

3June2021 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

Post Commander Jason Turner called the 3June2021 American Legion Post 49 meeting to order at 1905 and conducted the opening ceremony, followed by the order of business.

Adjutant Roll Call: Cmdr. Jason Turner, 1st Vice Cmdr. John Barkley, 2nd Vice Cmdr Guy Cherry, Adjutant Tom Breen, Finance Officer Sean Russell, Sgt. at Arms and SAL Cmdr. Earl Lash, Chaplain and Service Officer Larry Girard, Service Officer Steve Hamilton, Trustee Tom Dryer, Historian Jim McCloughan, Trustee Willie Reinhardt excused, Trustee Chuck Aubrey, Member Jim Addressi, Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch excused, Member Patrick Whitlatch, Member Bruce Thatcher, Member Art Farmer, Member Leo Flory. Quorum (of at least 5 legion members) present.

Meeting Minutes "6May2021 American Legion Post 49 Combined-Meeting Minutes" were approved as written.

Introduction of guests and prospective new members: None Present.

Committee reports

1. Finance:

- Account status for 3June2021 \$85,458 plus a \$5268.48 Bank CD
- Quickbooks April 2021 loss -\$3,247 better than March 2021 loss of -\$13,182.95.
- \$570 donations received:\$470 credited to General Account and \$100 credited to Uniform Fund, both included in above account status.
- An additional Poppy revenue of \$6,538.07 was noted and will be credited to Veteran's Account, less the Poppy cost.
- SAL total funds available reported to be \$12,605 as of 12May2021
- Two (2) bank accounts, Vietnam Wall and Raffle, will be cancelled and balances tracked as individual line items in quickbooks, to save bank admin. cost of maintaining an account.

2. Adjutant - Membership:

- Achieved 91.96% membership vs target 95% . We are currently at 538 new and renewals paid versus 572 target
- Department and website slow to process paperwork. If all had been processed, we would currently be at 97%.
- Paperwork for 6 new members circulated with no concerns noted.

3. Service Officers. No new activity noted.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee

- Calendar for June-July2021 reviewed, with 3June date published to distinguish for later changes.
- Poppy fundraising results expected to net approx \$6,000 this year.
- Kitchen cleaning is complete except for stovetop gas burners.
- Fire suppression system chemicals scheduled for recharging; replace chemical only for \$300 or replace both tank and chemicals for \$700.
- AL SAL liaison asked to verify that paperwork required by Club Manager submitted prior to scheduled 10June dinner event.
- Sean Russell led the Club Operations Committee as Finance Officer for the last year and was congratulated on his great job. Tom Dryer will now assume the Finance Officer position including Club Opt's Committee leadership.

Motion to Suspend Regular Meeting for new AL 2021 Officer Swearing In Ceremony was approved.

The following duly elected officers were sworn into their respected AL offices:

Commander	Jason Turner
1st Vice Cmdr	John Barkley
2nd Vice Cmdr	Jim Addressi
Adjutant	Tom Breen
Chaplain	Larry Girard
Finance Officer	Tom Dryer
Sgt at Arms	Art Farmer
Service Officer	Larry Girard
Historian	Jim McCloughan
Judge Advocate	Earl Lash
Two (2) trustees	Bruce Thatcher, Patrick Whitlatch

5. AL Events

- Memorial Day Parade/Ceremony after action comments:
 - Great Planning and Execution by Commander Turner
 - Jim McCloughan delivered his best performance to date. Everyone enjoyed both his heartfelt speech and singing.
 - Maintain open invitation for any veteran to join the parade in future.
 - Better communicate local cemetery visit salute target times so that more people have the opportunity to attend.
 - Recruit Grand Marshall early in the process. Jim Montgomery recommended for next year's event.
 - Work with local cemeteries to mark GAR cemetery graves with flags, similar to other military veterans
- US Army birthday, Flag Day 14June: Flag disposal ceremony at 11AM including 21 gun salute. US Army birthday celebration at Noon, following flag disposal ceremony.
- All three family organizations (AL, AUX and SAL) worked together to support 30May breakfast serving 250 people and earning approx \$2,000, contributed to Breakfast Account (and included in our account status above).

6. Family Meetings - SAL Events

- Video tape of our next Americanism event being planned for 17/18 Sept at St Basils and Glenn school.
- Steak fry dinner starting 10June and planned for every Thursday thereafter until stopped.
- SAL Total funds available reported to be \$12,605 as of 12May2021

7. Family Meetings - Aux

- 256 donated purses filled with accessories and donated to women's shelters
- 3June2021 installation of new officers

Sick call - None noted

Unfinished business

- Patriots Garage visit 22May found a small facility on private property supported by several enthusiastic friends. The group is still seeking non-profit (501-C) classification. The AL Post 49 team was also able to visit several other AL Posts on their return trip and further recommended that AL members should visit other posts more often.
- “War on Terror” meeting room display space.
 - Jim Montgomery noted that memorial granite has been shipped from India but still several weeks away from delivery.
 - Jim McCloughan mentioned that he has gathered information on Michigan residents killed in the Afghanistan War.
 - Patrick Whitlatch will be scheduling a followup meeting including Larry Girard and Josh Gunneson to discuss meeting room display format.
 - Larry offered that he felt the room format should be arranged in a time sequence, starting with the Civil War so that other and/or smaller war displays could be more easily added as required.
- JATO Rocket display alternatives still being discussed

New Business

- 4 July breakfast volunteer support needed. Please contact Mary Fitzgerald at mafitz14@sbcglobal.net
- 7Nov AL Quarterly District meeting planned with lunch served by the Aux so don't miss this one.

Communication & Donations : No communications noted. Donations summarized in the Finance section.

Next meetings

- Membership Mtg 1900 1July
- Club Operations Comm 1530, Exec Comm Mtg 1600 24June
- Department Annual Convention 8-11Jul Sault Ste Marie

Memorial to a departed post member . None noted

For The Good of The American Legion.

- Jim McCloughan mentioned the 100th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is 11Nov2021. Please think about how AL Post 49 should recognize and support.
- Bruce Thatcher mentioned that the Masons would be cleaning gravestones in the near future.
- Bruce also noted that there will be a Lest We Forget sponsored reenactment of Korea, The Forgotten War, on June 18,19 & 20, 2021 in St Joseph, MI on Upton Drive.
- Jason noted that there are about 100 missing cemetery grave markers and we should plan to support replacement in some way.
- Significant events posted on AL website homepage and Facebook. Website event calendar updated on regular basis.
- Days to Commemorate include: D-Day June 6, Women Veterans Day June 12, Army Birthday June 14, U.S. Flag Day June 14, Father's Day June 20, PTSD Awareness Day June 27, Independence Day July 4, National Hire A Veteran Day July 25, Korean War Armistice Day July 27, Army Chaplain Corps Anniversary July 29.

Post Commander Jason Turner conducted the closing ceremony and declared the meeting adjourned at 2120.

Respectfully,
John Barkley for
Tom Breen, Adjutant
American Legion Post 49