



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

Sr. Vice Commander Schimetz called the meeting to order at 19:05, Tuesday 15-December-2015.

Opening Ceremonies observed.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Title	Name	Present	Excused	Absent
Commander	Rich Cherf		X	
Senior Vice Commander	John Schimetz	X		
Junior Vice Commander	Jerry Guest	X		
Adjutant	Dennis Dobransky	X		
Finance Officer	Ray Williams	X		
Chaplain	Tom Kemper	X		
Historian	Vacant			
Sergeant-at-Arms	Ed Merritt	X		
Exec. Committee	John Robinson	X		
Exec. Committee	Robert Matheson	X		
Exec. Committee	Sam Poel	X		
Exec. Committee Aux	Cathy Merritt	X		
Exec. Committee SAL	Mike McDonnell	X		

Guests: Cathy Merritt, Auxiliary President; Mike McDonnell, SAL

Approval of Minutes:

Review of Regular Membership meeting minutes from 17 November 2015. Motion to accept by Robinson, second by Poel. Corrections: Under Membership Committee, New Members, change Katef to Kates. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Review of Executive Committee. Dobransky advised the November 10, 2015, Executive Board meeting minutes were approved at the November 17, 2015, regular membership meeting, so there are no Executive Board meeting minutes to review at this meeting.



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Reports of Officers:

Sr. Vice Commander: Schimetz. No report.

Jr. Vice Commander: Guest. Advised that there were 30 WWII veterans in attendance for the December 7 WWII veterans' dinner. Accolades for all that assisted in making this event a success. Several donations were received, including \$250 from the Highland VFW Post.

Finance Officer: Williams. For the period ended November 30, 2015, total income was \$30,775; Cost of Goods Sold \$19,595; Gross Profit \$11,181; Expenses \$7,376; Net Income = \$3,806. YTD net income \$19,848. General Fund balance = \$22,364; Special (poppy) Fund balance = \$7,095. All December bills received have been paid to date. Also, the Post is projecting upcoming liabilities of \$2,000 to include an un-yet paid \$1,000 awarded scholarship, pending the student coming to one of our meetings, and the upcoming raffle to pay out \$1,000. We had some very generous local business donations for the WWII dinner. Motion to accept subject to future audit by Dobransky; second by Neff. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Chaplain: T. Kemper. Advises Paul Lehr's cancer has returned, thoughts and prayers go out to Paul. Also, Post member Daniel Larkin is going in for a by-pass operation, prayers for a successful surgery.

Service Officer: Reddeman. Absent. No report.

Historian: Vacant. No report.

Adjutant: Dobransky. Advised we received a note of thanks from a WWII veteran that attended the WWII dinner, much enjoyed and appreciated.

Auxiliary: Cathy Merritt. Advised this past Sunday was the kid's Christmas party, with 76 children in attendance out of the 104 that had signed up. American Plastic Toys and others donated gifts of toys, puzzles were made and donated, 30 pizzas were donated, and out of the \$800 allotted for the party, only \$274 was needed, plus some of the purchased toys will be returned to further lower the total cost of the party. The attendance is a marked increase from last year, with about 20 of the 76 kids in attendance belonging to the cub scouts. A job well done!! Also, a request for Post members to save plastic bags needed for the making of sleeping mats for homeless veterans.

SAL: McDonnell. Hamburger night every Thursday from 5-8pm, except for the last 2 Thursdays of this month due to Christmas eve and New Year's eve falling on Thursdays. The annual SAL/Legion Christmas party was a big success.



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Committee Reports:

Membership: Kotas. Advised we currently have 458 members, with 426 that are active. 361 have already paid their 2016 dues. Department has set our goal at 80% by January 13, and we have already surpassed the goal, as we are already at 99.5%.

New Member: James F. Sadler, Army, Vietnam. Motion to accept this new member by Kotas; second by Robinson. No discussion. Voice vote passes.

Color Guard: Robinson. Advised the Color Guard attended the Milford Christmas parade on November 28, and a Paralyzed Veterans event, and the WWII Veterans dinner at the Post.

