

Meeting Minutes January 2022

Guests: None

Meeting opened at 1900 with 11 Members Present.

Officer Roll Call – All officers were present except the Sr. Vice, 3 Year Trustee, and Officer of the Day who were excused and Surgeon who was absent.

New Memberships: 3 Membership apps were read. I made the motion to accept. Motion was seconded by Frank D. Motion passed.

Minutes were distributed via email and posted. Informal meeting – only essential items were covered.

Quartermaster's Report were accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – No report.

Members in Distress/Deceased: Harry Baulisch has a serious illness; **Deceased:** None

Committee Reports

Membership - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 102.54%. We have increased our Life membership from 276 to 310. If you have a relative, friend, coworker who may be eligible for the VFW, please ask them if I can contact them about joining the VFW and giving me their contact information. If you want, we can chat with them together. I'm available 24/7.

Blood Drive, VA, & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: Volunteers needed for compassionate contact, No baby shower drive thru at this time, No meetings being held at VA Hosp., No visitors either, still taking civilian hosp. patients due to COVID, cloth masks valueless, Fischer house doing well and can donate to their food pantry for guests, now have memory assistance/training allowing patients to stay for up to 3 months, planning on a volunteer fair in February, COVID testing is packed, next town hall meeting end of February, parking garage elevator "sorta" working.

Surgeon – Rich Klinger: Absent, No report

POW/MIA - William Guy: Absent, no report.

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen - Larry Gerlt: Received 3 PP entries through Dept and 1 VOD via Email. VOD & a PP winner presented at Xmas Party/Awards Banquet. Commander and I presented winning PP to recipient and her family at VFW Dept HQ over school Xmas break.

Buddy Poppy - Darrell McMillan: Absent - Larry stated Next drive will be scheduled for May 21st

Political Action - Matt Whitaker: Excused, No report.

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: No report.

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REMEMBER OUR NATIONAL HOME

Correspondence – The Post received a \$200 donation for relief fund from Bruce & Kathy Nelson as her father passed away and had had a previous tie to our Post.

Old Business -

- 1. Subj:** Improving tie with 55th 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**
- 2. Subj:** Post Christmas Party – Food was excellent, band was super! All had a good time.
- 3. Subj:** Memorial Flag shadow box for veteran's widow. Bernie brought in the DD-214 and widows contact information. We checked DD-214 for awards – only had National Defense, Army Service and Sharpshooter. Rank E1. He will check to see if only want case for flag with name plate or room for awards & decs.

New Business

- 1. Subj: Patriotic Parade Content:** Will be 28 May, downtown Omaha same as last year. Do we have volunteers to march again this year? Please raise your hand if willing to participate. Following volunteered: Larry, Jeff, Randy, Josh.
- 2. Subj: NATIONAL PARK PASS Content:** Starting Monday Jan. 3, all active duty, military-retired and veterans can pick up their free 2022 American the Beautiful Annual Pass from the National Park Service building at 601 Riverfront Drive! Bring a photo I.D. between 8am and 4:30pm Mondays through Fridays to get free access to federal lands for all of 2022!
Active Duty should bring their CAC card and spouses should bring their dependent ID. National Guard and Reserve should bring their CAC card. Veterans should bring their driver's license with "veteran" printed on it, a VA benefits card, or military-retired ID.
America the Beautiful passes are good at: National Park Service sites, Fish and Wildlife Service sites, Bureau of Reclamation sites, Bureau of Land Management sites, and Corps of Engineers sites!
- 3. Subj: Post Donations Content:** For those having IRAs and other investments, the stock market has lost 15% during the month of January. Please keep this in mind when requesting donations as money spent during a market down turn is harder to recoup when the market finally swings up again.
- 4. Subj: VFW National Home Content:** Our National Home provides free housing, parental training in a host of subjects for Veteran families in need. I make a motion we donate \$200 to their Tribute fund, 2nd by Al. Motion passed.

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5. **Subj:** Post Elections in April **Content:** Post elections occur every April. 1st Call is always in March. If you are interested in running for office, especially Junior Vice Commander, please let me know.

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

- Mid-Winter Conference in Lincoln at the Graduate hotel on 4 & 5 Feb.
- Our next Post meeting will be on Wed 23 Feb, 7 PM, in the upstairs meeting room of American Legion Post 331.
- Meeting Closed at 1955.



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster