

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of

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

3/4/2009

The regular meeting for the month of June was opened at 1930 hours on 3/4/2009 according to ritual by Commander Chuck Kaminski.

Post Everlasting Ceremony: None

Guests present: None

Minutes of the previous meeting held 2/4/2009 were read and moved to accept as amended by Oren Mieske. Second Willie Coomer. Passed unanimous.

New or prospective members present: None:

Committee Reports:

1. Bar Report: Brian Cashin was unable to attend. No report.
2. Baseball Report: Nels Cronkright unable to attend, \$100 to the general fund via the Finance Officer. Ed Holder reported that Max Yatch, a Berryhill ball player had been recently in a bad accident, was progressing well but trauma had been multiple. A jar has been placed in the bar to help the Yatch family with their out of pocket expenses during this time.
3. Bingo Report: Steve Tracy reports \$1000 to general fund. Bingo player numbers are up slightly. Need more volunteers to step up and help. Still having problems with video monitors failing. Faulty lights on display board.
4. Building Corporation Report: Paid for light repair out front of post.
5. Charity Games Report: Ed Holder reports games going well. \$1000 to general fund & \$250 to Building Corporation.
6. Finance Committee Report: No report.
7. Membership Report: Pat Hanley reports that current membership is at 644 paid 2009 members which equates to 90% of the 718 member goal established by Legion Department of Michigan. Checks & cash to SAL Ed Holder for Finance Officer Tom Nemeth (on vacation). Goal for Department of Michigan is 90% by March 9, 2009.
8. General Fund Report: Ed Holder reported for Tom Nemeth (vacation). MCTV bill to be paid (\$25 per year). Bible bill of \$993.50 to be paid. Poppy purchases to be made in conjunction with the Auxiliary.
9. Kitchen Report: Brian Cashin was unable to attend. No report.

Sick Call, Relief and Employment: Junior Hayes released Tuesday recuperating from stroke but back in Tendercare for additional therapy. Bob Cornell's wife is in rehab at Tendercare. Chuck Kaminski had a heart/artery scare but current problems not hospitalizing him are related to acid reflux.

Post Service Officer Report: None.

Unfinished Business:

1. Pat Hanley asked again about the status of the Berryhill SAL holding monthly meetings as had been directed by Roger Rockhold, Zone 4 District SAL Commander at our October 1, 2008 Legion meeting. Ed Holder answered that there has been no meeting to date, yet they are aware of the need to get the meetings going.

Applications for Membership: None new this month

New Business (& Correspondence):

1. Received letter from Michigan Department of The American Legion Judge Advocate, on February 19, 2009 as follows: The Constitution and By-Laws of Berryhill Post No. 165, as submitted, have been reviewed by Assistant Judge Advocate F. Gerrit Veldman and myself and are found to be in order and are, therefore, approved. Signed THIRD CIRCUIT COURT Honorable James A. Callahan, copy to Mr. Patrick Lafferty. Letter to the bulletin board.
2. American Legion Johnson-Day Post 104 mailed its monthly newsletter to Berryhill to the bulletin board.
3. American Legion Thomas-Daniels-Hand Post 443 mailed its monthly March newsletter to Berryhill to the bulletin board.
4. Note of interest – Berryhill (718 members) is lagging behind both Post 104 (313 members) & 443 (429 members) in communication to members via monthly newsletter. We even lag behind our own Auxiliary.
5. Question of type of lighting to use in the post. Flood type vs. high efficiency light bulbs. Question also about changing fixture types? Tabled to be discussed by Building Corporation.
6. Discussion surrounded use of communication via the Midland Daily News. Why don't we advertise more? Bingo could be advertised. Our history as an American Legion Post could be advertised. Invitations could be made to the general veteran population to join.
7. Bill Sofoulis has been in contact with the Post Office to obtain an old mail box that could be decorated/painted in patriotic manner to accept damaged flags throughout the year. Post contest could be held to decide on decorating mode for "flag" box. It could be opened to the public, maybe to local schools to enter designs for the box; we could publicize the effort through the Daily News. Great thinking "outside of the box" Bill, we need more of that type of thinking if we are to survive.

For the Good of the Legion:

1. Steve Tracy addressed the cost of bibles to the Post. He recommends that we take assurance that only Legion member veterans receive bibles. Chaplain Lee Mapes agrees that that is what is and should be happening.
 2. Willie Coomer reminded us that District 10 meeting will be March 7 at Berryhill. Lunch at 12, meeting at 1. American Legion birthday is March 15.
 3. Received continuous member awards from national for Cecil Sheets, Joe Simek, Kenneth Smith, Cecil Thompson and Donald West. Commander requested Adjutant to set up for recognition at May meeting for these members as well as for new members who have joined in this past year.
 4. 50/50 raffle held - \$21 to Marv Stein & \$21 to Poppy fund. Stein donated his \$21 to the Poppy fund.
 5. The next executive committee meeting will be March 29 at 7 pm.
- Meeting was adjourned at 2100 hours according to ritual by Commander Kaminski

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick M. Hanley - Post Adjutant