



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

Adjutant Notes – Regular General Membership Meeting – Milford POST 216

Sr. Vice Commander Merritt called meeting to order at 19:00 on Tuesday, 15-November-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: Cathy Merritt, Auxiliary President; Mike McDonnell, SAL; Steven Sheldon, Prospective new Legion member.

Approval of Minutes:

Review of Regular Membership meeting minutes from 18 October 2016. Motion to accept by Robinson, second by Welbaum. No discussion and no corrections. Voice vote passes.

Review of Executive Committee meeting minutes from 2 November 2016. Motion to accept by Neff, second by N. Tibbs. No discussion and no corrections. Voice vote passes.

Reports of Officers:

Commander: E. Merritt for Cherf. Advised that the \$1,000 raffle is moving forward, and a mass mailing has been sent out to membership. Also, the Commander's tour was held this past Sunday with a stop at Post 216. The Department Commander was pleased with our Post, and Sr. Vice Commander took the Commander on a tour of the Post. However, we did have a poor showing of Legion members present during this tour of our Post.

Sr. Vice Commander: E. Merritt. As of October 10, membership is at 68.83% of goal. By December 9 we need to be at 75%. In relation to District, out of 23 Posts in to District we are currently in 9th place on our membership drive. The 18th District is also in 3rd place out of the 5 zones in the state. Also, all members should keep an eye out for prospective new members, and we have membership pamphlets in the Club Room for our use to hand out to prospective new members.



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Jr. Vice Commander: Dykstra. Reminded members of the upcoming WWII veterans dinner to be held at the Post on December 7, 2016. This dinner is closed to WWII veterans and related guests only. We may look to hold a dinner for Korean War veterans in the future.

Finance Officer: Williams. For the month ended October 31, 2016, total income was \$36,861; Cost of Goods Sold \$23,917; Gross Profit \$12,944; Expenses \$10,892; Net Income = \$2,052. YTD net income = \$6,528. General Fund balance = \$29,239; Special (poppy) Fund balance = \$5,978. All November bills received to date have been paid. Our fall raffle so far has netted \$2,399. The raffle drawing is December 31. Approved but yet unpaid expenses include: Legion raffle \$1,000; Membership pins \$50; Electrical repairs \$5,000; Fall conference \$300, for a combined total of \$6,350. Motion to accept the report subject to future audit by Matheson, second by Neff. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Chaplain: Kemper. Excused. No report.

Service Officer: N. Tibbs. No report.

Historian: N. Tibbs. No report.

Adjutant: Dobransky. Read a note of thanks from the Cawthorne family for the Post providing use of a wheel chair free of charge in their time of need, and they wanted to show their appreciation with a \$50 donation that has been placed in our General fund.

Auxiliary: Cathy Merritt. Advised the kid's Halloween party was well attended with about 70 kids in attendance and their parents. Also, the kid's Christmas party will be held on December 17. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Club Room, along with a donation jar.

SAL: McDonnell. Hamburger nights are every Thursday from 5-8pm. The SAL & Legion Christmas party is on December 3, right after the SAL meeting at noon, so the party will start about 1:00pm. Also, the SAL is hosting a New Year's Eve Party with a live band – MARS band. Tickets are \$40 per person, \$75 per couple, with dinner provided. The proceeds from the dance will be shared between the Wilwin Lodge and for new chairs in the hall.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Kotas. Advises that we currently have 457 active members, and to date 314 have paid their 2017 dues, leaving us at 78% of our goal of 402 members, and is ahead of the Department goal of 75% for Post 216 due on December 7. Also, of our membership drive looking for members to transfer from the Lansing post during 2015, 23 of 27 transfers have renewed their membership. For 2016, we had 11 members transfer to Post 216, and we need 5 more to break even for the mass mailing costs. There are (3) New Member requests as follows: Kevin M. Hospodor, Active Duty, Navy; Don L. Hallock, Army, Vietnam; and Steven E. Sheldon, USMC, Vietnam. Motion to accept the new members by Dobransky; second by Matheson. Discussion. Being still active duty, the Post will pay the 2017 membership fee for Mr. Hospodor. No further discussion. Voice vote passes.

Color Guard: Robinson. Advised the Guard has been very busy this past month, with 19 ceremonies just over the last 1.5 weeks, related to Veterans Day events. Also, the day after Thanksgiving is the local parade, and all are welcome to walk in the parade at 9:00am.



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Honor Guard: Chowaniec. Advised (9) internments were held this past month at Great Lakes National Cemetery.

Poppy: N. Tibbs. Currently working with a Korean War veteran in need, but final details still being worked out as to the cost.

Honor Walk: Dykstra. Advised 3 new bricks were put into place.

Memorial Day Parade: Salvia. Absent. No report.

Education and Scholarship: Davison. Absent. No report.

