

## 7 MAR 2024 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

After the Opening ceremony was conducted, Commander John Barkley called the 7 MAR 2024 American Legion Post 49 membership meeting to order at 1904.

### 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 Brad Vandenberg.

**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 1 FEB 2024 reviewed/**approved** as published on Motion of **Chuck Aubrey**, properly seconded, on voice vote.

### **Committee reports**

#### **1. Finance. Per sean Russell:**

-Account status:\$193,440.98 as of 4 MAR 2024

-Quickbooks: - \$13,081.53 JAN 2024

-JAN 2024 Stock value \$4,473.50

-Willie Reinhardt again questioned Sean Russell as to why there were “so many” line items on the finance report. Mr. Reinhardt was advised that this topic had been raised by him before and previously discussed and resolved. Mr. Reinhardt provided no new reason why this topic should be revisited again.

-Finance Report approved on motion of Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, on voice vote.

-SAL current total funds available: \$19,531.21

-Aux current total funds available: \$27,331.27 + \$6,458.56 CD

#### **2. Adjutant**

-Membership status of 6 MAR 2024: 40 new, 43 PUFL, 494 renewals, 1 transfer from state, 578 total of 634 members = 91.17 %. We have met the goal for March 13, 2024 which is 90%. 5 New member applications were circulated. Motion to 1) approve adjutant's report and 2) new members by Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, and approved by voice vote.

#### **3. Service Officers report**

-Auto Zone Credit card discussion for emergency car repairs for needy veterans was had, and on motion of Willie Rienhardt, properly seconded, the members approved authorizing any of our three current service officers as signatories to approve purchases/repairs up to \$300 maximum.

- A bill for a Radiator repair for the bus utilized by the honor guard was presented by Steve Hamilton, and on Motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded, \$700 payment was approved by the members.

#### **4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee**

-Ice Breakers report out will be reported as part of Feb. financials

-11 additional Open-To-Public licenses applied for: 16Mar, 25May, 26May, 15June, 3July, 10Aug, 17Aug, 24Aug, 31Aug, 1Sep, 31Dec.

- Initiating hiring process for new full time bartender and part time summer as required.
- Tiki bar bartender support for special holidays/events only
- Remove food soft packaging from storage room and kitchen areas to reduce visiting mice.
- Freezer shelf clips on order to add 2 shelves and better organize the freezer.
- Emily 8 week leave of absence discussion: strategy, timing, temp back-up and compensation.
- Mar/Apr Calendar was distributed for review.
- Sean Russell reported coordinating duties for the duties of club manager Emily Fitzbaker while she is out on maternity leave from mid May through Mid July. Heather and Heidi to fill in and coordinate in her absence.

## **5. AL Events**

- 2024 Holidays and Observances for next 3 months shown below for review
- Commander briefly reviewed 8June veterans event proposal by Toni Kennedy with no alcohol service during 10-1400 event with bar service isolated from rest of event. SAL cooking outside, Aux possibly planning children's events, Willie Reinhardt supporting with a tent. Jason Turner explained possibility of having a food truck present.
- ALPost 49: 4April officer nominations, nomination sheet sign-up 5April-1May, 2May Elections, 6June Installation.

## **6.SAL Events**

- 16Mar St Patrick's Day Corn Beef and Cabbage dinner 1700-1930
- Planning quilt raffle

## **7. Aux Events**

- Need current periodicals (magazines) for local nursing homes. Drop off prior to mtg.
- Poppy making 1500-1700 Tuesdays
- Planning quilt raffle 27May. \$15 Raffle Permit License fee check 16132 cashed 29Feb.

## **Old Business**

- Matching fund \$600 check for Primal Outfitters was issued.
- Renting Tiki Bar area discussion required prior to May.

## **Other/New Business**

- Quotes to remove pine tree (cut tree, haul wood, chip brush, grind stump) from Earl Lash: Out On A Limb tree care \$1850, Fleming's Tree Service \$2,000. On motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded, the members approved the work to be performed by Out on a Limb for \$1,850 on voice vote, Commander to schedule commencement of work. Seg Freitag recommended crushed concrete for area where the tree is removed and also some under the dumpster area.
- Donation request from South Haven JYL Baseball/Softball, 300+ players \$250 recommendation for member mtg. discussion/approval (P.O.Box 862, South Haven, Michigan 49090, was not discussed and not yet approved. Carry over to next meeting for discussion/approval.
- Donation request by Bart Seelye, Wolf Lake Fish Hatchery volunteer and associated non-profit to fund children fishing opportunities at Wolf Lake hatchery location was discussed. Potential \$300 was recommended by Exec Committee. On Motion of Guy Cherry, this was tabled until next meeting pending discussion with Mr. Seelye about possible reciprocation for donation of a fishing day for post 49, or some other possibility where the post might benefit.
- Brief discussion re: electrically operated handicap doors for front door and both bathrooms, Commander to obtain quotes.

## **Sick call**

Jim Addessi not well..

## **Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL) .**

### **Next meetings**

- Membership Mtg 1900 4 Apr
- Club Operations Com.1530, Exec Com. Mtg 1600 28 MAR.

**Memorial to a departed post member** It was noted that Joe Bomberek, past VFW commander, had recently passed, honor guard possibly needed for any ceremony in the near future.

### **For The Good of The American Legion.**

- D day event in Saint Joe review by Bruce Thatcher. Commander suggested a local nursing home would like some sort of ceremony for veterans who pass away while in the home. Would require short notice to honor guard for something brief but appropriate.
- Steve Hamilton suggested trivia night at legion.
- Commander then reviewed plans for leveling lawn per handout that was provided, several contractors to be contacted for quotes. It was suggested that the contractors be given a lump sum of (say) \$27 k to work with and then have the contractor suggest a plan and material instead of dictating plan and material.

**Commander John Barkley conducted the closing ceremony and declared the meeting adjourned at 2045 hours.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
Adjutant Bob Dargis,  
American Legion Post 49