

## Meeting Minutes Prep April 2021

Guests: None

Meeting opened at 1900 with 13 Members Present.

**Officer Roll Call**- All officers were present except the 2 Year Trustee and Service Office who were excused and the Officer of the Day who was absent.

**New Memberships** – Nine membership applications were presented to the members. Motion to accept by Frank D.; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrell M.; motion passed. Harry Baulisch and Randy Martin were present.

**Minutes:** Motion to dispense with reading of the minutes as they were emailed to all active members and posted on our website made by Frank D.; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jose T.; motion passed.

**Reading of the Bills:** No Bills.

**QM Monthly Report** was accepted subject to audit.

**Community Service/Service Officer** – Josh Andrus excused, briefed by Larry – Legion approached Justin at the Feb meeting about taking ENVH vets to a Storm Chasers game. I have taken the lead and chatted with Patti Howe about it. Working out details of how many we can take and transportation. ENVH no longer has buses. They use 4 passenger handicap vans and will only furnish one. We cannot take in our own vehicles. Cost of renting a bus from Arrow is \$830. This plus the \$800 needed to pay admittance fee and food/beverage for 40 veterans makes it too expensive even when split with the Legion. Rich Klinger and I chatted prior to the meeting. He is going to check on getting MOBY busses as he knows the company owner.

**Members in Distress/Deceased:** None

### Committee Reports

**Membership** - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 102.35%. No membership drives for May.

**Blood Drive/VA/Surgeon & Chaplain Report** - Frank Durham: J&J vaccine back in use. No more Saturday shot clinics. Have to go during normal business hours. Our VA is in the top 5 for number of shots given. Move of Mental Health and physical therapy on hold due to funds shortage. The circle drive at VA Hospital is closed. Have to park near emergency entrance. Flag pole is being moved. New temporary Director as current one is retiring. No longer require masks outside but must wear inside. No VA picnic this year. Planning to plant some crab apple and pear trees. Also planning a healing (serenity) garden with a projected cost of \$1,000,000. DAV transport now allowed to take veterans to all appointments at approved locations. Hospital now has enough money for replacement scooters (we donated \$1400 last year).

## Meeting Minutes Prep April 2021

**POW/MIA** - Jose Tamayo: – No report, links to POW/MIA site located on Post web site.

**Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen** - Charles Posey: Closed till May

**Teacher Awards** - Larry Gerlt: Closed till May

**Buddy Poppy** - Darrell McMillan: - Next drive scheduled for May 22nd at Hy-Vee, 50<sup>th</sup> & Center, 9-3. 2 hour shifts. Need four per shift as they have two doors. Have procured a box of surgical gloves for us to wear so that donators know we have not personally handled the poppies. Have masks available but please bring your own.

**Political Action** - Matt Whitaker: No report.

**Webmaster/Facebook** - Rick Imgrund: No report (excused).

**Pickle Report** – Duke: None sold

### REMEMBER OUR NATIONAL HOME

**Correspondence** – The State Convention is June 4-6. Can come in late on Friday as business session starts Saturday at 8 A.M. Ends about Noon on Sunday. It is being held in Norfolk (120 miles) at Divots Hotel and Conference Center. Registration and Hotel reservations now open - you must make your own hotel reservations. Commander Brand is attending. My expenses are paid by National VFW. PPC Matt Whitaker is paid to go as District Commander. We will pay for two additional members - \$100 per hotel night plus \$50 for gas. Let me know if planning to attend. National Convention is July 31 – Aug 5<sup>th</sup>. Saturday and Sunday are various committee meetings. Business starts on Monday. It was schedule to be held in Baltimore, but the hotels & Convention Center backed out due to COVID restriction. Stay tuned for further details. The post will pay \$1000 to two members – the Commander and QM. My travel is paid by National VFW. Justin probably can't go due to his starting a new job recently. If interested in going please let me know. I must register you as a delegate so you can VOTE!

