



Post No. 216

Ernest F. Oldenburg Post #216, The American Legion, 510 West Commerce Road, Milford, MI 48381
www.milfordlegion216.org

Minutes of the March 16, 2010 General Membership Meeting

Commander Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, proper opening ceremonies were observed. Acting Chaplain Chuck Bowman gave the opening prayer.

Roll Call of Officers

		Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	John Nelson	x		
Senior Vice Commander	Tony Puente		x	
Junior Vice Commander	Todd Herron		x	
Adjutant	Ike Eickholdt	x		
Finance Officer	Ron Nevorski	x		
Chaplain	Bob Janoska		x	
Historian	Robert Maxwell	x		
Sergeant –at-Arms	Skip Davison	x		
Exec. Committee	Rich Chowaniec	x		
Exec. Committee	Joe Salvia	x		
Exec. Committee Aux	Sheila Maxwell		x	
Exec. Committee SAL	Mike McDonnell	x		

Motion was presented by Chuck Bowman to accept the February 2010 regular meeting minutes, subject to future corrections as required. Motion was seconded by: Robert Maxwell. Motion carried by voice vote.

Guests Introduced:

Tom Kolakowski, member Post 426.

Discussion related to who should be approached to “help out” for the bingo and other activities.

Reports of Officers:

Sr. Vice Commander: No Report

Jr. Vice Commander: No report

Finance Officer: Ron Nevorski presented the February Report and moved for approval, subject to future audit. Support: Bruce Hayden; Motion carried by voice vote. Reports are available upon request.

Chaplains Report: Update on Chaplain Bob Janoska – Bob did have a heart attack; had surgery to install several stents. Bob is at home doing well; still needs direct oxygen inhalation. Bob also has some issues with his vision for which he is receiving treatment.
Bob Matheson is home after knee surgery

Service Officer: No report

Historian: Please provide and 1959-2004 historical information, as it relates to the post, if you have any. Want to digitize this information.

Auxiliary: No Report.

SAL: Hamburger night is happening on Thursdays

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Bruce Hayden made a motion that the following applicants be approved for membership in Post 216:

Jack Boyd	USAF	Persian Gulf	Support by Chuck Bowman
John Crowther	USMC	Vietnam	Support by Ron Nevorski

Motion carried with voice vote.

379 paid to date. 392 is target. 95.66% for March

Ceremonial Unit: Rich Chowaniec – Nine interments at GLNC – two vets being buried had zero family members showing up – also performed for a local WWII Vet at Highland Cemetery

Bingo: Month of February 2010 report given. Report available upon request – see Bruce Hayden. Support Chowaniec, The motion was passed by voice vote.

Education & Scholarship: No report

Charitable Gaming Tickets: No report

Clubroom:

Mike McDonnell presented the January 2010 Clubroom report with a motion for its approval. Motion supported by Nevorski and carried by voice vote. Report available upon request.

- Sliders on Wednesday and Saturday
- Weekly Golf at Highland Hills – scramble, call Joy – ever Thursday - \$19.00 to gold - \$2.00 for closest to pin on the par 3's – tee off at 11:00

Legion Riders: Tomorrow, Wednesday, St. Patrick's Day meal – starts at 12:00 noon til 8:00 pm maybe later - \$8.00 for corn beef cabbage, potatoes, dessert and roll, \$4.50 for sandwich only.

House: Report given by Ron Nevorski and Mike McDonnell

- Matheson Heating and Cooling retaped duct work and cleared some blocked areas. As a result, is now much warmer in the hall and upstairs restrooms.
- Mike noticed a problem with the door to the clubroom - could be yanked open. Found the door striker bad and needing to be replaced. Parts to fix, at \$316; repaired by post members.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- On the topic of donating money for Fire Safety Education. Rich Chowaniec spoke with the fire chief and learned that this is not our fire dept. but rather the National Safety Council group asking for the money. Question asked if we should donate anything; Rich advised to wait a little longer.
- Change Meeting time: Joe Salvia made a motion to change the start time for meetings to 7:00pm Discussion: Hayden?: Is it in the bylaws that the time starts at 7:30? Commander Nelson: we will check the bylaws. (**Bylaws do NOT list a meeting start time, only meeting day**) McDonnell?. What is reasoning to go back to 7:00 pm? Salvia: Meeting would start earlier and folks would get home earlier. Nevorski: That would mean we would have to move the Honor Guard back to 6:00. Commander asked for show of hands supporting proposal: approx. 50% in favor. Commander tabled this topic until a review of bylaws is completed.

- Commander: Texas Holdem is proceeding for June 6-9 June 10-13 June 20-23 and June 24-27 at Card Sharks in Waterford
- Commander Nelson mentioned that AMVETS Post 2006 is organizing a cruise to South Caribbean – information will be in the newsletter. Nine days, price of \$764 for inside cabin. Outside cabin \$899. Starts in Miami, Dominican Republic, St Kits, another and back. Contact Phil Weitlauf. The cruise is open to all; do not need to be an AMVET, and don't need to be a veteran.
- Commander Nelson reported on the Department of Michigan Mid-winter Leadership Conference held in Lansing in February. Committee reports were read, new business discussed by officers of state org. One thing of significance is that we, the American Legion Department of Michigan are now owners of 520 of acres in the U.P. The property was donated by a veteran businessman who wanted it to be used by veterans and Boy Scouts. Property is valued at \$1.4M, located near Trout Lake – two houses, one a 6,000 sq ft 6 bedroom lodge, the other a four bedroom, two barns, garage, paved drive – no forestry rights for the next two years though. County has tentatively approved a request to not pay property tax due to Legion being a non-profit. Commander Jackson has appointed a three person committee to discuss uses for the property. That committee would like to hear our ideas for how the property could be used.
 - A Deer Hunting Camp for Disabled Vets – Ike will help to process and cook animals if this idea goes through.
 - Rent the property out to Legion members – kind of a time share
 - Consider an RV Park?
 - Destination museum for American Legion
 - If we wanted to schedule a ride for the Legion Riders could we schedule? The provisions for members of the Legion family using/visiting the property have not been established, but conceivably the property could accommodate a Legion Riders group.
 - Build smaller cabins that could house families and couples, for a small fee.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A 50 Year Continuous Member Certificate has been received for Earl A. Vradenberg. This will be made available to Earl. Historian Maxwell wants to take pictures of the presentation. *(learned later that Earl Vradenberg died in 2005, before achieving 50 years of membership)*
- The Village of Milford has notified Post 216 that, beginning July 1, 2010, the Memorial Day Parade will be supported by the Village (Police and Department of Public Services) in the amount of only \$500. Any cost greater than \$500 is the responsibility of the event sponsor. Previous year in-kind donations from the Village have averaged between \$3,500 and \$5000.
- Commander Nelson has propose an event in May to welcome and recognize all new members to the Post 216 Legion family. This would be a dinner event, proposed for Saturday May 8th.

GOOD OF THE LEGION:

- Joe Salvia: Kerry V. is running for State Senate – Nancy Cassis is current seat holder.

There being no further business to come before the membership the meeting was adjourned at 20:30 with the proper closing ceremonies being observed.

Prepared and submitted by: Ike Eickholdt, Adjutant