Boys State: E. Merritt. Advised he sits on the Boys State chair for the 18th District. There will be a Boys State 80th Anniversary dinner to be held on April 8, 2017, at the Crowne Plaza in Lansing, anticipating 1,000 in attendance.

Bingo: McDonnell. October 2016: Gross Bingo \$9,118; Gross tickets \$12,830; Ticket Prizes \$10,341; Bingo Prizes \$7,507; Gross Profit \$3,602; Deposit tickets \$2,849; Deposit Bingo \$1,111. Beginning check book balance \$1,958. Ending check book balance \$2,029. Bingo turned over a check to the Legion for October in the amount of \$2,000. Motion to accept pending any corrections by Neff; second by Colegrove. No discussion. Voice Vote passes. **Volunteers are always welcome to work Bingo.**

Club Room: McDonnell. October 2016: Gross Income \$8,284. Cost of Goods Sold \$3,216; Gross Profit \$5,067; Expenses \$5,173. Net Loss = (\$106). Motion to accept pending any corrections by Neff, second by Colegrove. Discussion: The cause of the net loss due to having to pay workers comp insurance and part of the cost to replace some bar stools. No further discussion. Voice Vote passes.

Charitable Gaming Tickets: McDonnell. October 2016: Beginning check book balance \$560. Ending check book balance \$512. Charitable gaming turned over a check to the Legion for October in the amount of \$700. Motion to accept pending any corrections by N. Tibbs, second by Neff. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

American Legion Riders: McCall. Advised the riding season has wound down, so no activity. Also, he is the chairperson for the 2017 Legacy ride, and the ride will kick off at Post 216, riding up to Ludington and the Wilwin Lodge, ending at the Department convention in Grand Blanc. Also, the Riders had a check book balance of \$8,876 for September, with income of \$260 related to the Octoberfest party, so the net for October = a new balance of \$9,236. Of this, \$7,240 has been set aside to remodel the bathrooms, so the Riders have an actual net available balance of \$1,242.

House & Building: N. Tibbs. Advised the outside grounds have been prepared for the winter. Also, the electrical issue in the building is on hold pending an alternate plan and cost to repair same; the cost may come in at about \$3,000.

Publicity: Welbaum. No report.

Scouts: Chris Cook. Absent. No report.



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Old Business: Dobransky. Advised the fall raffle is moving along with money coming in, and the \$1,000 payout will be drawn on December 31 at the Post.

New Business: Dobransky read a letter from Cathy Merritt, President, Auxiliary Unit 216, outlining the need for funds to purchase items related to the upcoming Children's Christmas Party, to be held at the Post on December 17. The request is for \$800. Motion by Dobransky to allow the \$800 to help cover the costs of the party, second by Neff. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Good of the Legion: N. Tibbs advised he was not pleased by the lack of Legion members present for the recent Commanders tour.

Williams advised of the Wreaths Across America coming up on December 17 at GLNC, starting at 10:00am.

Closing: Sr. Vice Commander Merritt: There being no further business to come before the membership the meeting was adjourned at 20:20, with the proper closing ceremonies being observed.

The next meeting is 20 November, 2016, 19:00.

Prepared and submitted by: Dennis Dobransky, Adjutant



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ROLLING MINUTES (Used to capture significant agreements and/or votes of a permanent nature unless later eliminated or changed by membership or the Executive Committee as is allowed). This document will form a part of each monthly meeting minutes to be used for quick reference as may be needed.

- The Post Commander is granted \$250 in discretionary expense spending per transaction. (From June 16, 2015, General Membership meeting minutes).
- Emergency expense funding, such as the breakdown of the building furnace or A/C unit. As long as the Club Room manager, or the building chairperson, contact the board to advise of the emergency situation, then the emergency funding will be authorized. This is different than say the cost to resurface the parking lot, which is not an emergency situation that would be presented to General Membership for review and approval. (From June 16, 2015, General Membership meeting minutes).
- A policy has been implemented that any person that financially obligates the Post for non-emergency related expenses, aside from the Commander's \$250 discretionary expense authorization, without the prior consent of the general membership, can be held personally liable for the expense. (From July 14, 2015, Executive Committee meeting minutes).
- The Executive Board decided the start date for new officers will assume office at the 1st Executive Board meeting following the election process. This will allow the incoming officers to coordinate with the departing officers the passing of the office. (From June 14, 2016, Executive Committee meeting minutes).
- The Executive Board decided in regards to the election vote process, tie breakers will be determined by a re-vote of present members, and the Post Commander will not cast a vote. (From June 14, 2016, Executive Committee meeting minutes).
- General membership voted to allow a listing of Legion member names in local publications designed to honor them for their service to our country, during such times as Memorial day and the 4th of July holidays. (From June 21, 2016, General Membership meeting minutes).