

6 June 2024 American Legion Post 49 Membership Meeting Minutes

After the Opening ceremony was conducted, Commander John Barkley called the 6 June 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, **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**, **SAL member Paul Middleton**.

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

Introduction of guests and prospective new members: None.

Award Presentation: Paul Middleton Made a Plaque "Defenders of Our Freedom" which was presented by the Commander to Bruce Thatcher for his recent volunteer efforts.

Meeting Minutes Membership Mtg minutes dated 2 May 2024 reviewed/**approved** on motion of Bruce Thatcher, properly seconded, on voice vote.

The meeting was suspended in order for Jason Turner to swear in the following officers who were duly elected:

| Position | 2024 Winners | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------|--|
| Commander | John Barkley | | |
| 1st Vice Cmdr | Earl Lash | | |
| 2nd Vice Cmdr | Jim Addressi | | |
| Adjutant | Bob Dargis | | |
| Chaplain | Larry Girard | | |
| Finance Officer | Sean Russell | | |
| Sgt at Arms | Sieg Freitag | | |
| Service Officer | Jason Mayer | | |
| Historian | Jim McCloughan | | |
| Judge Advocate | Jason Turner | | |
| Trustees | Dan Gomez | Josh Gunneson | |

Committee reports

1. Finance. Report by Sean Russell:

-Account status: \$192,187.33 vs \$183,163.98 1May2024, vs \$171,748.83 1June2023

-Quickbooks: Apr2024 -\$13,299.97 vs Apr2023 -\$3,254.36 vs Mar2024 \$7,641.25

-May2024 stock value \$6,615

-Motion to approve Finance Report was made by Earl Lash, properly seconded, and was approved by the members.

-SAL current total funds available: no report

-Aux current total funds available: no report

2. Adjutant

-Membership status as of 5-31-24: 55 New, 43 PUFL, 523 Renewals, 2 Transfers from state, 623 Total out of 634 = 98.26%. Adjutant's report and new member applications were circulated and approved on motion of Larry Girard, properly seconded, was approved by voice vote.

- Adjutant Dargis explained the Department's request that he and the Commander sign and execute the agreement regarding the Transfer of Members from DMS to a local post. The Agreement was duly signed and on motion of Adjutant Dargis, properly seconded, it was approved by the membership, on voice vote.

3. Service Officers report

-Steve Hamilton reported helping a local veteran get his power turned back on after it was shut off for non payment. Steve requested reimbursement in the amount of \$203. On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, the members approved reimbursement to Steve in the Amount of \$203.

- Jason Mayer reported taking a veteran to the Battle Creek medical center for a medical procedure recently.

- On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, the members approved payment for Jason Mayer to attend service officer's school.

4. Club Facilities and Operations Committee

-June/July2024 Calendar review

-5 May breakfast sales for 125 \$1,438.26 plus \$60 to member scholarship fund, 26 May breakfast sales for 395, \$3,909 + \$102 tips to member scholarship fund

-Third Friday dinner rotation May-Oct will be hosted by Lions

-Fifth Friday (31May, 30Aug) dinner and Sunday (30June, 29Sep) breakfast events hosted by Masons.

-Post 49 hat ordering status-status not available

5. AL Events

-7June pizza dinner by AL crew plus Val McPeak

-8June veterans event sponsored by Toni Kennedy with alcohol/bar service isolated from 1000-1400. SAL cooking outside, Aux planning children's events, Willie Reinhardt supporting with a tent. Plan confirmed 26Mar with Toni Kennedy and Adam Swager, US Dept of Veteran Affairs Specialist..VFW invited. Help needed for set-up, parking, greeting.

-13June 1300 Honor Guard event at memory gardens cemetery, bus will leave post at 12:15.

-14June Army Birthday at 12 noon,1100 ceremonial disposal of unusable flags (Scout Troop 188 invited).

-20June Honor Guard Salute for AF Veteran George Price at Lakeview Cemetery. The bus departs at 1030 for the 1100 ceremony at Lakeview Cemetery. The AF has confirmed support.

