

Minutes Regular Meeting Ottawa American Legion Post 33 Monday, March 4, 2019

- I. Call to Order by JrVice Bob Cupples at 1909 hours. Standard Opening Procedures. Recorded.
- II. Roll Call: all present except: Commander Ray Gerkitz, excused, sick; SrVice Roger Schueler, excused, vacation; Finance Officer Ron Slafer, excused, sick; Judge Advocate Joe Navarro; Service Officer Dave Kennedy, excused, family needs; Trustee Jeff DeLagarza, excused, work; Bar Manager Jeff Roche. Attendance = 19 = Quorum achieved.
- III. Hardcopies of February and March minutes presented for review. No additions/corrections. Motion to waive reading by Terry Willet; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jerry Sexton. Passed (P) Unanimously (U)
- IV. Committee Reports/business/Communications
  - A. John Taylor: Gaming: Pull Tabs, Bingo, Building Account , Bar Report: Motion/accept, Nanouski; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Willet. (P)(U)
  - B. Thank you card from member Brenda Roudebush, for our Get Well card from Post 33.
  - C. 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plans approved by E-Bd. Vendor/benefactor Ribbon Cutting on Friday, March 15, between 3 and 5 PM. Open House for the public on Saturday, March 16, from 11 AM to 4 PM. Advertising in The Times and on WCMY Radio approved. Courtesy snacks approved for the events. Greeters needed to guide guests on event days.
  - D. Hines VA is placing two new TeleHealth computer units in northern Illinois and they have picked Post 33 to be one of the locations. E-Bd approved the opportunity at a Special Meeting on Feb. 27, 2019. We'll provide a room with privacy, with dedicated days and times of availability, and computer access. Hines provides the computer. This saves our members and area veterans a drive to LaSalle, Joliet, or Hines VA for certain appointments. Joe Tokarz volunteered to help with computer set-up needs.
  - E. Membership at 521/615 or 84.72%. No new members/no old renewals.
  - F. Veterans Assistance Commission Report highlights:
    1. Secretary Wilkie testifies that VA will accelerate disability claims processing for Purple Heart Medal recipients, for claims on or after April 1, 2019.
    2. VA's proposed rules for Veteran Community care now open for public comment.
    3. VA's "Appeals Modernization" Act took effect Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
    4. VA is seeking training providers to ready veterans for high-tech careers.
    5. IL House Bill HB0034 is moving forward. It will help with Property Tax relief of veterans with disabilities (70% +) to the surviving spouse, if the exemption was in process before the death.
  - G. Note of interest: Wendy's of Ottawa gives a 50% discount on orders to veterans. Mention it at time of ordering!
  - H. Joe Tokarz: Our Ham Radio Club will have an Open House this Saturday at Post 33. Meet Noon to 1 PM; event, 1 to 4 PM. We will try to connect with National.

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- I. Member Benny Schomas has moved to the LaSalle Veterans Home at 1015 O'Conor. He is in the West Wing, first hallway to your left, Room 32.
- J. Willet: Compliments to our Trustees for their teamwork in helping our post!

- V. SGT/Arms Cupples: Departed members or veterans: 1. Dr. Ed Condron; 2. Bert O. Leach.  
With prayers by Chaplain Cupples.
- VI. Standard Closing Procedures.
- VII. Adjournment at 1945 Hours.

Drawings: #351 John Taylor  
#236 Raymond Hughes, absent