



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

Adjutant Notes – Regular Membership Meeting – Milford POST 216

Commander Puente called the meeting to order at 19:15 Tuesday 15-April-2014

Opening Ceremonies observed.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Title	Name	Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	Tony Puente	X		
Senior Vice Commander	Norm Tibbs	X		
Junior Vice Commander	Bill Colegrove	X		
Adjutant	Dennis Dobransky	X		
Finance Officer	Ray Williams	X		
Chaplain	Ed Merritt	X		
Historian	Ivan Emiline			X
Sergeant-at-Arms	Denny Lloyd	X		
Exec. Committee	Don Reddeman	X		
Exec. Committee	Jack Winder	X		
Exec. Committee	Matt Tibbs	X		
Exec. Committee Aux	Cathy Merritt	X		
Exec. Committee SAL	Butch Maxwell		X	

Guests: Cathy Merritt, Auxiliary; Gale Finley; Jackie Pohl, ALR; Claudia Schimetz, ALR; Liz Kolleda, ALR; Mike McDonnell, SAL.

Approval of Minutes: Review of Regular Membership minutes from 18 February, 2014. Motion by Reddeman to accept, Second by Nelson. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Motion by E. Merritt, second by Reddeman to suspend regular meeting so the American Legion Riders (ALR) may present to Post 216 a POW/MIA table. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Paul Kolleda, Director, ALR, read a document explaining the purpose of the POW/MIA table, and various members of the ALR brought forth items, one by one, to assemble the table and its setting. The table will be set in its permanent place at the bottom of the staircase as one enters the building from the east leading to the Club Room.

Motion by Reddeman to resume the regular membership meeting, Second by Merritt. No discussion. Voice vote passes.



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Reports of Officers:

Sr. Vice Commander: N. Tibbs. No report.

Jr. Vice Commander: Colegrove. Informed membership that he has acquired shelters for the Post picnic to be held on Saturday, August 23, at Camp Dearborn.

Finance Officer: Williams. March report: Gross income \$29,248; Cost of Goods \$17,433; Gross Profit \$11,816; Expenses \$12,351; Net Loss (\$535). YTD net income (563). General Fund balance is \$8,220. The Bank of America loan balance is \$4,996. Motion by Reddeman, Second by B. Welbaum. Discussion: Commander Puente advised the fish fry net income to the Post was about \$1,000. Voice vote passes.

Chaplain: E. Merritt. Advised this month is youth month. Boys State Applicants have been submitted by both Milford & Lakeland high schools. Has an applicant for a student trooper. Also, on 29 April, 1945, the Germans surrendered to Allied forces in WWII. The U.S. lost 406,000 during this war; also, 78,750 are still reported as MIA.

Continued prayers for the family of James Kleban, Legion. Continued prayers for speedy recovery from sick call: Dave Horst, Legion; Pat Dowd, SAL; Ray Lapine, Legion; Brian Hamilton, SAL; Paul Lear, Legion; and Susan Troyer, Aux.

Service Officer: Reddeman. Advised we were able to assist a veteran in need.

Historian: Emiline. Excused. No report.

Adjutant: Dobransky. Read notes of thanks from the family of Gordon McCormick with a \$100 donation to the Post; and from the family of John Wolford, in their time of sorrow.

Auxiliary: Cathy Merritt: Junior conference was held the weekend of April 5, and 25 girls spent the night. SAL is recognized for all the cooking. Had guests from the 18th District. An Honor Guard luncheon will be held on April 28, to be served by C. Merritt

SAL: McDonnell. Working on carpet replacement at the hall entry. Golf outing is reserved for Sunday, August 10. The 4th Thursday in May starts the steak nights.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Kotas. Post has 369 paid members so far for 2014, 100% membership goal for 2014 is 386, and at this time we are at 95% of the goal for 2014. Commander Puente advises we have also transferred in (31) members from the White Lake Post No. 420, but we are awaiting their transfer paperwork. The White Lake Post has closed its charter. They had \$800 in their account, less the cost of a Boys State student for \$325, for a net to our Post of \$475.

