

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of

Berryhill Post #165, The American Legion, Department of Michigan

11/5/2008

The regular meeting for the month of November was opened at 1930 hours on 11/5/2008 according to ritual by Commander Kaminski.

Normal procedures were set aside for the legion Post Everlasting Ceremony. Legionnaires inducted into the Post Everlasting included Daniel G. Atton Sr., Patrick D. Avery, Frank "Mike" A. Delaney, Stanley "Fred" Dombrowski, James D. Rebant, Alfred R. Taylor and Raleigh L. Wert.

Guests present: None.

Minutes of the previous meeting held 10/0/02008 and the minutes of the Joint Executive Committee meeting held 10/21/2008 were read, moved to accept by Steve Hammond. Second Dave Canary and approved unanimous.

New or prospective members present: None.

Committee Reports:

1. Bar Report: No report as Club Operating Committee chairman Brian Cashin could not get away from work.
2. Baseball Report: Nels Cronkright reports no games but presented a check for \$100 to the general fund.
3. Bingo Report: Steve Tracy reports bingo player numbers are down. Nothing to general fund. Some Blue Bay costs but just normal.
4. Building Corporation Report: Chuck Kaminski reports bills paid. Received check from the Past Commanders.
5. Charity Games Report: Ed Holder reports \$1000 to the general fund, \$250 to the Building Corporation.
6. Finance Committee Report: None.
7. Membership Report: Pat Hanley reports that current membership is at 532 paid 2009 members which equates to 74% of the 718 member goal established by Legion Department of Michigan. Goal for Department of Michigan is 65% by November 12, 2008. Checks & cash to Finance Officer Tom Nemeth.
8. General Fund Report: Finance Officer Tom Nemeth reports that the bingo situation will definitely hurt. While general fund is still positive, this loss should not be taken lightly. Full report available at the post & will be attached to hard copy of these minutes.
9. Kitchen Report: Nels Cronkright reports that there is a Youth Leadership dinner this Friday, November 7. \$500 to general fund, \$250 to Building Corporation.

Sick Call, Relief and Employment: None.

Post Service Officer Report: Ross Ahlich reports Veterans Day wreaths ordered. Also Christmas baskets will be being prepared in December. Contact Ross if you can help.

Unfinished Business:

1. Pat Hanley reported that using guidelines set forth in Article 17 – Amendments on page 16 (the last page) of the "Constitution & By-Laws" Revised As Of October 19, 1977 the Constitution & By-Laws update committee is writing an update to Berryhill Post 165's Constitution & By-Laws. This committee has met twice & has two more meetings scheduled. The committee has modified its expectations for first submission of proposed amendment(s) in writing and are now to be read at the December 3, 2008 & January 7, 2009 Regular meetings, as well as providing written notice to all members by January 21, 2009 (14 days prior to the February 4, 2009 Regular meeting). This would mean at the February 4, 2009 Regular post meeting the amendment(s) will be voted upon by the present membership.
2. Steve Tracy reports that the Long Range Planning Committee in September/October compiled a list items warranting attention by Post 165 membership. The LRPC recommended first to prepare an update of the Constitution & By-Laws prior to presenting other recommendations of warranting attention by the Post.

3. Comments from the floor ranged from our "By-Laws are good, but an update is way overdue" , to "they need to be simplified" and "an update would be good".
4. Ross Ahlich reports that the ad hoc committee working on newsletter format & possible acceptance of advertising is ongoing but will not report until after the New Year.
5. Nels Cronkright requested a report from the fundraiser for the 1460th last spring. Chuck Kaminski said he would have a report ready for the December meeting.
6. A discussion occurred concerning the involvement of the 2nd Vice Commander office in Kitchen as well as Post Entertainment committee decisions. Nothing was decided.
7. Ed Holder provided a kid's Halloween party report (attached). The Legion, SAL, Kitchen committee, Charity Games and a cash donation contributed to a successful party attended by 42 kids.

Applications for Membership: World War II Army Air Force veteran Victor C. Phillips of Midland is applying to transfer to Berryhill Post 165 from Post 225 in Lansing. Victor is a paid member in good standing. Active duty Army veterans Joseph A Crea and Joseph W Russell of Midland are applying for membership. Moved to accept by Steve Tracy & seconded by Steve Hammond and approved unanimous.

New Business (& Correspondence):

1. Pat Hanley read
 - a. A letter of possible assistance forwarded by Dean Titus (www.post16.com webmaster) concerning Sgt. Mom request for help from a mom, Navy veteran in need. Service officer Ross Ahlich took the letter to direct possible help from appropriate agency.
 - b. A note thanking honor guards at Fred Dombrowski's funeral – post to bulletin board.
 - c. A note thanking membership for funeral dinner after Ernie Roebucks passing – post to bulletin board.
 - d. A note thanking membership by the family of Raleigh L. Wert – post to bulletin board.
 - e. A letter from Willard G. Leenhouts post #6, Holland Michigan – 65th anniversary of D-Day June 6, 2009. Requesting each post in Michigan donate \$1000 to cut cost of \$4600 for each member of the Holland American Legion Band to attend in France. This post has 560 members. Posted to bulletin board with comment from floor that interested donors should follow up but general consensus that Post 165 is not in a position to assist.
2. Ross Ahlich requested members to go to Nottingham Place at 1:30 pm on Veterans Day as last year.

For the Good of the Legion:

1. Adjutant requested if there was any lack of clarity concerning the Post paying membership dues for members currently on active duty. There was no dissension.
2. Willie Coomer, speaking as Post representative to the 1460th Midland Support Group, reported that they have completed payment of their effort this past summer to set up a computer communication network between families & troops sent to Iraq.
3. Commander Chuck Kaminski presented Tommy Thompson with a new American Legion cover.
4. 50/50 raffle held - \$32.50 to Larry Badour & \$32.50 to Poppy fund. Then Badour donated his winning to Poppy fund.
5. Dick Blasy reported wonderful efforts by a group of Northwood Hockey Team members and members of the Delta Zeta Sorority donating over 200 man hours raking leaves & picking up outside around the post this fall. Blasy asked that a \$75 bar bill (hot dogs, chips & beverages) incurred after the cleanup be paid. Steve Tracy moved same and Dave Canary seconded. Passed unanimous. Many thanks go to Blasy for his dedicated efforts over the years in keeping the outside of Berryhill attractive.

Meeting was adjourned at 2045 hours according to ritual by Commander Kaminski.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick M. Hanley, Post Adjutant