

## **29 FEB 2024 American Legion Post 49 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

Post Commander John Barkley called the 29 FEB 2024 American Legion Post 49 Meeting to order at 1600, conducted the opening ceremony and declared the meeting of Edward W. Thompson Post No. 49 open for Business.

**Adjutant Roll Call: Cmdr. John Barkley, 1st Vice Cmdr. Earl Lash, 2nd Vice Cmdr Jim Addressi, Adjutant Bob Dargis, Finance Officer Sean Russell, Judge Advocate Jason Turner, Sgt. at Arms Sieg Freitag, Chaplain Larry Girard, Service Officer Steve Hamilton, Service Officer Marty Welker, Historian Jim McCloughan, Trustee Bruce Thatcher, Trustee Patrick Whitlatch, Trustee Willie Reinhardt, Trustee Chuck Aubrey, Trustee Rich Ely, Trustee Guy Cherry, Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch, SAL Commander Brett Novy, Auxiliary President Mary Fitzgerald, Club Manager Emily Fitzbaker, Auxiliary Chaplain Vicki Olson, Member Josh Gunnison, member Tim Gregory.**

**Quorum (of at least 5 AL members) present.**

**Review/approve Previous Meeting Minutes-** 25 JAN 2024 meeting minutes were approved on motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded.

**Meeting purpose reminder.** Review recommendations from committees (including the Club Operations Committee), adopt those recommendations that are judged to be useful for the successful operation and management of the post, and present major recommendations/changes to the general Membership Mtg for member approval.

**Introduction of Guest** Bart Seelye, Wolf Lake Fish Hatchery volunteer associated with non-profit appeared and requested a donation to fund children fishing opportunities at Wolf Lake hatchery location. He requested a \$3,000 donation after describing the program and existing funding. After his presentation, on Motion of Sean Russell, properly seconded, the Committee approved a donation of \$300, to be presented at the next membership meeting on March 7, 2024. (Seelye appeared at the end of the executive committee meeting).

### **Business**

- Finance report was presented and explained by Sean Russell, and on Motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, the report was approved by the Committee subject to audit.
- Account status: \$190,951.00
- Quickbooks: -\$13,081.53 Jan2024
- Jan2024 Stock value \$4,473.50
- SAL current total funds available: \$19,531.21 per Earl Lash.
- Aux current total funds available: \$27,331.27 + \$6,458.56 CD
- Club Operations Committee recommendations:
  - Emily Fitzbaker out for maternity leave for about 6 weeks starting mid May. She gave operations report: 12 of 24 Open to Public licenses have been accounted for and scheduled, she is looking to hire two new bartenders, food to be cleaned out of the back storage room as it attracts pests by end of March, Sunday breakfasts and Friday dinners start again in May.
  - Ice Breakers report approximately \$6-7,000, figures to be firmed up during Feb Quickbooks review.
  - Mar2024 Calendar review

### **AL Events**

- 8 June event briefly explained by Commander Barkley as primarily a service officer event with some coordination by Toni Kennedy, Officer nominations in April, Bruce Thatcher described June 22 event to be held in St. Joseph.

## **SAL Events**

-Planning Quilt raffle/auction, Per Earl Lash, corned beef dinner for St. Patrick's day.

## **Aux Events.**

-Planning Quilt raffle/auction. Per Vicki Olsen, drawing to be held on Memorial day weekend.  
Poppies to be assembled on Tuesdays. Membership report 682 of 728 paid for 93.68%.

## **Other Business**

- Capital spending priorities, Mary Fitzgerald raised concerns about handicap access and suggested that might be improved.
- Next District 4 meeting will be held on Sunday, March 3rd, Bangor Post 160. RSVP @Post: 269-427-8808 or Barbara Johnson -Aux President @ 269-906-1978
- BruceThatcher suggested we put together a master plan for post improvements before moving ahead immediately with any improvement.
- Earl Lash relayed that we no longer need to buy a bond for National as we do every May, We can now simply provide a copy of our post Insurance which should provide a bond for our officers.
- Earl also working on quotes for pine tree removal in front of post. Aux and SAL were requested to raise issue of possibly splitting or contributing towards parking lot improvement at their next meetings.
- Primal Outfitters, per Josh Gunnison, reported raising a total of \$1,850 at a recent fundraiser.
- Bruce Thatcher presented a receipt for a repair bill performed on a car for a needy veteran.
- Maintenance report by Mike Andruch, regarding plumbing repairs/issues and filters that were replaced. Water system was recently inspected by local government agency which passed and a certificate issued.

## **Sick Call**

### **Next meetings**

- Membership Mtg 1900 7Mar
- Club Operations Com.1530, Exec Com. Mtg 1600 28Mar

### **2024 Holidays and Observances**

**Mar:** Sunday Mar 10 Daylight Saving Time starts, Sunday Mar 17 St. Patrick's Day, Monday March 25 National Medal of Honor Day , Friday Mar 29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day, Saturday Mar 23 AL Post 49 Children's Easter Party, Sunday Mar 31 Easter.

**Apr:** Tuesday Apr 23 Passover, Thursday Apr 25 Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day,

**May:** Wednesday May 1 First Day of Military Appreciation Month, Sunday May 5 Cinco de Mayo, Monday May 6 National Nurses Day, Tuesday May 7 National Teacher Appreciation Day, Wednesday May 8 Victory in Europe Day, Sunday May 12 Mother's Day, Wednesday May 15 Peace Officers Memorial Day, Saturday May 18 Armed Forces Day, Wednesday May 22 National Maritime Day, Monday May 27 Memorial Day

**Finding No further actions to come before this meeting.** Post commander declared this meeting of Edward W. Thompson South Haven Post 49 adjourned at 1732.

Respectfully submitted by  
Bob Dargis,  
Adjutant for American Legion Post 49