

Meeting Minutes October 2021

Guests: Ernie Garcia, Post 9675, District Senior Vice Commander

Meeting opened at 1900 with 14 Members Present.

Officer Roll Call – All officers were present except the Judge Advocate, 1 year Trustee, and Service Officer who were excused and Surgeon who as absent.

New Memberships: 15 Membership apps were read. I made the motion to accept. Motion was seconded by Matt. Motion passed.

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.; 2nd by Al C.; motion passed.

Reading of the Bills: No Bills.

Quartermaster's Report were accepted subject to audit.

Members in Distress/Deceased: None

Committee Reports

Community Service/Service Officer – Josh Andrus: No report.

Membership - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 98% and need 10 more members to reach 100%. We have increased our Life membership from 276 to 307. 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. Next membership drive will be December 4th, 8:30 A.M. at VI on Fort Crook Rd. Post buys breakfast. Done by about 11:30.

Blood Drive, VA, & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: Minutes of VAVS Meeting attached at end of minutes.

Surgeon – Rich Klinger: No report.

POW/MIA - William Guy:

DPAA Makes 200th Identification from USS Oklahoma Unknown Remains

A series of large posters hang in the conference room of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency laboratory locate...

[USS Oklahoma Sailor Accounted For From World War II \(Jones, C.\)](#)

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Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen - Larry Gerlt: Provided PP apps to Matt for his son and Trudy's daughter. Have provided VOD app to my son Jason for Artemis. If anyone has children/grandchildren or has a friend who has children in Junior or senior high, please let me know and I can furnish them entry forms as well.

Buddy Poppy - Darrell McMillan: - Next drive will be Oct 30th at Hy-Vee, Saddle Creek & Center. Signup sheet being passed around.

Political Action - Matt Whitaker: No report.

Webmaster/Facebook - Rick Imgrund: No report.

Pickle Report – Duke: We lost our last customer. The Nebraska Gaming Commission has been informed we will not be renewing our License and final report was sent to them. QM briefed everyone on closeout of Pickle checking account and transfer of all funds to Post General Funds.

REMEMBER OUR NATIONAL HOME

Correspondence – Thank you letter from VA for our \$500 stand down donation.

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 – Scheduled for Saturday, December 11th, here at the Legion. Comfort Inn and Suites was going to charge us \$18 per person in addition to meal to have a bar in our room and could not guarantee a waitress for bar service. I have hired a caterer I used before. Same menu. Must make reservations by 4 Dec. There will be no meals for those showing up without a reservation. I make a motion we approve the changes to our Christmas party; 2nd by Darrell. Motion passed.

New Business -


- 1. Subj:** Veterans Day Activities **Content:** There will be a dedication ceremony luncheon at Noon, 4912 F St (in a tent) for America's Wall of Honor. Guest speakers are Lt. General Flynn and BG Bacon. I can have up to 20 veterans attend. Signup sheet being passed around.

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2. **Subj:** VFW Dept. Raffle Calendars **Content:** Last year the post purchased 10 at a cost of \$200. So far, we have received one \$40 check. I am personally going to buy 10 to give as gifts to my siblings and children. We have to sell 20 to qualify for All State and earn points for up to 30. Members purchased 11 calendars at meeting and Al took 9 to sell at work.
3. **Subj:** Life Memberships **Content:** In May of last year, we drew three names from the remaining original members of our post (prior to my transferring in in 2010. We only have 4 remaining original members who are not life. I will personally pay for two of them if the post will pay for two. Due to their age and with the Department Incentive, the cost to the post for Life membership for 2 of them is \$295. We spend about \$33 per membership drive breakfast and will have 7 more drives this membership year for a cost of about \$230. If we make these four members Life, we will not do any more membership drives as we will only need 6 more and can attain 100% easily. I make a motion the post pay \$295 for two life membership and personally purchase two additional for our 4 remaining original members. 2nd by Frank. Motion passed.
4. **Subj:** Nov meeting **Content:** Due to our November meeting falling the day prior to Thanksgiving, I make a motion we have an informal meeting on the 3rd Wednesday in the bar area followed by a wing feed on the post with spouses/significant other invited. 2nd by Matt. Motion passed.
5. **Subj:** Flag Shadow Box for Widow - Bernie **Content:** Bernie told us about a veteran's widow who was presented an unfolded American Flag at the funeral and wondered if we could help fold it and possibly obtain a shadow box for it. Matt stated if Bernie could get a list of the vet's medals, he could obtain them for free. Justin stated he had a source that would make the shadow box. I offered we could arrange a ceremony. Information/coordination OPR is me.

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 17 Nov, 7 PM, in the upstairs meeting room of American Legion Post 331.
- Meeting Closed at 2015.



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster

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Nebraska Western-Iowa Health Care System
VAWS Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 27, 2021; 1330 – 1430
Telephone Conference Call

Welcome: Kari Bealer – Chief, Center for Development and Civic Engagement

Discussion:

- Kari Bealer – Compassionate Contact Corps Volunteers are needed.
 - Friendly phone call: matching a volunteer with a Veteran
 - Phone calls can be weekly

- **VA CDCE Updates:**
 - Name Change, moving forward:
 - **CDCE: Center for Development and Civic Engagement**
 - **Please note the new email address.** VHANWICDCE@va.gov
Please use this email address when you need to contact our CDCE office
 - Our staff is available to join you at your VSO meetings, whether in person or conference calls!
 - Attendance rosters will be reviewed over the last year. Anyone with 3 consecutive absences will be replaced by the National Organization.

Please send in the Annual Training and Covid Attestation Forms as soon as possible.

Wishlist/Needs List on Amazon has been a HUGE success!

- Current needs include:
 - Men's sweatpants / sweatshirts in any size

- **Events:**
 - Holiday Events will not be in person this year.
 - We have approximately 70 inpatient Veterans.
 - Service Organizations that have events planned will need to coordinate with our CDCE Staff. We will then distribute your items on your