

25 Jan 2024 American Legion Post 49 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Post Commander John Barkley called the 25 Jan 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,** Member Jim Montgomery, **Auxiliary Chaplain Vicki Olson, Member Josh Gunnison.**

Quorum (of at least 5 AL members) present.

Review/approve Previous Meeting Minutes- 28 Dec 2023 meeting minutes were approved on motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded.

Introduction of Guest Veteran Navigator Toni Kennedy, an employee of SW Michigan Behavioral Health in Portage, MI., described her vision of a proposed event to be held at Post 49 on June 8, 2024. She works with people, including but not limited to Veterans, who have substance abuse problems. She suggested that the event might take place between the hours of 10 am and 2 pm that day. However, she also suggested closing the bar until 2 pm. Possible other options to be presented to membership meeting on 1 Feb 2024 include: opening bar but no alcohol until 2 pm, designating the meeting room and part of the outside area on the river as non-alcoholic. She should be in attendance at the next members meeting.

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.

Business

- Account status: \$177,442.47 24Jan2024
- Quickbooks \$39,087.97 loss includes \$14,500 breakfast distribution, \$10,440.00 stonework, \$10,000 CD (Dec2022 \$ 24,895.45 loss)
- Dec2023 Stock value \$4,473.50 Jan2024.
- Sean Russell took us through the finance statements which were approved on voice vote and on motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded
- SAL current total funds available: \$19,907.88 per Earl Lash.
- Aux current total funds available: \$30,094.74 + \$6,450.56 CD, per Vicki Olsen.
- Club Operations Committee recommendations: Per Emily Fitzbaker:
 - Ice Breakers advertising, transportation, chili prep, Saturday parking and Sunday breakfast (5Feb2023 breakfast had approx 90 customers, \$1,000 revenue) support.
 - Feb2024 Calendar review

AL Events

- Ice breakers volunteer discussion.
- Award presentation proposal of \$400 approved for Lincoln Elementary School.
- 4 Feb 2024 SAL dinner event briefly discussed.

- 10Feb 1430 salute/memorial luncheon support request. Army has confirmed 1430.
- Friday 26Jan funeral support. Be at Post 49 by 1100 to catch the 1115 Ft Custer bus.
- Tuesday 30Jan funeral support. Be at Post 49 by 1315 for short trip to Hope Church for the salute..

SAL Events

- Planning Quilt raffle/auction. Per Earl Lash,
- SAL Dues continue at \$30.

Aux Events.

- Planning Quilt raffle/auction. Per Vicki Olsen,
- AUX dues raised to \$50.

Other Business

- Year end review: what went well ? Cascade of Mission to Vision and funding, donations
Opportunities for improvement ?
- Brewer/Wilson scholarship discussion.
- Capital spending priorities: Playground equipment possibilities by Josh Gunnison, Commander went through new/updated line items per capital improvement spreadsheet and repair/replace clubroom sliding glass door added.
- Next District 4 meeting will be held on Sunday, March 3rd, Bangor Post 160 (269-427-8808)
- Other Business:
- Endorsement of Rodney Tolber Approved by Post 49. Letter to be directed to Earl Lash and signed by commander affirming this endorsement.
- Maintenance items: 1) On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, up to \$1,100 in plumbing repairs to move water line inside kitchen area to prevent freezing and, 2) on motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded, repair of beer cooler/compressor in the amount of \$700-\$800 were approved on voice vote.
- On Motion of Guy Cherry, to be presented at next members meeting, approve matching funds for Primal Outfitters for any fundraiser Primal may have, upper limits of matching funds to be discussed/approved as conditions for matching.

Sick Call Jim Montgomery in hospital and stable while further diagnoses are performed. Please keep Jim in your thoughts/prayers.

Finding No further actions to come before this meeting. Post commander declared this meeting of Edward W. Thompson South Haven Post 49 adjourned at 1742.

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