

1 AUG 2024 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

After the Opening ceremony was conducted, Commander John Barkley called the 1 AUG 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**, **Ordinance Officer Mike Andruch**, **Trustee Josh Gunnison**, **Service Officer Jason Mayer**, **Trustee Dan Gomez**, member Tim Gregory, member Brad VandenBerg, member Glenn Higgs, Member Dan Thompson, member Kane Goodson, member Don Karrus, **Member Richard Schmidt**, SAL member Paul Middleton.

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

Swearing in of new Officers:

Commander Barkley Swore in two new Officers who were duly elected, including Josh Gunneson.

Introduction of guests and prospective new members: None.

Award Presentation: None

Meeting Minutes Membership Mtg minutes dated 6 JUNE 2024 reviewed/**approved** on motion of Jason Turner, properly seconded, on voice vote.

Committee reports

1. Finance. Report by Sean Russell:

- Account status: \$209,325.89 31July2024 vs \$213,837.88 3Aug2023, vs \$200,599.62 5June2024
- Quickbooks: \$14,152.69 for June2024 vs. June2023 \$19,214.07 vs May2024 \$9,792.05
- Finance Report approved on Motion of Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, by voice vote.
- SAL funds available: Not Available
- Aux funds available: Not Available.

2. Adjutant

- Membership status as of 7-3-24: 63 New members, 43 PUFL, 532 Renewals, 8 transfers for a total of 645/634 + 101.89%. Adjutant's report and 19 new member applications were circulated and approved on motion of Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, was approved by voice vote.
- Adjutant Dargis reported that he had so far processed approximately 140 members for the new fiscal year 2025.

3. Service Officers report

- Jason Mayer reported taking a veteran to the Battle Creek medical center for a medical procedure recently, and he was notified by Van Buren County Veterans Services of an additional Veteran in the South Haven Area who has difficulty keeping medical appointments.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee

- Emily is Back !
- Third Friday dinner rotation through Oct will be hosted by Lions
- Fifth Friday (30Aug) dinner and Sunday (29Sep) breakfast events hosted by Masons.
- Post 49 AL tan hat ordering in process.
- Fire extinguisher training TBD.
- Before making Post 49 resource commitments (parking/other) to other organizations, review first with

club manager.

-Aug/Sep2024 calendars available for review review

5. AL Events

-2024 AL new Officers swearing-in 1Aug2024: Josh Gunneson, Jason Mayer.

-23July SH nursing home vet's visit at Post went well

-1630 2Aug pizza dinner support

-1300 3Aug Glad-Peach Festival Parade in Coloma. The bus will leave the Post by 1145 to arrive in Coloma at 1215

-1100 4Aug Lakeview Cemetery Hebrew Arch Dedication Ceremony. The bus will leave the Post by 1030.

-1545 4Aug funeral salute for Army Veteran Eldon Ray Ridley at McDowell Cemetery, 7109 107th Ave, South Haven, MI. The bus will leave the Post by 1500.

-1745 10 Aug.military honors for Navy Veteran Steve Juroff. The bus will leave the Post by 1700.

-AUG 17, 2024, 1200 Salute to returning Operation Injured Soldier Veterans on South Pier. Be at Post by 1130 for assignment and bus departure at 1140.

6. SAL Events

None.

7. Aux Events.

None.

Old Business

-Clubroom sound reduction status, per Jason Turner: Quote was recently received for total of \$22,593, with \$18,450 down to start. Will take 8 weeks for Contractor to obtain materials. Some discussion as to whether we might do some of the work ourselves to save money, Jason recommended that we leave installation to the sound professionals. Members approved moving forward on this contract work, on motion of Chuck Aubrey, properly seconded, by voice vote. 50/50 split on cost with AUX to be considered.

- Auto zone debit card for repairs to needy veterans vehicles in the works. Limit per purchase is \$300.

- Commander reported status of potential landscaping work in rear yard.

- Josh Gunneson reported his efforts to obtain washroom access for veterans who are taken on fishing excursions by Primal outfitters. He explained the necessity of renting and installing a porta potty. He requested approval of an invoice directed to Primal Outfitters for porta potty installation in the amount of \$1,200. On motion of Willie Reinhardt, properly seconded, the members approved payment by voice vote.

Other/New Business

-Copier replaced with wifi interface and waiting for new printer load to current office computer. -Flag/holder replacement for Lakeview Cemetery. SH mapping of veteran graves scheduled for 15 Sep 2024 completion followed by survey of each location to determine flag holder need and formal request to city for funding. There are approximately 1,100 veterans graves.

-Other next up capital spending projects include a comfort/convenience project to improve disabled accessibility to/from building and interior spaces, one safety project for improved external walkability north of the meeting room, at approximate cost of \$50,000, and a project to expand the memorial brick area, waiting on quote from Debest. For bricks.

-Fundraising brainstorming TBD.

-AL shooting sports support at SOHA Rod and Gun Club for kids who are interested. Josh Gunneson to Support.

Sick call

Larry Smith had Chemo treatment, doing better. Dan Farmer waiting on test results for tumor, no driving.

Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL)

None.

Next meetings

-Membership Mtg 1900, 5 SEPT.

-Club Operations Com.1530, Exec Com. Mtg 1600 29 AUG..

Memorial to a departed post member

None.

For The Good of The American Legion.

-Aug: Sunday Aug 4 Coast Guard Birthday, Wednesday Aug 7 Purple Heart Day, Operation Injured Soldier Friday Aug 16 1700-1930 Dinner and Saturday **Aug 17 12 Noon Salute on S Pier**, Monday Aug 19 National Aviation Day

-Sep: Monday Sep 2 Labor Day, Sunday Sep 8 National Grandparents Day, **Wed 1200 Sep 11 Patriot Day salute**, Tuesday Sep 17 Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, Wednesday Sep 18 Air Force Birthday, Friday Sep 20 National POW/MIA Recognition Day, Sunday Sep 29 Gold Star Mother's Day

-Oct: Sunday Oct 13 Navy Birthday, Monday Oct 14 Columbus Day, Wednesday Oct 16 Boss's Day, **Saturday Oct 26 Post 49 Halloween Children's Party**, Thursday Oct 31 Halloween

-Nov: Sunday Nov 3 Daylight Saving Time ends, **Sunday Nov 10 Marine Corps Birthday**, Monday **Nov 11 Veterans Day**, Sunday **Nov 24 Larry Carlson Memorial Dinner**, Thursday Nov 28 Thanksgiving Day, Friday Nov 29 Native American Heritage Day

-Dec: Saturday Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, Friday Dec 13 National Guard Birthday, Saturday Dec 21 National Wreaths Across America, Saturday **Dec14 Post 49 Children's Christmas Party**, Wednesday Dec 25 Christmas Day, Thursday Dec 26 Kwanzaa (first day), Tuesday Dec 31 New Year's

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

Respectfully Submitted by

Adjutant Bob Dargis, American Legion Post 49