

Bennington SAL SQUADRON 266 | MINUTES

Meeting date: 14 March, 2024 | time: 6 pm | Meeting location [Bennington Legion Hall](#)

Officers Present: Commander Jared Weinman, Sargent-at-Arms Mike Valasek, Adjutant Les Brauer, Historian Alex Banks, Chaplin Brian Gernandt, Finance Officer Geoff Getzschman, Legion Liaison Glen Turner

Absent: None

Type of meeting: Monthly meeting

Facilitator: Commander Weinman

Note taker: Adjutant Brauer

Total number of members in attendance: 11 members, 1 nonmember

- Meeting brought to order by Commander Jared W.
- Hand salute to the flag
- Opening prayer given by Chaplin Brian G.
- Commander read Resolution 288 designating the POW/MIA empty chair
- Sgt.-At-Arms Mike V. placed the POW-MIA chair cover
- Commander read Resolution N C 2-03 Blue Star Banner
- Pledge of Allegiance to the flag recited
- Preamble lead by Commander Jared W.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- **Minutes of previous meeting:** approved February meeting minutes
 - a. **Motion** to approve by Mark Goodrich
 - b. **2nd** by Alex Banks; Passed
- **Finance report:**
 - a. **Motion** to pick-up tabled November report added February report, motion to approve by Alex Banks
 - b. **2nd** by Jim Musel; Passed
- **Old/Unfinished business:**
 - a. **CSR Report:** Jim M.-32 hrs., Alex B.-0 hrs., Mike V.-35 hrs; Rich R. -20 Mark G. -7, no blood donations
ADMIN HOURS- Jared W.-17 hrs., Les B. 10 hrs. and Geoff G. 4 hr.
 - b. Time to focus on recruiting new members
 - c. Junior shooting sports/ Eddie Eagle/ NRA
 - d. Membership: we are currently at 21 members, 16 paid, 76.2%
- **2. Renewals:** If paying the full \$30 online,\$15 kept by National and Detachment, \$15 returned with \$5 for Squadron and the extra \$10 is a donation to SAL 266; dual or 16 and younger members need to pay in cash to avoid extra charge online
- **3. SAL 266:** Start planning to host 2 flag retirement ceremonies per year: unofficial chair – Jim M.; dates: need to be chosen; target Saturday 1 June, Bennington Daze or Friday 14 June, Flag Day. Need burn permit for fire pit at Hall or contact fire department to use their station's burn area.
- **Griddle and Stand:** received, cost \$1960,37; defective, to be returned due to pressure valve not for 30 lb. Propane tank and 1 burner control valve leaked.

- **SAL orders:** none outstanding
- **Legion Information:** Successful Auxiliary Legion Birthday Dinner, Sunday 3/10 and Legion Pancake Feed Saturday, March 9th; raised about \$3000. Recognized Lyle Sass for assistance in establishing SAL 266 with a wooden plaque at Legion Birthday Dinner.
- **Easter Egg Event:** Heath Mlnarik approved use of baseball field, held on Palm Sunday March 24th, 2pm; age groups: 0-4, 5-8, 9-12; use raffle donations to fund 4 Pillars and scholarships; moved into Hall due to inclement weather
- **New Business**
- **Liaison Update:** by Glenn T.: Deann Zens arranged May 2nd hosting of Donut Dollies speaker describing effort to provide donuts to active duty military, Rick R. is vice-chair; suggested SAL sell sodas to raise funds while Posts has a soup supper prior to speaker presents. Deann Zens postponed committee to investigate Post joining Wreathes Across America to place wreathes at the 3 cemeteries we serve, Jim Cheek and Rick R. are vice-chairs; Boys State: no nominations to approve.
- **Social Media:** Alex: Facebook like our page; adds event notices when scheduled; 53 followers.
- **Charter:** Diane Warrick added names to charter; need to frame and mount it on the wall
- **National Commander's 4 Pillars Challenge:** \$1/member minimum: \$300 to **CWF** approved August 2023 (Children and Youth), need to pay it; **VA&R** (Veterans Affairs & rehabilitation) Operation Comfort Warrior; **Americanism**, no nominations to sponsor at least 1 to Boys State at \$400, need to review alternate ways to meet requirement; **National Security**, donate at least \$1/member to hosting organization (donated \$50 to St. Johns Church for blood drive)
- **BHS Awards:** Need to contact Bennington High School for scholarships: college, Boys State, Junior Law, military enlistees
- **Motions made during meeting:**
 1. **Subject:** BHS collage scholarships at \$500; chose Nolan Walsh and Tristen Buhman since no Boys State nominations
 - Motion:** by Mike V.
 - 2nd :** Mark G.; passed
- Closing prayer given by Chaplin Brian G.
- Sgt.-At-Arms Mike V. retired the POW-MIA chair cover
- Hand salute to the flag
- Meeting adjourned