

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of  
Berryhill Post #165, The American Legion, Department of Michigan

12/16/2008

An Executive Committee Meeting called by Commander Chuck Kaminski was opened at 1900 hours on 12/16/2008 by Commander Kaminski.

Attending: Willie Coomer, Jerry Adams, Steve Tracy, Bob Walker, Tina McIntosh, Marge Kelly, Chuck Kaminski, Oren Mieske, Steve Hammond, Tom Nemeth, Pat Hanley, Brian Cashin, Dave Canary and Nels Cronkright.

1. Meeting was called to address bingo attendance drop and articles of incorporation.
2. Steve Tracy presented data concerning drop in player attendance per month, as well as dollars gained, per month between 2007 & 2008. Given the economy there was much discussion as to the cost effectiveness of continuing bingo as currently run. It seems that there have been less people buying less cards, early birds & speedballs being off. This problem seems to be existing elsewhere, Sanford Legion, the VFW, 40 & 8 among others. The whole concept of doing bingo is highly volunteer intensive. Even advertising in the paper seemed to correspond with a drop in attendance. Some discussion about bad and broken equipment took place (microphone/speaker system, smoke eaters, bingo board & machine). It was stated that Larry Moody and Brian Cashin (SAL) would look at repairing the microphone/speaker system. After much discussion, Nels Cronkright moved that bingo be given three more months to see if things pick up. Second Willie Coomer. Passed unanimous. This topic will be revisited in a March Executive Committee meeting. A motion to purchase four smoke eaters be purchased (with maintenance agreements) by a shared group of members was tabled to see any decision to be made in March. On a related note, one of the bingo work teams having just completed the year long commitment made by a total of four teams has stated it will not continue into 2009. Thanks to all the teams volunteering in 2008. We are looking for new workers. Also, last but not least, Steve Tracy has again requested someone to share his weekly handling of the bingo paperwork & funds.
3. Pat Hanley presented paperwork on our articles of incorporation. Discussion about this paperwork being the most current copy was discussed. Membership input, (what do you remember about changes or updates of our articles of incorporation) would be appreciated. Call Chuck Kaminski (989)615-3643 or Pat Hanley (989)488-2025 if you have any comments.
4. Brian Cashin raised question of VFW & American Legion Color Guard members receiving drink chits after funeral services not having been formally approved. It was moved and seconded to honor the chits. Passed unanimous.
5. Tom Nemeth presented a spreadsheet showing Post 165 income & expenses from July 2007 to November 2008. Expenses keep going up while income has been steady to down. Bingo has recently been a problem. Kitchen has been down. Legion dues, Baseball, Auxiliary contribution, SAL & Charity games have been steady. No record of any bar contribution. Much discussion surrounded what future may bring for how we operate the bar. No motions or decisions at this time.

Meeting was adjourned at 2100 hours by Commander Kaminski.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick M. Hanley, Post Adjutant