



## Post No. 216

Ernest F. Oldenburg Post #216, The American Legion, 510 West Commerce Road, Milford, MI 48381  
[www.milfordlegion216.org](http://www.milfordlegion216.org)

### Minutes of the September 16, 2008 Executive Board Meeting

Meeting was called to order by: Commander Nelson at 6:15PM with the proper opening ceremonies being observed.

#### ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

		Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	John Nelson	X		
Senior Vice Commander	Tony Puente	—	—	X
Junior Vice Commander	Todd Herron	—	—	X
Adjutant	Charles Hoobler	—	X	
Finance Officer	Ron Nevorski	—	X	
Chaplain	Bob Janoska	X		
Historian	Robert Maxwell	X		
Sergeant-at-Arms	Skip Davison	—	—	X
Exec. Committee	Dennis Finkbeiner	X		
Exec. Committee	Jim Hunter	X		
Exec. Committee	Jack Winder	X		
Exec. Committee Aux	Linda Maxwell	X		
Exec Committee SAL	Mike McDonnell	X		

**Subject:** [Decision: display of Past Department Commander/President Photo](#)

**Notes:** Commander Nelson asked for Executive Committee comment on where / how we should display the photographs of past Department Commander / President who are from Post 216. The two notable examples are Roger Dees and Brenda Dees. Discussion comments included desire to display the photo of any Post 216 member who is selected to serve as State Commander / President; the location for the photos should be decided by the Club Manager and Post Commander.

**Subject:** [Decision: Contribute to Commander's Tour Bus](#)

**Notes:** District 18 has requested support from all posts in the district in the form of a contribution toward the cost of the bus for the Department Commander's tour of District 18. The Commander's tour is scheduled for Sunday October 19, 2008, and Post 216 is the first stop on the tour. Jack Winder made a motion that Post 216 contribute \$50 toward the bus. Motion was supported by Bob Janoska. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Subject:** [Decision: Not approve Request for Contribution during meeting when first requested.](#)

**Notes:** Commander Nelson requested that the Executive Committee agree to a policy, regarding any request for financial support brought to a membership meeting, that no decision can be made until at least one

month following the meeting during which a request is made. Discussion: too often we are influenced by an emotional appeal, without proper deliberation whether the request fits within the priorities for Post 216 involvement in the community. Also, the amount requested (and the amount granted) have not been in line with budgeted funds for such support. The Executive Committee unanimously approved the recommendation that Post 216 will not act on any request for financial support until after a one month waiting period. During that waiting period, the Post officers will investigate the request, examine the state of Post finances, and determine the degree to which the request fits within the priorities of Post 216 programs and community involvement.

**Subject:** [Update BY LAWS](#)

**Notes:** Commander Nelson brought to the Executive Committee's attention the need to update the Post 216 By-Laws. One specific item that has been requested from the Membership Chairman is the provision for Life Membership to any member who has been a continuous member of Post 216 for 30 years or more. That recognition has become quite expensive. Other provisions of the By-Laws also need to be changed. Commander Nelson asked that a committee be formed, for the purpose of reviewing the Post 216 By-Laws and recommending changes. Appointed to the committee are: Bob Janoska (Post Judge Advocate – chair, Todd Herron, Jim Hunter)

**Subject:** [FOCUS FOR 2009](#)

**Notes:** Commander Nelson shared with the Executive Committee his focus for 2008-2009 membership year:

**1. Member Involvement – Something for everyone**

- a. **\*\* Service to Veterans (service officer, Poppy fund)**  
(with special emphasis on providing recognition and social gatherings for WW2, Korea, Vietnam, Post-VN, Gulf)
- b. **\*\* Children and Youth Programs (Continued support to Scouts, Baseball, Boys State, Scholarship)**  
(with special emphasis on more involvement in Oratorical Contest & Americanism training through the schools)
- c. **\*\* Service to Community**                      Patriotic Observance
- d. **Recreational / Party Activities**  
(emphasis on the "Fun" activities of the post, both continuing what we have done and creating new opportunities: Parties / picnics; Recreation / Golf; American Legion Riders)

**2. Cultivate next generation of leadership**

- a. Officer Education
- b. New ADJUTANT, (ASSISTANT Adjutant, Finance, Chaplain, Sgt at Arms)
- c. POST 216 move into DISTRICT / DEPARTMENT leadership

3. Improve HALL Air Quality

**4. \*\* Grow membership**

- a. **Attract GULF WAR Era Veterans**

**5. ALL Committees Active                      OFFICER INVOLVEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY**

- a. Insure committees are meeting and functioning
- b. Each assigned to oversee committees
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice                      Americanism, (Membership)
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice                      Social aspects (fun)
  - iii. Chaplain                      Service to Veterans, Poppy, VAVS, VA&R
  - iv. Sgt at Arms                      Honors, Ceremonial, Color Guard, Honor Walk
  - v. Historian                      PR, Website
  - vi. Adjutant                      Publications, Membership
  - vii. Finance Off.                      Income, Expense Control, Budget, Assets

**Subject:** [Post Finances](#)

**Notes:** Commander Nelson recommended to the Executive Committee that Post 216 should not start any major projects during this year. Discussion focused around defining “major”, but general agreement and consensus was voiced that we need to allow time for the post finances to become healthy again.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM. Prepared and submitted by: Robert F. Maxwell, Acting Adjutant