Honor Guard: Robinson for Chowaniec. Advised 7 internments were held at the Great Lakes National Cemetery.

Poppy: N. Tibbs. Received a couple of phone calls requesting assistance, but no further follow-ups from the persons calling after Norm requested a copy of their DD214's.

Honor Walk: Gary Dykstra. Absent. No report.

Memorial Day Parade: Joe Salvia. Advised that he has some tentative dates to share with the Commander, subject to modification.

Education and Scholarship: Davison. Absent. No report.

Boys State: E. Merritt. Advised he made his 2nd visits to the local high schools, and he has received a couple of applicants thus far. He also spoke to the Optimus Club, and it looks like they will sponsor one of the boys, and possibly two.

Bingo: McDonnell. November 2015: Gross Bingo \$9,130; Gross tickets \$10,164; Ticket Prizes \$7,899; Bingo Prizes \$7,093; Gross Profit \$3,928; Deposit tickets \$2,265. Deposit Bingo \$1,667. Beginning check book balance \$1,579. Ending check book balance \$4,211. Motion to accept pending any corrections by Neff, second by Robinson. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

Club Room: McDonnell. November 2015: Gross Income \$7,410. Cost of Goods Sold \$2,684; Gross Profit \$4,726; Expenses \$4,612. Net Income = \$114. Club Room turned over a check to the Post for \$500. Motion to accept pending any corrections by Neff, second by Robinson. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

Charitable Gaming Tickets: McDonnell. November 2015: Beginning check book balance \$1,531. Ending check book balance \$1,664. Motion to accept pending any corrections by Neff, second by Matheson. No discussion. Voice Vote passes.

American Legion Riders: Schimetz for Cherf. Advised bracelets still for sale, located behind the bar, also raffle tickets still for sale, located behind the bar. ALR had their annual Christmas party this past Monday.

House & Building: N. Tibbs. Has a bid to rework the sumps on the north end of the building for \$3,300. Other estimates will be pursued.

Scouts: Chris Cook. Absent. No report.



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Old Business: Dobransky advised of the potential for a membership dues increase that will be discussed and voted upon at the March 2016 membership meeting, as called for in the Post By-Laws. Dobransky will also include this subject in the annual mass mailing to membership regarding meeting dates and annual election of officers.

Dobransky advised the Promissory Note related to the loan between the ALR and the Legion has not yet been signed off on, as the loan has been paid in full. Williams advises he will prepare a sign-off document related to the promissory note. T. Neff says to just make a copy of the note and write on it that the loan has been paid in full and give a copy to the appropriate parties (Legion and ALR).

New Business: E. Merritt reminded membership that meetings follow Roberts Rules, to include when someone wants to address the membership, you must stand, salute, and be recognized by the chair before speaking.

Schimetz looking for a motion to spend up to \$2,500 for Post building improvements. Matheson makes a motion as noted, second by Neff. Discussion: The money would be used to paint the hall, strip and redo the floors, and for supplies related to same. A sign-up sheet is located in the Club Room for volunteers to provide the labor. Voice vote passes.

Good of the Legion: Neff advises that he and Bonnie Welbaum took home letters written to us on Veterans Day, and wrote back each of the students, along with a letter to the related teachers thanking all of the students.

N. Tibbs advised there are leftover toys from the Christmas party that are available for donation to a worthy cause, but needs someone to take them. Neff advises he can take them to the Livonia chapter of DAV, there are no objections to this, so Neff will deliver the toys.

C. Merritt advised this past Saturday was Wreaths Across America at Great Lakes National Cemetery (GLNC), the 10th year this has been done at GLNC, and there were over 4,000 volunteers that showed up to place the wreaths that came in 4 semi-trucks, and included over 12,000 wreaths.

Closing: Sr. Vice Commander Schimetz: There being no further business to come before the membership the meeting was adjourned at 20:05, with the proper closing ceremonies being observed.

The next meeting is 19 January, 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).
- A policy has been implemented putting newly elected officers in place immediately following the general membership meeting held on the day of the annual election of officers. (From July 14, 2015, Executive Committee meeting minutes).