gifts For Yanks Who Gave Fund.

JAVELAN Service Dogs: \$500 donation paid, not on financial report; waiting on bank to post.

Sons of the American Legion: Jared Weinman update on SAL Squadron activities: officer installation set for Thursday June 9th at 7pm. Commander placed order, all items received; see list in April minutes. More SAL info in new business.

Fireworks: Steven Youngberg update: Sign-up is live on Post web site: legion266ne.org; setup June 21, sales begin Saturday June 25. Need volunteers for set-up and June 22 for product arrival. Adjutant: Status of permits pending. Phone installation – scheduled. Fire extinguishers and fire suppression check – contact Continental Fire Sprinkler Co., 4518 So.133rd St. Omaha 68137; info@continental-fire.com. Signs (update not required, 10 sale dates remain year to year) and Flyers – Diane Warrick to print. Distribute signs and flyers about June 13th.

Buddy Check Program – No veteran left behind. Lyle update, project ongoing.

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. Report is due to Department June 1st.

Replacement Rifle Jim 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. Review for items to restock – postponed.

New Business:

Membership: expect notices to pay 2023 dues from National, if you do not pay online, Glenn will take your money. Current status: no change from April; 111/120 = 91.8%

Department Convention: June 24-26 at Columbus Ramada, includes Legion, Auxiliary, SAL and Riders. See information in April/May Legionnaire. We will elect delegates and alternates at June meeting.

Honoring World War II Veterans: Department asked Posts to identify any such members and others in their communities. Nominated member Charles Wehrer.

Advertising in the Convention Program, options available: \$10 – 1/8th page, \$20 – 1/4th page, \$30 – 1/2 page, \$60 – full page. Ads and payment must be received by Department before June 10th. If interested, contact Kylea at Headquarters, 402-464-6338.

Numerous resolutions are proposed for consideration; some will be constitutional changes; see department web site to review resolutions. WWW.nebraskalegion.net

Memorial Day: Many volunteered to preform honor guard at cemeteries; meet at hall 9am, Flower Hill – 10am,

German – 11am, Prairie View – noon. Dress: long sleeve white shirt, black pants, tie, hat, jacket if cold. St. Johns Pastor Paul Moessner will bring memorial message.

Post Officers Election: Will be at June 2nd meeting; election motion for 2 years violates constitution. Consider if you want serve in an office.

Bennington Dayz Parade: Saturday June 4th meet at hall at 10am; parade starts at 11am, assembly at Bennington Middle School. Dress: polo shirts, black pants, hats. Will include SAL flag. SAL member lacking a polo may wear white short sleeve shirt, black pants and SAL hat – no tie needed.

SAL Officer Installation: June 9th, need to support; all welcome. SAL and Department Officers at various levels will attend. Motion by Larry Arp and second by Jared Weinman to send a post card announcement to members inviting them; Passed. Text suggestion: It's official. Post 266 now has a Sons of the American Legion Squadron. Come support officer installation June 9th at 7pm at Legion Post Hall. RSVPs to Glenn 402-517-8650. Motion by Deb Niesen and second by Donnie Laaker to pay \$837.34 to cover order including Legion charges for Space Force Flag and Dual member hat pins – Passed.

Bank Account: Motion to support Legion change noted in April minutes: remove Dick Musel and add Glenn Turner; concurring motion by Steven Youngberg and second by Deb Niesen - Passed
Motion and second to establish SAL account; signers include Glenn, Jared Weinman and Geoff Getzschman – Passed.

Roof Repair: Apple Roofing inspected roof finding 17 shingle missing or wind damaged and quoted \$725 to make repairs. Motion by Donnie Laaker and second by Deb Niesen to proceed - Passed.

Building Insurance: annual premium increased from \$4900 to \$5700. Issues: age of building; sub-standard second level, fireworks sales, weapons; most companies will not issue a policy. Motion by Steven Youngberg and second by Larry Arp to pay - Passed.

Hall Rental Fee Suspension: motion by Rick Reed and second by Steven Youngberg to allow certain gratis rentals such as non-profits at the discretion of rental coordinator Deb Niesen – Passed.

Announcements:

State Boys State – June 5-11 at University of Nebraska, Lincoln

State Junior Law – June 21-24 at Nebraska State Patrol Training Center, Director: Brent Hagel-Pitt, 402-464-6338

Walter Merica Honor Guard: Sunday July 10th, meet at hall at 1 pm, interment 2pm at Fair View, Papillion

Veterans Appreciation Day at State Fair: Monday September 5th, see www.statefair.org for details

No other new business?

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

Adjourn: motion by Steven Youngberg and second by Donnie Laaker to adjourn – Passed