

EDWARD W. THOMPSON, POST 49
REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7, April, 2017

Prior to the beginning meeting, Bruce Thatcher introduced Marv, a fellow member of 'Last We Forget'. Marv told the group about Jim O'Malley. This gentleman is an author who will help 'write your story'. These stories are often therapeutic for combat veterans. There is a 90-minute play called 'Letters from Home' which is showing at the Mendel Center on 21, May. Marv offered tickets to the show. Tickets are \$25 to \$35 ea.

Opening Ceremonies/Chaplain's Prayer

POW/MIA Remembrance

Pledge of Allegiance

Preamble to the Constitution

The meeting was called to order at 19:22

Roll Call;

Commander, Stan Wakilo (*not present*) / Sr. Vice Commander, Jed Fall (*present*)
Jr. Vice Comm., James McCloughan (*not present*) / Adj., Tom Breen (*not present*)
Finance Off., Pat Sullivan (*not present*) / Historian, John Lammert (*not present*)
Sgt-at-Arms, Jim Montgomery (*not present*) / Chaplain, Larry Girard (*present*)
Service Officer, Allan Soulier (*not present*) / S.A.L. Rep., Steve Hamilton (*present*)
Ladies Aux. Rep., Billie Coone (*not present*)

Members also in attendance; Larry Smith, Bruce Thatcher, Glenn Higgs, Jerry Schmidt, Mike Andrich

Also in attendance; Heather Hahn, Wanda Smith, Marian Bush, Terry Gregory

*With 2 officers and 5 Legionnaires in attendance, Sr. Vice Commander Fall deemed a quorum.

Note - Prior to the start of the meeting, American Legion, Post 49 chose to recognize several dedicated members with certificates of appreciation.

Recipients of the awards were Marian Bush, Ben Newton, Larry and Wanda Smith, and Jim and Judy Montgomery.

***Reading of the minutes from the previous meeting.** A motion was made to accept as read supported and passed by vote

Committee Reports;

***Finance Officer's Report;** None given

***Adjutant's Report;** None given

***Board of Directors;** None given

***Service Officer's Report;** None given

***S.A.L. Report;** Steve reported that the S.A.L. has offered \$3,000 to the Legionnaires for the bar renovations and will write the check tonight. Also, the S.A.L. will finance the reconstruction of the Tiki Bar. Dinners and other fund-raisers will help finance the project.

***Auxiliary Report;** None given

***Poppy Report;** Jed has spoken to Meijer's and they do not allow soliciting in front of their store but they may be willing to help with a contribution. He will check with Aldi's, Walmart, Village Market and other merchants. He has called City Hall and a form must be on file before we sell poppies. Poppy Day is 18, May thru 20, May. A sign-up sheet will be available in the clubroom.

***Club Room Manager's Report;** The new sink is in and Coke will soon run the lines.

***New Applications for Membership;** None reported

***Sick Call;** Jim Montgomery is recovering from heart surgery and is doing well

Unfinished Business;

*The case with Becky Howell will be reviewed at a later date as Glenn advised us of the sensitivity of the subject matter. In the 'fine print' there is information that is not to be made public.

*Mr. Fall suggested we postpone the discussion until the next meeting regarding the Veteran's fishing event scheduled for August

New Business;

*Stan will acquire the necessary permits for the Memorial Day Parade.

*Jim McCloughan will be asked to be the Parade Marshall

*4 cars are needed, Walt Sicard Car Company typically provides 2 of those cars

*Pastor Gibson will be asked to be Officer of the Day

*The South Haven Fire and Police Departments must be contacted -

*Flag Day celebration and the retiring of the flags needs to be organized, 12, June Post Commander will invite Scout troupes and hope they take an active role.

*Mr. Andrigh offered plaques to be displayed over the Viet Nam Memorial Wall. One for each of the services, one POW/MIA, and one Legion at the cost of \$35.00

There was a motion, support and vote to suspend the meeting for nominations. Acting as Adjutant, Steve Hamilton took over the meeting for this purpose. Those nominations were as follows;

Nominated for Commander; Stan Wakild (supported)

Nominated for Post Adjutant; Thomas Breen (supported)

Nominated for Sr. Vice Commander; Jed Fall (supported and accepted)

Nominated for Jr. Vice Commander; Jim McCloughan (supported)

Nominated for Finance Officer; Charles Aubrey (supported)

Nominated for Service Officer; none

Nominated for Chaplain; Larry Girard (supported and accepted)

Nominated for Historian; Larry Smith (supported and accepted)

Nominated for Sgt-at-Arms; Jim Montgomery (supported)

Nominated for 3-year Board Position, 2 available; Richard Cates (Supported)

Also nominated, Jerry Schmidt (declined) Larry Girard (supported and accepted)

No further nominations were made and the nominations were closed

A motion was made to resume the regular meeting, supported and passed

For the Good of the Legion;

A discussion was held regarding the raising of Legion Dues at post 49. Each Legionnaire present was asked for their opinion. All members held basically the same opinion which was NOT to raise the dues at this time. Ms. Hahn reported that we are now, and have been for a while, operating 'in the red'. Mr. Hamilton is of the belief that in 2016, out of the \$50.00 paid in dues, \$34.50 was sent to Department. As of 1, January, 2017, there was a \$5.00 increase, therefore, \$39.50 out of the \$50.00 is now sent out. Post Adjutant Breen could better answer this issue. A vote was taken once again and the result was 7 - no and 0 - yes.

*Mr. Hamilton suggested several fund-raising ideas including a fund-raising letter, which he read.

*Mr. Fall informed the meeting of the 100-year challenge coin being offered by Flag and Emblem. 12 will be ordered and offered for sale at \$10.00 ea.

Closing Ceremonies/Chaplain's Prayer

Meeting adjourned; 20:51

Respectfully submitted by Steve Hamilton :