



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

Adjutant Notes – Executive Committee Meeting – Milford POST 216

Commander Cherf called the meeting to order at 19:00 on Tuesday, 12-July-2016.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Title	Name	Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	Rich Cherf	X		
Senior Vice Commander	Ed Merritt	X		
Junior Vice Commander	Gary Dykstra		X	
Adjutant	Dennis Dobransky	X		
Finance Officer	Ray Williams	X		
Chaplain	Tom Kemper	X		
Judge Advocate	Tom Neff	X		
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ron McCall	X		
Historian	Norm Tibbs	X		
Exec. Committee	John Robinson	X		
Exec. Committee	Bill Colegrove	X		
Exec. Committee	Joe Bishop	X		
Exec. Committee Aux	Cathy Merritt	X		
Exec. Committee SAL	Mike McDonnell		X	

Guests: Stephen Stevens, Commander, 18th District; Ann Marie Stevens; Mike Kotas

Old Business: Status of New Member welcome letter. E. Merritt issued proposed letter to the board for review, and added information from the new member catalog. Tom Kemper advised he has a background in written correspondence, as an English Literature major and job related functions, and will take on the task of reviewing the letter and make changes for better flow. This will be completed within the week, in time for the General Membership meeting.

Dobransky indicated that one of the \$1,000 scholarship selectees from last year, David Vernon from Lakeland High School, still has not come in to a meeting to accept his money. However, Adjutant Dobransky received an email from David Vernon advising he will now be at the July 19, 2016, General Membership meeting to read his essay and receive the \$1,000 scholarship award check.

N. Tibbs advised of Rick Russell, a 37-year life member of Post 216, an honorably discharged, 100% disabled Vietnam combat veteran, requests plot number 29 at Oakgrove Cemetery for his personal use, and would like a letter from the Post authorizing this request. This was presented to General Membership for a vote at the June 21, 2016, meeting, and was passed via voice vote. Judge Advocate Neff prepared letters to Mr. Russell and the Village of Milford and shared same with the Board. Dobransky made a motion to accept the letters as written, second by Colegrove. Correction: A typo in the mailing address to the Township of Milford needs to be corrected. Neff will do. No discussion. Voice vote passes.



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The Post picnic will be held on August 6 at Camp Dearborn starting at noon, pavilions 8 & 9. Gary Dykstra is coordinating.

The Finance Committee consists of Dobransky, McCall, Kotas, and Williams. The annual Post finance audit is to be concluded prior to the General membership meeting on July 19, 2016.

Officer installation is to occur by the 18th District at the General membership meeting of July 19, 2016. Commander Stevens advised this is on their schedule to occur at our next General membership meeting.

A letter has been prepared to solicit area veterans, within an 11-mile radius, belonging to Department Post 225, to transfer their membership to Post 216. E. Merritt to report to General membership as to the status of this project at the July 19, 2016, meeting.

Commander Cherf advised the raffle tickets are in to likely roll the next raffle out starting in September. A mass mailing will occur to help distribute the tickets for purchase.

We need another signee on the Bingo checks available in the absence of Ray Williams and Mike McDonnell. Gary Dykstra agreed to be this person. Ray will go with Gary to the bank to witness this signature process.

New Business: E. Merritt is looking to provide welcome pins to new members. It is suggested the pins would be provided only to new members that attend Post meetings and activities, due to cost constraints. E. Merritt to bring this topic up to membership for a motion to purchase some pins, available through Flag & Emblem.

In regards to the cannon repair needs, Ron McCall advises a bracket can be made to slightly lift the cannon off the ground, as the current wheels are in dis-repair.

Ron McCall has new markings to be placed on the tank.

We will have Post volunteers man the parking lot on August 12-14 to park cars during Milford Memories at a cost of \$10 per car. General logistics were discussed.

The Poppy drive was discussed, and clarifications were agreed upon as to the handling of incoming donations. This was the best Poppy fund drive that anyone at this meeting could recall. A coordination between the Legion and the Auxiliary will occur related to the deposit of incoming donations promptly.

Joe Bishop advises the local chapter of the DAV will be meeting at the Post, initially in Club Room, but if membership increases, then in the hall, with the hall being donated, as previously agreed upon by General membership.

SAL golf outing is August 21, and we should make a motion at the General membership meeting to support a hole at a cost of \$100. Proceeds go to Wilwin Lodge.

The Post sent two delegates to the Department convention, and we should receive a briefing from them as to what took place, at the next General membership meeting.

Per C. Merritt, October 22 is the Auxiliary Halloween dance, more Legion members in attendance is requested.

Congrats to C. Merritt for the several awards she received at the Department convention.



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Commander Stevens informed the Board of a Patriots race, to be held at the White Chapel Cemetery, on September 11, with all proceeds going to the Michigan Wounded Warriors Returning Soldiers program. A function of the American Legion. There will be a 1k and a 1-mile walk. Participation is requested. Following the race will be a dedication of a monument related to the war on terrorism.

Commander Cherf, Commander Stevens, and the Board membership had a discussion related to the Department convention, and the role of the delegates our Post sends to the convention. It was agreed all delegates, as representatives of Post 216 to the convention, will always present a positive image of Post 216.

The meeting ended at 21:25. Date of the next meeting is yet to be determined.

Prepared and submitted by: Dennis Dobransky, Adjutant