New Members: 1.) Lisa Ann Hirn, Major, Army. Motion to accept Reddeman, Second B. Welbaum. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

2.) Kansas McGeachy, Navy, Gulf War. Motion to accept Reddeman, Second E. Merritt. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

3.) Brandy Badertszher, Navy, Gulf War. Motion to accept Reddeman, Second E. Merritt. No discussion. Voice vote passes.



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Veterans Honors, Ceremonial:

Color Guard: Commander Puente – No report, but we do need a Commander.

Honor Guard: Chowaniec. Honors for ten (10) veterans at Great Lakes National Cemetery, and George Coleman at Milford Memorial Methodist church.

Poppy: Reddeman. There is a sign-up sheet in the Club Room for poppy week-end.

Honor Walk: No report.

Memorial Day Parade: Commander Puente advised the parade progress will be reported via the Executive Committee minutes.

Education and Scholarship: No report.

Bingo: McDonnell. March: Gross Bingo \$6,990; Gross tickets \$9,301; Ticket prizes \$6,670; Bingo prizes \$5,087; Gross Profit \$4,505. Deposits tickets \$2,631; Deposits Bingo \$1,673; Beginning check book balance \$807. Ending check book balance 1,836; Bingo turned over \$2,000 to the Post. Motion to accept Reddeman, Second Lloyd. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

Club Room: McDonnell. Income \$9,510. Cost of Goods Sold \$3,396; Gross Profit \$6,114; Expenses \$5,401. Net income \$713. Motion to accept, First Nelson, Second Winder. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

Charitable Gaming Tickets: McDonnell. Beginning balance \$1,264; Ending balance \$570. Gaming to Legion \$400 for March. Motion by Winder, second by Colgrove to accept. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

American Legion Riders: Kolleda. Bowling fund raiser on April 19 from 1-4pm. A raffle fund raiser is underway with a prize of \$500, drawing to be held on July 4.

House & Building: N. Tibbs. Advised of the front porch falling apart, and has bids for \$5,990, and another for \$4,870. May look to replace the concrete with wood. Also, parking lot repairs and sealing, a bid is in excess of \$4,000. May look to do fund raisers to create funds for these projects that are in need.

Executive Committee: Reviewed Executive Committee minutes for March 18, 2014. Motion to accept. First, Nelson, Second, Kolleda. Nevorski asked about the Village of Milford charging the Post for the parade. Butch Maxwell obtained word from the Village that we would not be charged for any Village related expenses toward the parade. Voice vote passes.

Unfinished Business: Dobransky. Requested T. Neff, Judge Advocate, read proposed changes to the existing Constitution and By-Laws, as noted in previous required mailing for the proposed changes to be read at this meeting. Mr. Neff brought to the attention of membership the proposed changes (Adjutant Dobransky handed out both the existing and proposed change documents for comparison reading). Past Commander Chaplin made suggested further changes to the proposed changes, and these suggestions to be taken into consideration prior to voting upon the proposed changes at the May 20, 2014, meeting. General discussion ensued on if we need to do another mass mailing stating we will again read proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws, after these documents are updated to account for suggested changes by Past Commander Chaplin, then voted upon at a meeting after the mass mailing and subsequent reading have occurred. M. Tibbs suggested we make the recommended changes now, and still vote on the proposed changes at the May 20, 2014 meeting. This procedure to be reviewed by T. Neff, Judge Advocate.



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New Business: Dobransky. Read letter from 18th District Chaplain E. Merritt and C. Merritt to pay tribute to 18th District members that have passed away during the past year, at a memorial service to be held at the Farmington Post No. 346, on Sunday, May 18, 2014, at 13:00.

Read a letter from U.S. Congressman, Kerry Bentivolio, asking members to participate in an on-line survey designed to identify the primary issues facing Michigan veterans (Dobransky handed out the link to the website to members). Also, that the Congressman is asking that the Post Adjutant provide a list of what our membership considers to be the three (3) most important issues currently affecting our members. Membership says these include: Job hunting assistance – where to find jobs, how to find jobs. Also, how to file claims to the VA. Also, PTSD.

