

Meeting Minutes April 2025

Guests: None

Meeting opened at 1900 with 15 Members Present.

Officer Roll Call: All officers were present except the Commander, Judge Advocate & 1 Year Trustee who were excused.

New Memberships: 9 Membership applications were read. Larry G. made the motion to accept, 2nd by Frank D. Motion passed. One new member was present and sworn in.

Minutes: As minutes were emailed to all members and spare copies were available, motion to dispense with reading of the minutes was made by Frank D. and seconded by Jim C. Motion passed.

Reading of the Bills: Check 3705- Dept Credit Card was full. Processed Life membership for member on my personal card. Wrote Incentive check out to myself. Dept.is also writing one to me.

QM Monthly & Quarterly Reports: Accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – Larry Gerlt – Veterans' Job Fair, May 22nd, UNO. LB693 – claim sharks – contact your state senator!

Members in Distress: Rich Klinger - recovering

Members Deceased: None

Committee Reports:

Membership - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 104.81% and only need Day of Service to qualify for All American. If you have any family members, coworkers, neighbors or friends who are veterans and may qualify for the VFW, ask them if I can contact them about joining and pass me their contact info (at least name & phone number, address and email is good to have.) And please remember our Auxiliary – spouses, children 16 or older, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, and siblings are eligible!

Blood Drive/VA & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: VA still stressing that your VA ID card must NOT be expired. Construction is still ongoing. New Clinic area and Fischer House are doing well.

Surgeon – Jim Carmona: NR

POW/MIA - William Guy: 50-year Vietnam Repatriation Ceremony was held on April 19th.

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/TOTY - New theme has been released. Bonnie & I will be taking to various schools.

Political Action – Matt Freisen: LB 693 covered by Post Service Officer.

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: NR (Absent)

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Women Veterans - Sonja Hosler: NR

We remembered our National Home.

Correspondence – None

Old Business

1. **Subj:** We have been requested to participate in the Council Bluffs Veterans Day Parade on 8 November. They will provide food and fun afterwards at their local Am. Leg. Post. Any time we are “in front of the public” we have an opportunity to increase awareness of the VFW and possibly recruit new members. As it is in November, I will send out an email to see if we have enough members for a Color Guard. The Omaha Patriotic Parade is May 24th at 10 AM. **To date only have 3 responses. Will send a second email. If participating, need to register soon!**
2. **Subj:** Day Of Service – QM **Content:** Post voted to do Omaha Nat. Cemetery Guides. Show time 0845 on 3 May at main building.

New Business

1. **Subj:** ROTC awards for Bueno Vista HS, 60th & L **Content:** We have been asked by Post 2503 through our District Commander if we would accept this as a recurring event. The VFW has a presentation package that costs about \$25. If we accept, it will be added to SOP -1 as a recurring authorized payment. Each time we are in the public eye, we increase our visibility and become more well known which helps with membership and generating more opportunities. QM made a motion we accept this award as a recurring activity/expense. Motion was seconded by Marty S. Under discussion, Marty asked if we were going to include CAP as an annual award and expense. QM stated we had no info on the CAP at this time but could be voted on when we do. **Motion passed.**
2. **Subj:** SOP-1 **Content:** SOP-1 was emailed to members. It Had only minor changes. Have that version with me as well as one incorporating ROTC. Motion by QM to accept newest version. Motion was seconded by Frank D. Under discussion, Jim C. stated the amount allocated for card and flowers were outdated. He checked cost of cards & flowers state we needed to up the amount from \$6 & \$40 to \$10 & \$100. QM amended the motion to include the new dollar amounts. Amended motion was also seconded by Marty S. **Motion passed.**
3. **Subj:** Post By-Laws **Content:** Nat. By-Laws were changed last year. Instead of being an option, Post By-Laws are now required. QM updated the new template version so that all specific requirements (post dues, etc.) are shown as being in our SOP-1. Motion to accept the new By-Laws was made by the QM, seconded by Bernie J. **Motion passed.**
4. **Subj:** Strategic Review **Content:** QM covered Post Membership Plan & current scheduled activities (ENVH bingo, poppy drives, color guard/parade and adding annual ROTC VFW awards for Bueno Vista HS) as well as cooperation with our Auxiliary.

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5. **Subj:** May Pot Luck **Content:** QM stated our Aux. Treasurer wasn't sure about having the potluck again. QM then stated that he thought it was important to continue the practice as it gives us an audience to see our officers sworn in. An additional benefit is it gives us a chance to meet family of other members and have a social meeting instead of all business. QM stated he would not make the motion as the "treasurer" is his spouse and was leaving it up to the membership to make a motion to have/not have the pot luck. Motion was made by Marty S. to have the pot luck with officer installations. Motion was seconded by Frank D. **Motion passed.**
6. **Subj:** Crescent Iowa **Content:** Marty Shelton - Iowa closed their school. They have started a Red Barn School that's open 4 days a week and are asking for donations to help keep it open. He then chatted about possible benefits to our post and the VFW is we helped support them and made a motion we donate \$500. Motion was seconded by Gary T. **Motion passed.**
7. **Post Elections: Current slate:** QM read current slate of officers prior to second call. Gary Tow was nominated for 2-Year Trustee and Don Glenn for Judge Advocate. Second call was completed and we had a short break. Third and final call was completed. There being only one nomination for each elected position, all were elected by acclamation. Commander: Marty Shelton, Senior Vice Commander: Bernie Jennings, Junior Vice Commander: Randy Martin, QM: Larry Gerlt, Judge Advocate: Don Glenn, 3-Year Trustee: Rick Imgrund, 2-Year Trustee: Gary Tow, 1-Year Trustee: Matt Friesen. Commander elect will confirm appointments upon taking office, but election report required listing the following: Adjutant: Larry Gerlt, Service Officer: Larry Gerlt, Chaplain: Frank Durham.

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

- Bingo at ENVH, May 22nd. Show time 6:16 PM.
- Our next meeting will be Wed., May 28th, 7pm, at the DAV, 4515 F St.
- Meeting adjourned at 1950 hours.



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster