

Bennington SAL SQUADRON 266 | MINUTES

Meeting date: 12 September, 2024 | time: 6 pm | Meeting location [Bennington Legion Hall](#)

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

Absent:, Chaplin Brian Gernandt

Type of meeting: Monthly meeting

Facilitator: Commander Weinman

Note taker: Adjutant Brauer

Total number of members in attendance: 8 members, 0 nonmembers

- Meeting brought to order by Commander Jared W.
- Hand salute to the flag
- Opening prayer given by Rob Goudy
- Commander read Resolution 288 designating the POW/MIA empty chair
- Sgt.-At-Arms Mike Valasek. 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 August meeting minutes, also advised that Commander may ask if there are any addition or correction to minutes as emailed. If no changes, then commander may announce minutes are approved as sent and dispense with a motion to approve minutes. Expect this to be implemented at future meetings.
 - a. **Motion** to approve by Mark Goodrich
 - b. **2nd** by Alex Banks; Passed
- **Old/Unfinished business:**
 - a. **CSR Report:** Jim M.-23 hrs., Alex B.-1 hrs., Mike V.-0 hrs; Rich R. -0 hrs., Mark G. -2 hrs., Brian G. -0 hrs., Rob Goudy-6 hrs., Millard Days parade – 12 hrs.
ADMIN HOURS- Jared W.-4 hr., Les B. 3 hrs. and Geoff G. 1 hr.
 - b. Time to focus on recruiting new members
 - c. Junior shooting sports/ Eddie Eagle/ NRA
 - d. Membership: we are currently at 24 members, 12 paid; payments for 2025 underway.
- **2. Renewals:** If paying online - \$30; \$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 online charge.
- **3. SAL 266:** Start planning to host 2nd flag retirement ceremony: unofficial chair – Jim M.; Mike V. got burn permit, good for 1 year, use fire pit at Hall, held 1st on Flag Day, 14 June and 2nd date planned for Saturday December 7th Pearl Harbor Day.
- **Griddle and Stand:** received cost refund of \$1960,37; defective due to pressure valve not for 30 lb. Propane tank and 1 burner control valve leaked; no return needed; need to determine disposition: repair & keep, possible sale without repair pending, trash. Commander Jared moved it to storage.
- **SAL orders:** hat for Rob Goudy: 7-3/8's and Robbie Glidden: 7-1/4 – on order.

- **Legion Liaison Information:** By Glenn Turner; Plan to install a drop-down screen and projector. Consider Bennington High School away football game viewing events. Hail damaged roof, replacement pending. Fireworks sales limited by days of week, only 1 weekend included; SAL worked 16% of hours, allotment: \$3,842.12. Held baseball team raffle with fireworks sales for 2nd yr.
- **New Business**
- **Social Media:** Alex B.; presented T-shirt/polo design; planning SAL'oween flyer.
- **Charter:** Diane Warrick added names to charter; framed; need to mount it on the wall.
- **National Commander's 4 Pillars Challenge:** \$1/member minimum:
CWF \$300 approved August 2023 (Children and Youth), paid.
VA&R (Veterans Affairs & rehabilitation) Operation Comfort Warrior; \$400 donation from Easter Event fund raiser; payment paid.
Americanism, no Boys State nominations; alternate way to meet requirement; donate \$100 to Detachment; canceled check since it was not cashed; need to find alternate way to meet requirement.
National Security, donated \$50 to St. Johns Church for hosting their blood drive), paid
NE SAL Commander's Project: donate \$100 to Gifts for Yanks; paid.
- **BHS Awards:** \$500 BHS college scholarship each to Nolan Walsh and Tristen Buhman. Payment once enrollment documented.
- **NE VA Vets Get Pets:** \$350 donation approved
- **Motions made during meeting:**
 1. **Subject:** T-shirt/polo so Legion and SAL are uniformly dressed; coordinate with Legion on specifics, design: Post 266 on front and Legion family logos on back, SAL will fund purchase of 2-4X, 2-3X, 10-2X, 4-XL, 5-Lge. Discussed, **no motion**, waiting Legion input, may move forward at next meeting.
Motion: agreed to discuss with Legion
2nd:
 2. **Subject:** donate \$2500 to Legion for roof repair deductible
Motion: by Rob Goudy
2nd: Geoff Getzschman; passed
- **SAL Detachment Convention Resolutions:** Review Squadron Constitution for possible updates:
DC-2-24: amend SAL Constitution membership dates in Article IV Section 1 to match National SAL dates of April 6, 1917 through November 11, 1918 and anytime from December 7, 1941 to present.
DC-4-24: establish "Adopt A Veteran" program in Article III Section 17 where squadrons adopt a senior housing or veterans' home to provide family type comfort to veterans living there; suggested activities include friendly visits, sending birthday and holiday cards, small gifts and if appropriate, financial support.
- **Open Door Mission Idea:** get involved to connect Vets to VSO for VA benefits; set SAL volunteers on monthly basis, Saturday 5 October serve at Timberlake thrift store; approved volunteers: Jared, Jim, Rob, Mark.
- **SAL'oween:** Date / Time: 26 October, 5 – 9 pm; Alex B. and Geoff G. are co-chairs; \$1,000 budget, plan costume contest for 12 yr. olds and under with 3 prizes: king size candy bars; Rick Reed to set up movie screen and projector; plan games; pumpkin decorating: markers, stickers; spent \$1/pumpkin last year; outreach to auto clubs, fire and police departments interested to bring vehicles; close street.
- **Coming Events:** Donut Dollies, 3 October, 5 pm. Police and Fire Safety Night Out: 1 October, 4-7 pm at Hy-Vee, 156th and Maple; Fall Round-up 13 October at Blair Post, 1 p.m., 103 So. 12th St.
- Closing prayer given by Rob G.

- Sgt.-At-Arms Mike V. retired the POW-MIA chair cover
- Hand salute to the flag
- Meeting adjourned