### Old Business –

- 1. Subj:** Improving tie with 55<sup>th</sup> FSS **Content:** I propose we offer to sponsor a \$ 50 Texas Road House Gift card for their Airman, NCO and Senior NCO Quarterly Awards Program and \$100 for Annual Award in each category.. Annual cost is \$150 X 4 + \$300=900. We would apply to National for \$900 to purchase them. We would then purchase \$100 as purchasing \$1000 as they will then give us \$1100 in gift cards. We could then use the extra \$200 for a Christmas party drawing. If National declines, we would pay for the gift cards. I or Matt would then make a presentation of the card at their Commanders Call. Doing so will get us out in front of them and should lead to additional post members. Matt stated they had been unresponsive to his recent requests to talk with them since the new Commander took over. **On hold due to COVID**

## Meeting Minutes Prep April 2021

2. **Subj:** Zoom Meetings. **Content:** The amp & mic set I have been bringing to meetings is my personal equipment and is very large and inconvenient to bring to meetings. I would like to purchase a Bluetooth speaker & microphone combo. Department has one and it only weighs 2 pounds! It costs about \$300. I make a motion we allocate up to \$350 for its purchase. . 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrell. Motion Passed.
3. **Subj:** Annual Christmas Party & Awards Banquet **Content:** Xmas party went well. Downside – we were charged for 9 meals we did not receive due to cancellations day of party. All but one was for valid reasons – an injury, illness, illness of parent in distant state. Previous banquet manager would bring out the unserved meals for us to dispense with. Have not yet begun search for a new location.
4. **Subj:** Parade 28 May 2021. **Content:** We have been invited to march in the upcoming event. Event is being put together by Dan Falcon in concert with Bill Williams who spearheaded the free veteran DC flights. Have verified with Omaha Police and Parade Manager rifles ok to bring. The major details are as followed: Parade is on Friday, at 1830, May 28th. We will be staged at the Hollywood Candy store in the old market on 12th and Jackson. We will meet at 1715 at Durham museum. Carry rifles and flags to parade starting point. When we finish the parade, we will be able to put everything back in my car. Invite your family to attend. Any questions please contact me email or call 402-216-8570. Hope to see you there. Uniform of the day would be VFW Cover, Post Polo Shirt, dark (black) trouser, and black shoes.
5. **Subj:** Re-Dedication ceremony at Memorial Park on Sat May 29th at 1200hrs. **Content:** There will be skydivers jumping in, WWII reenactors, static displays from the Army Airborne, Marine will also have displays, and will have refreshments also. It will be quite of an event. You are invited to attend. Any questions please contact me email or call 402-216-8570. Hope to see you there.

### New Business

1. **Subj:** Drawing for Life Memberships **Content:** To encourage annual members to remain member of our post, we could do an annual drawing in May to pay for two life memberships and I as QM will personally pay for a 3<sup>rd</sup>. Have brought slips for eligible members. Need a person to pick our 3 winners. Winners are: James Heafey, Bruce White, and George Vomaka.
2. **Subj:** VFW National Home for Children **Content:** I make a motion we donate \$200 to them for their Perpetual fund. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrell. Motion passed.
3. **Subj:** May Meeting is officer installations. **Content:** We have always done a pot luck dinner. Members & Auxiliary members bring sides. Post buys the entrée. I usually buy fried chicken.  
Motion to continue the tradition and have chicken by Frank. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrell. Motion passed.
4. **Subj:** Goodbye Plaque for Jose & Diana. We presented them a farewell plaque.

## Meeting Minutes Prep April 2021

5. **Subj: 3rd Call for elections** - Jose Tamayo withdrew from his nomination for Junior Vice Commander as he is moving to Florida in May. Matt nominated Jeff Gillespie. As there were no further nomination, was made by Matt and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrell for the Adjutant to Cast one unanimous ballot for the slate of officer for the ensuing membership year. Motion passed.

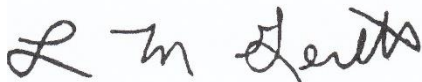
**Commander:** Justin Brand, Sr. Vice Comm. Darrell McMullin, Jr. Vice Comm. Jeff Gillespie, Adj/QM Larry Gerlt, Judge Advocate Benjamin Beans, Surgeon Rich Klinger, Chaplain Frank Durham. Service Officer Josh Andrus.  
1 Year Trustee Rick Imgrund, 2 Year Trustee Benjamin Beans, 3 Year Trustee Matt Whitaker.

We have several committee chairmanships available. I will be contacting members on Commander Brand's behalf to seek volunteers for them. All Elected/Appointed Officers & Committee Chairs will be published in General Order #1 for the June meeting.

### **Good of the Order (*All guests should be invited to speak.*)**

National Convention (July 31- Aug 6) registration is now open but location is unknown at this time. State Convention Jun 4-6, Norfolk. If going, need to make your hotel reservations with Divots.

Our next Post meeting will be Officer Installations & Potluck the 4<sup>th</sup> Wed of May, 7 PM, in the upstairs meeting room of American Legion Post 331. Families invited. Each attending member is requested to bring a side dish that will server 12. Meeting Closed at 8:05 PM.



Larry M. Gerlt  
Quartermaster