

Meeting Minutes 24 March 2021

Guests: None

Meeting opened at 1900 with 11 Members Present plus 1 late arrival.

Officer Roll Call- All officers were present except the 1 Year Trustee.

New Memberships – Six membership applications were presented to the members. Motion to accept by Darrell M.; 2nd by Frank D.; motion passed.

Minutes: Motion to dispense with reading of the minutes made by Frank; 2nd by Darrell; motion passed.

Reading of the Bills: No Bills.

QM Monthly Report was accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – Josh Andrus – 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. When Justin told me, I figured now was when to start the ball rolling as 331 tends not to do much advance planning. My idea is for us to split the cost of attendance for the ENVH vets, pay for our escorts and their driver(s), possibly get them branch of service ball caps, and pay for beverage and sandwich for them. Initial talk with Patti was 1 bus w/10 vets. I asked to get at least 20 or more and offered we could provide additional transportation. Might want to rent a 15 pack van or two, when I know if we can transport. Patti Howe got back with me. They no longer have any large transport vehicles (Busses) and only have vans. They would only be able to bring 1 van with 3 or 4. We would not be permitted to transport additional residents in POVs or other non-commercial vehicles. As they are still under Covid restrictions, they declined the offer.

Members in Distress/Deceased: None

Committee Reports

Membership - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 97.94% and need 7 members to renew to attain 100%. Our next membership drive will be Saturday, 3 April, 0830 to 1130 at Village Inn on Fort Crook Rd. Post buys breakfast. Calling script will be provided. Those who would like to help, please let me know. Commander Brand volunteered.

Blood Drive/VA/Surgeon & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: VA Hospital new parking garage is not yet open for use. They are hosting a Covid shot clinic on Saturdays for all veterans but can only do 200 per session. The Female treatment clinic is in use and provides a private, more female friendly location. VA need more clothing in sizes Small and Medium for homeless vets.

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POW/MIA - Jose Tamayo: Jose spoke at length on Army Chaplain (Captain) Kapaun who died as a POW during the Korean War. President Obama posthumously presented him with a Medal of Honor for his heroism and selflessness. His remains were identified on March 2, 2021. His family is still determining his interment location. Additional information is available 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 will be scheduled for May 22nd at TBD. Have procured a box of surgical gloves for us to wear so that donators know we have not personally handled the poppies. (HY-Vee 50th & Center or 96th & Q) Letter has been submitted to store manager but Darrell is having difficulty "catching up to him" to verify approval.

Political Action - Matt Whitaker: No report. Larry briefed on the status of the Nebraska Legislature bill to exempt all Military retirement pay from state taxes. It has come out of committee and now only requires final approval from all members.

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: Briefed on post website and FB page.

Pickle Report – Duke: None sold

REMEMBER OUR NATIONAL HOME

Correspondence – June State Convention Registration and Hotel reservations now open. Let me know if planning to attend. Will be held at Divots in Norfolk and you must make your own hotel reservations.

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**

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2. **Subj:** Zoom Meetings. **Content:** Currently approving on a month to month basis. Do we have anyone on zoom at this time? We have an offer for 20% off annual price. As we again had a member present, Al made a motion we purchase the annual membership as it will save us about \$40 versus continuing to pay monthly. Motion was 2nd by Darrell and 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. Comfort Inn and Suites is holding to their position that we not receive boxed meals for no shows. I will check on obtaining another venue.
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. 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 there at 1715 since they are expecting a number or organizations. We will march down Jackson St to 10th St and finish at the Durham Museum. We will have a stage there where Lee Greenwood will be performing with another group of entertainers. HY-VEE will be providing refreshments: Hotdogs, apple pie, etc. The following members have volunteered to participate. William, Jeff, Josh, Al, Matt (previous meeting), Justin, and myself. Rick I. will if he is available. Motion to participate was made at last meeting.

I made a motion uniform of the day would be VFW Cover, Post Polo Shirt, dark (black) trouser, and black shoes. Second by Al. It was brought up that two of our members don't currently have the required meeting attendance to obtain our post polo. I made a motion we waive the meeting requirement so that shirts for them can be ordered and received in time for the parade. Second by Al. Motion passed. I then made a motion we bring flags and two rifles. Second by Al. After discussion, I amended the motion to verify with Omaha Police that we could bring our rifles. Their response would determine if it will be flags only or flags and rifles. Motion passed.

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.

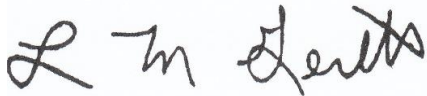
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New Business

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 3rd. Eligible members would have to have 10 years or more continuous membership with the post. We currently have 20 who have been since before I transferred to this post (11 years). All are 70 plus years old. Cost to post would be about \$500. Item would be added to our financial SOP for future years. 2nd by Frank. Motion passed.
2. **First Call for elections.** Commander conducted first call. Current slate of officers were nominated for a second term, except trustees who will rotate

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

National Convention registration is now open. If you plan to attend, let me know so I can register you as a voting delegate. Hotel reservations are made on line via National web site. Convention will be in Baltimore, July 31 – August 6. Next Membership drive April 3rd, 0830, VI on Fort crook road. District Meeting will be 2nd Sunday of April, 2 PM at Post 2503. State Convention Jun 4-6, Norfolk. If going, need to make your hotel reservations with Divots. Our next Post meeting will be the 4th Wed of April, 7 PM, in the upstairs meeting room of American Legion Post 331. Meeting Closed at 2015



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster