

## **29Dec2022 American Legion Post 49 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

Post Commander John Barkley called the 29Dec2022 American Legion Post 49 Meeting to order at 1603, 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 Tom Dryer**, Judge Advocate Jason Turner, Sgt. at Arms Art Farmer, **Chaplain Larry Girard**, Service Officer John McCormack, Service Officer and SAL Commander Steve Hamilton, Historian Jim McCloughan, Trustee Bruce Thatcher, Trustee Patrick Whitlatch, Trustee Willie Reinhardt, Trustee Chuck Aubrey, **Ordinance Officer Mike Andruch, Club Manager Emily Fitzbaker, Auxiliary President Mary Fitzgerald**, Member Jim Montgomery

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

**Previous Meeting Minutes dated** 27Oct2022 reviewed/approved

**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 management of the post, and present major recommendations/changes to the general Membership Mtg for member approval.

### **Business**

**- Current account status approved as shown below:**

-Account status 26Dec2022 for 29Dec2022 Membership Mtg \$170,803.43 after breakfast fund distribution.

-Quickbooks: Nov2022 -\$19,689.46 explained by \$9,000 donation expense, higher PullTab costs, lower sales volume with higher COGS

-SAL current total funds available not reviewed but approx. \$19,000

-Aux current total funds available approx \$24,048

-Finance report approved (subject to audit)

**-Club Opn's Sub Committee report out and recommendations from Emily:**

-Had several recent state health inspections but no one has seen and inspection report of findings, recommendations.

-People/organizations asked to clean up kitchen area after use or will be billed for any additional clean-up required.

-Jan/Feb 2023 calendars reviewed and available in main entrance.

### **AL Events**

-Feb3-5 Ice Breakers Discussion: will subscribe to Ice Breakers Trolley and shared VFW Trolley, Emily will be our Chili Cook and asked for help to prep ingredients 1-2 days before event. Mike and Paul will serve the award winning chili at the Post. Tiki bar will be utilized if weather permits. 2-3 bartenders plus back bar support planned.

-Help planned to store Christmas decorations above main entrance as soon as materials are placed in tubs or wrapped.

-Honor Guard supported 5 Memorial Services in Nov. and Dec.2022.

-Use of Steve's van service was well received at last Honor Guard event (travel to Holland) and he was approved for 62.5 cents/mile compensation. Membership approval expected next month for long term use and support of his service.

-Steve's van service can support a trip to Southeast Michigan Four Chaplains Interfaith Memorial Service 1400 5Feb. Please contact Steve if interested in taking trip.

### **SAL Events**

-None reported by SAL Squadron Commander or SAL Liaison Earl Lash.

### **Aux Events**

-Aux will manage the kitchen cleaning process after 1Nov2022

- Rec'd breakfast distribution of approx \$5,000.
- Oct.30.Kids Halloween Party managed at zero budget, with volunteers and donated goods. Cooked & sold brats. Thank you to all who helped and esp. Willy Reinhardt for tent.
- Dec 10 kids Christmas Party hosted approx 100 kids. All toys donated. Estimated expenses under \$1000. Excess money earmarked for kids parties and will remain in AUX account as a dedicated line item. Shelley Ammerman coordinated support and donations.
- Extra toys donated to Marine Corp. Toys for Tots, We Care..
- Aux member Susie Pacwa, husband Jimmy Pacwa & their business Twisted Twin manage an annual event to help local veteran families and others in need by providing gifts and support for a happier holiday season.
- Poppy Days (25-29May) 2023 – Patti Sheehy will be chair for the event.
- Donations: - focusing on Community & Family (while Legion focuses on Veteran and active military support needs) including:
  - South Haven Helping Hands - a year round cause.
  - Blessings in a Backpack - support national organization with local needs & presence. Most recent activity was a donation to send food home for Christmas break. December 21 was most recent packing event at NorthShore Middle School. AUX funded all the goods for over 200 bags packed going to seven local schools.
  - We Care Teen Tidings – 15 gifts at approximately \$50 per
  - Van Buren Veteran Services – Emotional Support Service Animals
  - Stuffed Animal collection will begin in 2023. SHAES, Police Department & Van Buren Sheriff's Office. Goods for children who may be innocent victims of unforeseen circumstances – car accident, fire etc.
  - New Year's Eve Fish Fry for SHAES, PD & ER. To be delivered family style by 6:00 pm for those working through the evening.
  - Girls State – Linda Schubel, supported by Serenity Smith, the senior who attended this past summer, presented at the high school before the holiday break and sparked enough interest to sponsor another student this year.

### **Other Business**

- \$2,000 Donation approved from the Veteran's account for Josh Gunneson to support his new non-profit business "The Primal Outfitters Inc."
- No update from Steve Hamilton for front entrance door opener investigation.
- Still waiting on updated quote from Brian beBest for an upper level, north side lawn leveling safe hard surface option to insure walkability.
- Maintenance items- plan to add additional wall insulation and wrap water pipes in the area where pipe bust last week.

### **Next meetings:**

- Membership Mtg 1900 5Jan2022
- Club Operations Com.1530, Exec Com. Mtg 1600 26Jan2022

### **2023 days to remember:**

- New Year's Day Jan. 1, Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Jan. 16
- Four Chaplains Day Feb 3, SH Icebreakers Feb 3-5, National Salute to Veteran Patients Week of Feb 12, Valentine's Day Feb 14, President's Day Feb 20

Post commander John Barkley declared meeting of Edward W. Thompson South Haven Post No. 49 Adjourned at 1720.

Respectfully,  
 John Barkley for  
 Bob Dargis, Adjutant for American Legion Post 49