

2 May 2024 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

After the Opening ceremony was conducted, Commander John Barkley called the 2 MAY 2024 American Legion Post 49 membership meeting to order at 1900.

Order of 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, Member Josh Gunnison, member Jason Mayer, member Dan Gomez, member Tim Gregory, member Brad VandenBerg, member Glenn Higgs, Member Dan Thompson.

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

Introduction of guests and prospective new members: None.

Award Presentation: None.

Meeting Minutes Membership Mtg minutes dated 4 April 2024 reviewed/**approved** as revised by Guy Cherry, on motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, on voice vote.

On motion of Chuck Aubrey, the meeting was suspended in order to count votes for the Officers election. Votes were counted and tallied, and the meeting was resumed on motion of Jason Turner. Results of the election as follows:

Position	2024 Winners		
Commander	John Barkley		
1st Vice Cmdr	Earl Lash		
2nd Vice Cmdr	Jim Addressi		
Adjutant	Bob Dargis		
Chaplain	Larry Girard		
Finance Officer	Sean Russell		
Sgt at Arms	Sieg Freitag		
Service Officer	Jason Mayer		
Historian	Jim McCloughan		
Judge Advocate	Jason Turner		
Trustees	Dan Gomez	Josh Gunneson	

On Motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, the Members approved the destruction of the Ballots.

Committee reports

1. Finance. Report by Sean Russell:

-Account status:\$183,163.98 1May2024 vs \$173,306.15 22Apr2023

-Quickbooks:\$ 7,641.25 Mar2024 vs -\$ 4,529.34 Mar2024

-Apr2024 stock value \$5,356

-**Motion to approve** Finance Report by Earl Lash, properly seconded, was approved by the members.

-SAL current total funds available: \$20,394.65.

-Aux current total funds available:\$29,029 + \$6,498 CD

2. Adjutant

-Membership status as of 10 Apr: 44 New, 43 PUFL, 511 Renewals, 1 Transfer from state, 599 Total out of 634 = 94.48%. Adjutant's report and new members approved on motion of Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, was approved by voice vote

3. Service Officers report

- Steve Hamilton reported taking care of a local veteran by taking him grocery shopping, to the bank and also to the State DMV.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee

-Open-To-Public licenses planned: 16Mar, 25May, 26May, 15June, 29June, 3July, 5July, 6July, 20July, 10Aug, 17Aug, 24Aug, 31Aug, 1Sep, 31Dec, 5TBD.

-Emily/Heidi managing hiring process for new full time bartender and part time summer as required.

-Tiki Bar currently scheduled for operation 1400-2000 Saturdays

-Emily 8 week leave of absence approx 15May-15July with Heather/Heidi assuming responsibilities short term at an incremental cost of approx \$7,200.

On Motion of Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, the members approved paying Emily up to \$7,200 while on leave, on the "good faith" belief that she will return. The Split for paying Emily/Heidi TBD by Sean Russell.

-Both Shelley Ammerman and Angela Ely helping Emily update Post 49 Facebook information.

-Third Friday dinner rotation May-Oct will be hosted by Lions

-Fifth Friday (31May, 30Aug) dinner and Sunday (30June, 29Sep) breakfast events hosted by Masons.

-Bruce Thatcher suggested we reschedule fire extinguisher training 1830 6June, prior to member mtg.

-On motion of Guy Cherry, properly seconded, the Members approved a gift in the amount of \$200 for Emily's baby.

5. AL Events

-3May pizza dinner crew proposed: Jason, Mike, Bob, John, Rick and Angela, Val McPeak

-5May breakfast update - Billie Coone and Teresa Sealscott will support cooking along with Sean Russell, Jason Turner, Mike Andrich, John Barkley, Bob Dargis, Rich Ely and Paul Middleton. Deb Davidson and Grandson Sean Torres will support clean-up later in the morning.

-8June Veteran Service Fair event discussion.

- Memorial Day parade, ceremony at Lakeview Cemetery planning in process. Bruce Thatcher was selected as Grand Marshall for the parade.

6. SAL Events

-Planning Quilt raffle/auction, License applied for 21 March 2024.

7. Aux Events.

-100% of 728 membership renewals complete for 2024.

-Nursing Home veterans/staff luncheon at Post 23Apr well received

-74 stuffed animals delivered to SHEAS/Bronson

-Quilt raffle scheduled for Memorial Day 27May2024

-Poppy making "done". Walmart site sales approval in process, Friday only.

- Candidate for Girls State identified.

- Rec'd several submissions for Post 49 Aux scholarship.

Old Business

-Next 4th District meeting 5May at Hastings Post 45. Lunch at 12:30 followed by the annual Memorial service for those who passed last year, breakout meetings starting around 1330. There will be a Zoom link per Earl Lash. Lunch reservations can be made by contacting the Hastings Post Adjutant at hmssamurai1@gmail.com or by leaving a msg/text at 269-331-0623 with your name and post number,

along with the number of reservations.

-Auto zone debit card status: no activity, will wait for election results.

Other/New Business

- Quote received from Froeber Tree Service to remove Mulberry tree at entrance of drive and dying Cherry tree for \$1,260 (50% down prior to start). The removal of trees was approved by Exec Com for recommendation to Membership Mtg. On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, \$1,260 approved with \$630 was approved for immediate disbursement by the members
- Developed \$45,000 quote for ADA level access for front/rear doors, bathroom doors including structure/electrical upgrades. Commander reported that a request was submitted to the State Legislature for these internal improvements, that request is pending.
- \$55,000 quote derived from last deBest estimate by removing fence move and AstroTurf. Met with senate/representatives to request funding and focus will be for ADA level access into building front, bathroom areas and rear/north club door access to outside.
- Technical assist ask to Vibroacoustics for sound reduction in the clubroom. Willie Reinhardt suggested potential acoustical contractor Peter Cook (269-324-6072) as an alternative.
- Service flagpole rope needed. Josh Gunneson suggested Flags Unlimited as a possible flag supplier.
- Maintenance: kitchen plumbing TBD. electrical two 110 volt lines work complete. Mike/Sieg will place/compact gravel (donated by JensonCompton per Bruce Thatcher) at trash container site.
- Josh Gunneson reports he attended a Hooks N' Heroes event last weekend.
- Veteran interviewer/documenter Susan Carlo would like to interview local Veteran for Library of Congress starting 9May in South Haven. Susan's cell phone # is 718-213-6400.
- Flag replacement for Lakeview Cemetery discussed.
On motion of Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, the members approved a disbursement to Primal Outfitters of \$392 of the \$1000 in funds previously allocated.
- On motion of Bruce Thatcher, properly seconded, a \$1,000 donation to Operation Injured Soldier was approved by the members.
- Primal Outfitters has an agreement with Culvers to match donations to Veterans with details TBD.
- Flag replacement for Lakeview Cemetery prior to May2025 discussed.
- Poppy sheet circulated to sign up for places/times

Sick call None.

Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL) Thank you letter from AL Post 170 circulated for member information..

Next meetings

- Membership Mtg 1900 6 June.
- Club Operations Com.1530, Exec Com. Mtg 1600 27 June.

Memorial to a departed post member

For The Good of The American Legion.

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

Commander John Barkley conducted the closing ceremony and declared the meeting adjourned at 2055 hours.

Respectfully Submitted by
Adjutant Bob Dargis, American Legion Post 49