Good of the Legion: Richard Chowanec requested that letters be sent to our student scholars requesting the student's ID number or a letter of acceptance. Commander Puente asked that the Adjutant place as new business that a letter be issued to the scholarship participants stating that they show a letter of acceptance from a qualified school of further education.

M. Tibbs brought up that another rummage sale will be held this year, and the need to drop off items for sale in June. Motion made requesting up to \$100 for signs and permit. First by Reddeman, second by E. Merritt. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Phil Weitlauf asked if the war dog memorial group can march in the parade. Yes.

Williams advised of an "agent orange" town hall meeting in Northville high school on April 26, 2014, to inform Veterans and their families of the lasting effects of exposure to "agent orange", and service officers will be on site to help Veterans to file claims. Also, that the Department summer convention is to held in Livonia in June.

Recognition given to SAL for stepping up to replace the carpet at the entry to the hall that will cost upwards of \$2,000.

Dobransky reminded that next meeting is officer election, and nomination sign-up sheet is posted in the Club Room.

Closing: Commander Puente: There being no further business to come before the membership the meeting was adjourned at 20:35, with the proper closing ceremonies being observed.

The next meeting is 20 May, 2014, 19:00.

Prepared and submitted by: Dennis Dobransky, Adjutant



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Adjutant Notes – Executive Committee Meeting – Milford POST 216

Senior Vice Commander N. Tibbs called the meeting to order at 18:00 Tuesday 15-April-2014.

Opening Ceremonies observed.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Title	Name	Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	Tony Puente	X		
Senior Vice Commander	Norm Tibbs	X		
Junior Vice Commander	Bill Colegrove	X		
Adjutant	Dennis Dobransky	X		
Finance Officer	Ray Williams	X		
Chaplain	Ed Merritt	X		
Historian	Ivan Emiline			X
Sergeant-at-Arms	Denny Lloyd	X		
Exec. Committee	Don Reddeman	X		
Exec. Committee	Jack Winder	X		
Exec. Committee	Matt Tibbs	X		
Exec. Committee Aux	Cathy Merritt	X		
Exec. Committee SAL	Butch Maxwell		X	

Approval of Minutes: Review of Executive Committee minutes from 18 March, 2014.

Old Business: Dobransky brought up the proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws. To be presented at regular membership meeting.

N. Tibbs mentioned energy efficiency findings to be worked on as finances allow, such as seals on doors and refrigeration equipment. Commander Puente advises making the recommended energy changes could save up to \$400 per month.

N. Tibbs advises the front porch is falling apart, and a bid to do the work is \$4,870 to replace with concrete as is currently in place. Commander Puente made a suggestion to replace the concrete with wood structures – cost to do so to be pursued by N. Tibbs.

N. Tibbs advises a bid to patch the parking lot is at \$4,250. This includes repairing cracks, and provide a sealer, and mark new lines. Commander Puente suggested a fund raiser to go toward the parking lot.



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Commander Puente mentioned the need for baseball insurance.

N. Tibbs advises of damage from wind storm to light poles, and no parking sign on west end of the building. Also, power surge damage to handicap chair lift.

Commander Puente advised he was called by the Department to accept members from White Lake, Post No. 420, that is closing their charter. There are (31) members desiring to transfer to our Post. Motion to accept the transfers by Reddeman, second by E. Merritt. Discussion – Commander Puente advises all related member documents to be sent to our Post. Dobransky will send a letter to all the new members welcoming them to our Post to include our meeting dates, and that their records will be transferred to our Post. Voice vote passes.

New Business: Dobransky read a letter from Phil Weitlauf asking for our Post to donate \$100 for a head stone for a fallen police K-9 dog. C. Merritt made a motion to accept this request. NO second, the motion fails.

Rich Cherf brought up that the ALR would like to use the Post parking lot to charge for parking during Milford Memories event as an ALR fundraiser, not including Friday bingo night. Motion to accept by D. Lloyd, second by Reddeman. Voice vote passes.

Motion to adjourn meeting by N. Tibbs, Second E. Merritt. Voice vote passes. The meeting ended at 19:05.

The next meeting is 20 May, 2014, 18:00.

Prepared and submitted by: Dennis Dobransky, Adjutant