-28June breakfast with prep starting 0600

-29une Honor Guard support for Army Veteran at Taylor Cemetery. The bus departs at 1015 for the 1100 ceremony at Taylor Cemetery. Planning currently in process.

-3July:10 large parking cones, reserve area for post helpers, porta-potties, tent, cooking, etc

-4July next scheduled membership meeting was canceled due to holiday, next meeting 1 August.

As to the July 4 fireworks event, on motion of Seig Freitag, properly seconded, the members approved charging those who are not members of any American Legion post, SAL or AUX a fee of \$20 to park that evening, no cover charge at the door, free parking for any AL, SAL or AUX members who present a valid card.

6. SAL Events

-Quilt raffle/auction was completed.

7. Aux Events.

-100% of 728 membership renewals complete for 2024.

-Nursing Home veterans/staff June luncheon

- 27May2024 Quilt raffle earned \$1,200

-Poppy donations approximately \$11,000 reported by Patti Sheehy despite weather, other restrictions.

Old Business

-Clubroom sound reduction status, per Jason Turner: the post was recently inspected by a sound consultant who recommended a 3D mapping of the post to obtain dimensions at a cost of \$300 in order to properly evaluate the post and present options to reduce noise in the clubroom. On motion of Larry Girard, properly seconded, the members approved the payment of \$300 for the 3D mapping.

-Service flagpole rope, still problematic.

-Auto Zone debit card status.

-The purchase of 15 jackets for the honor guard was discussed, three possible suppliers were noted, Larry Girard agreed to explore a local dealer who may provide some options. It was also suggested that since several people who initially express interest in participating in the Honor Guard often take hats, patches and shirts and then fail to follow through, that perhaps we should get a \$50 deposit from potential new members, to be returned after one year of participation. TBD in future.

Other/New Business

-Copier replacement revised proposal. On 6 May Aux requested AL to pay \$1,075 they view as a credit from prior transaction. Sean reviewed contract terms/conditions. On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, members approved to spend \$1,075.

-Flag replacement for Lakeview Cemetery. On Motion of Seig Freitag, properly seconded, members approved up to \$400 for flag replacements, one-third of \$1,165 flag costs plus shipping for 1125 poly/cotton 12"X18" on 30" staff veteran flags.

-Blueberry Festival sponsorship \$300 request : on motion of Bruce Thatcher, properly seconded, members approved this request for donation.

-VFW returned \$600 for service dog funding. On motion of Earl Lash, properly seconded, members approved donation of \$600 to Magnum K9s.

-Steve Hamilton explained Junior Shooting Sports organization which teaches kids about gun safety and control, members agreed to a collaborative effort with South Haven Rod and Gun Club to promote this program.

Sick call

Per Steve Hamilton, Larry Smith is now in a wheelchair, Vicki Olson's brother Don, an AL member, is/was hospitalized.

Communication & Donation Announcements (to/from AL)

-Sent formal thank you letters to Ross Woodhams and Walt Sicard for their generous lending of parade Vehicles.

-Karrus family purchased a \$100 Marathon Gas card to be used to fuel the bus used by the Honor Guard as a thank you for the recent salute at Ganges Cemetery for Don Karrus Sr.

Next meetings

-Membership Mtg 1900 1 August, July 4 canceled.

-Club Operations Com.1530, Exec Com. Mtg 1600 27 June.

Memorial to a departed post member

Charter draping ceremony in commemoration of AL Post 49 member Arthur (Art) James Roderick was conducted by Sgt at Arms Sieg Freitag.

For The Good of The American Legion.

- Jun:** Thursday Jun 6 D-Day, Friday Jun 14 Army Birthday, Flag Day, Sunday Jun 16 Father's Day, Wednesday Jun 19 Juneteenth.
- Jul:** Thursday Jul 4 Independence Day, Saturday Jul 27 National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day,
- 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, Wednesday Sep 11 Patriot Day, 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 Dec 21 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 2040 hours.

Respectfully Submitted by
Adjutant Bob Dargis, American Legion Post 49