

2Dec2021 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

Vice Commander John Barkley called the 2Dec2021 American Legion Post 49 membership meeting to order at 1910 and conducted the opening ceremony, followed by an award presentation and order of business.

Adjutant Roll Call: Cmdr. Jason Turner, **1st Vice Cmdr. John Barkley, 2nd Vice Cmdr Jim Addressi, Adjutant Tom Breen, Finance Officer Tom Dryer, Sgt. at Arms Art Farmer, Chaplain and Service Officer Larry Girard, Service Officer Steve Hamilton, Historian Jim McCloughan, Trustee Bruce Thatcher, Trustee Willie Reinhardt, Trustee Chuck Aubrey, Trustee Patrick Whitlatch, Judge Advocate Earl Lash, Ordnance Officer Mike Andruch, Member Bob Dargis, Member Leo Flory, Member Josh Gunneson, Member Marty Welker, Member Jim Montgomery, Member Pete Petryke, Member Richard Sutherland (representing Patriots Garage), Guest Doug Medford (representing Patriots Garage)**
Quorum (of at least 5 legion members) **present.**

Regular meeting suspended for the presentation of appreciation awards to AL Post 49 SAL and AL organizations for their support of Patriots Garage. Richard and Doug also gave a brief overview of spending, results and near-term future plans. They reported having 69 Army, 23 USMC and 8 Navy members from Van Buren, St. Joseph and Cass Counties with several requests to start satellite chapters in other locations.



Meeting Minutes Membership Mtg dated 4Nov2021 approved as written.

Introduction of guests and prospective new members: No others present.

Committee reports

1. Finance: Report summarized below and approved subject to audit.

- Account status \$138,783.57 on 2Dec2021 after distribution of Breakfast funds to AUX, SAL and KOC.
- Quickbooks: Oct2021 net operating income \$2,966.24
- SAL current total funds available \$17,139 plus \$5,055 Children's Christmas Fund as of 12Oct2021
- Aux current total funds available approx \$21,600
- Donation tracking: recent \$350 assigned to named accounts, \$880.41 for specific purposes to be tracked until expensed.

2. Adjutant - Membership:

- Membership update: 620 listed members for this year versus 572 last year.
- Paid Members 497 or 87.9% of 565 with 66 New members since July, 38 PUFL, 392Trad/Renewals, 1 Trans. Paperwork for 17 new members (included in the 66 above) circulated and approved for membership.

3. Service Officers.

- Veterans Affairs Director Gary Easterling met with 28 Vet's 12Nov to answer their questions about claims. Larry will start the planning process for a followup visit targeted for late Spring 2022.
- Larry reported recent/ongoing discussions with Veterans having PTSD and questions about disability.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee

- Calendar not reviewed for Dec2021.
- Thorough kitchen cleaning recommended and approved for a cost not to exceed \$500.
- Bar open to public nights scheduled for 18Dec Christmas party and 31Dec New Years Eve party

5. AL Events

- 0800-1000 11Nov breakfast at Post 49, color guard salute at Post 49 was attended by 40 people, Followed by salute and blanket presentation at local nursing home and Lincoln School (rainy day drive-by).
- 1200 7Dec short ceremony with three-volley salute, taps planned. Meet1100 at post with gold braid.

6. Family Meetings - SAL Events

- Larry Carlson Thanksgiving Memorial Dinner 21Nov2021 supported 200 takeout meals and 50-60 inside diners. Leftover turkey vacuum packed and frozen for future AL Post 49 event. Many legion family members supported the dessert menu including Val McPeak who not only supplied many but also served desserts during the dinner period..

7. Family Meetings - Aux

- Kids Christmas Party scheduled 1000-1400 Sat. December 11

Sick call - Paul Middleton, Steve Hamilton, Dale Sargent, Brett Novi.

Unfinished business

- “War on Terror” meeting room display. Team still planning on wall mounted content and will consider using the 2 plaques awarded earlier by Patriots Garage.
- Kitchen freezer strategy TBD.

New Business

- 19Nov happy hour and \$8 open-to-public turkey dinner supported by Joe Wiegand's performance as Teddy Roosevelt's impersonator raised \$360 for SAL. Plan to dedicate at least one Boy's State scholarship in Joe's name.
- West facing sliding door leak. Replacement alternatives several thousand dollars and Mike will work with Steve Hamilton to develop repair (vs replacement) alternative, targeted for late spring 2022..
- Jim Montgomery requested earlier that we consider taking some action near term to attenuate or dampen noise level in the clubroom. It was suggested that fixing would require some experimentation and initially hanging a large flag in the area (that could later be placed on an outside flag pole) would give us some experience.
- Discussion, recommendations and approval for AL donations, targeted for 31Dec completion, summarized on attached pdf. \$5,200 were approved in this meeting and \$1,296 previously for a total of \$6,496 this year.
- It was also suggested that we develop a standard donation letter that would request a donation receipt.
- New comments added to the pdf include:
 - MI Scouting- Cdr. Turner to decide if donation goes to one or more scout groups.
 - Oratorical Contest- Larry will solicit any related best practices from Gary Easterling. Josh Gunneson will initiate conversation with South Haven high school teacher(s) he knows for initial assessment of interest.

Communication & Donations. No additional noted.

Next meetings

- Membership Mtg 1900 6Jan
- Club Operations Comm 1530, Exec Comm Mtg 1600 30Dec

Memorial to a departed post member Herman Heuremann

For The Good of The American Legion.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day 7 Dec, National Wreaths Across America Dec 18, Christmas Day Dec 25, Kwanzaa Dec 26–Jan 1, New Year’s Eve Dec 31.

Vice Commander John Barkley conducted the closing ceremony and declared the meeting adjourned at 2025.

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

American Legion Post 49 Finance Report

Account Balance taken 12.2.21 for Membership meeting on 12.2.21

Account Name	Current Balance	Purpose	Target Balance
General Operating	\$56,742.97	Daily Club Operations, incl maintenance, Oct reserve, \$3,000 Vietnam Wall, \$2,000 Raffle	\$35,000
Building Fund	\$6,374.35	Capital spending (from Depreciation, Other)	\$40,000
Pull Tab	\$7,179.88	Pull Tab Machine repair/replacement	\$6,000
KENO	\$20,416.75	MI Lottery KENO payouts	\$5,000
Breakfast Fund	\$5,857.44	Breakfast revenue. Payout scheduled for Nov/Dec.	\$2,000
Membership	\$13,309.13	Membership dues for donation/support/recruitment	\$7,000
Veterans	\$20,027.96	Direct support for Veterans/Families	\$20,000
Uniform	\$3,536.80	Color/Honor Guard Uniforms	\$4,000

Bank CD	\$5,338.29	Total CD Balance	\$5,000
Total Funds Available	\$138,783.57	Total American Legion Funds Available for spending	\$124,000
Current Month Profit/(Loss) for October2021			
Gross Profit	\$39,406.17		
Total Expenses	\$36,439.93		
Net Operating Income	\$2,966.24		
DONATIONS RECEIVED			
Date(Owner)	Amount	Assigned	
11.1.21	\$150.00	general in memory of James Van Hare	
11.1.21	\$200.00	Uniform- in memory of Tom Leva	
24Oct2021	\$61.00	Ceiling tile fund	
4Nov2021	\$300.00	War On Terror Display	
(Terry Gregory)	\$355.00	Club room ceiling	
(Josh Gunneson)	\$164.41	Future Archery classes	