

Meeting Minutes January 2024

Guests: None

Meeting opened at 1900 with 10 Members Present.

Officer Roll Call: All officers were present except the Sr. Vice Commander, Judge Advocate, 2- & 3-Year Trustees who were excused.

New Memberships: 2 Membership application was read. Larry G. made the motion to accept, 2nd by Frank D. Motion passed.

Reading of the Bills: None

Quartermaster's Monthly Report: Accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – Larry Gerlt – ENVH Bingo tomorrow, 4th Thursday, passing signup sheet around. Show time is 18:15. Lasts till about 19:30. February's 4th Thursday is before the Posts meeting on the 4th Wednesday. I will send an email reminder about a week before and the day before.

Members in Distress/Deceased: None

Committee Reports:

Membership - Larry Gerlt: Now at 98.47%. Next Membership drive will be scheduled for February 10th. We meet at Village Inn on Fort Crook Rd at 0830, post pays for breakfast and I provide a short training while waiting for food. I also provide a 'route list' to run. We meet back at VI at 1130 so I can collect the route sheets and any monies.

Blood Drive/VA & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: CDC meeting was the day before our meeting. They have a new Chairman, Col Ingram. VA will no longer accept any used items except for books & magazines. They had an \$11K grant used to purchase items for homeless vets (gift cards, clothing, groceries – 1 per Vet). Volunteer banquet will be April 27th. They once again need additional scooters. The one we purchased for them is still there. Several of the scooters need additional repair and they're looking for someone to do it. They are planning a foster home for pets of hospitalized Vets. The PT building is almost complete and will open soon. They have the plans for the psychiatric building but the funding was used elsewhere.

Surgeon - Bernie Jennings: VA Million Veteran Project focuses on obtaining blood samples. William told how he had furnished a sample and the VA came back to him and asked him where all he had served. Turns out he had served in three locations where Agent Orange was prevalent and they gave him an additional 20% disability for what they found in his blood.

POW/MIA - William Guy: He learned of a new MIA/POW section of a data base that focuses on the Cold War era. It consists mainly of aircrew members lost over the Bering Sea and other remote oceanic locations and classified missions that were shot down. Only 2 of 138 have ever been recovered.

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/TOTY - Closed for the year.

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Buddy Poppy - Josh Andrus: Our next drive is scheduled for May 11th, 2-hour shifts, 9-11, 11-1, 1-3, at Hy-Vee, 53rd & Center. Will passing around sign-up sheet in April.

Political Action - Matt Whitaker: NR

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: NR

Old Business

1. **Subj:** Adopt a Unit (OPR Marty S.) **Content:** No report.
2. **Subj:** Christmas Party **Content:** Had 53 in attendance, good food and good time. VOD and PP winners were present and read their entries. Both were very good but didn't win at District.
3. **Subj:** ENVH Xmas Cards & Donation **Content:** Xmas cards were hand delivered. A donation of \$3 per resident was made. The Commander, Jim, and William handed out the cards and chatted with the residents.
4. **Subj:** November Stand-down **Content:** Grant request was submitted, but never approved. We purchased 10 tents and 10 cold weather sleeping bags, all were passed out at Stand-down. Bonnie and I attended. I signed up two new Post members.

New Business

1. **Subj:** Fort McPherson National Cemetery Gold Star Memorial (POC: Mary Carlson) **Content:** Application has local approval and now goes up the chain. Post 1504 has agreed to pay the last \$380 needed to complete the project.
2. **Subj:** Omaha Memorial Park Blue Star Memorial (POC: Mary Carlson) **Content:** This Saturday, Mary will be sending out 200 letters to local residents around Omaha Memorial Park asking for donations for the Federal Gardens Blue Star Memorial and is discussing with the Hershel Woody Williams Foundation about going forward with the Blue Star Memorial there, a space has already been allocated for it.
3. **Subj:** American Legion building **Content:** They had an offer of \$1.5 million for the building and had a special meeting to discuss it this past Monday. They held a vote and decided not to sell the building.
4. **Subj:** ENVH Bingo (Larry G.) **Content:** We previously approved \$20 for each bingo night at ENVH. However, due to multiple bingos on the last round on one or more of our sets and on the blackout round, we are always short a few dollars. I make a motion we increase the limit to \$25 and that I maintain a ledger of actual expenses. 2nd by Kevin, motion passed.

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

- VFW Dept Winter Conference, Lincoln Marriott, 2 & 3 February
- Legislative Day is Friday afternoon, VOD Awards Banquet Friday evening. Business day Saturday, gone by 4pm.
- ENVH Bingo Feb 22 – before our February meeting
- Next post meeting will be 28 February – 4th Wednesday, here at the Legion.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry M. Gerlt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster