

Minutes Regular Meeting Ottawa American Legion Monday, February 06, 2023

- I. Called to order by SrVice Matt Weaver at 1900 Hours. Standard Opening Procedures (Salute to Colors; Chaplain's Prayer; POW/MIA Remembrance; Preamble.) Added: Chaplain Mike Harden lead the salute for the annual remembrance of the Four Chaplain's who perished when their WW II ship "The Dorchester" was torpedoed. They surrendered their life jackets to crew members, when it was discovered there were not enough to go around; w/prayers.
- II. Roll Call: All present except: Excused: Commander Tom Przybyla, Trustee Tom Shea (V), and Service Officer Dave Kennedy (V), and PC Ray Gerkitz. 17 present = Quorum.
- III. Prepared January Minutes presented. Motion/Waive Reading by Ed Stash; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bob Cupples. Passed (P) Unanimously (U)
- IV. Duback: Membership Report: Three new: 1. Lewis Baird, Army, Vietnam. Recruiter: Duback. 2. David Shulda, Army, Global War on Terrorism; Recruiter: Brenda Grammer. 3. Gerald Battles, Army, Vietnam; Recruiter: Weaver. Four deceased members. Belated Motion to accept by Jerry Sexton; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ron Slafer. Passed (U)
- V. Committee Reports
  - A. Finance Officer Ron Slafer: Bingo: Adjusted for income; outflow (taxes, donations), with balance. Building Fund: no income; bill paid to John's Sales and Service; balance. Honor Guard: small net income this time, with balance. Motion/Accept by Bob Cokley; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jerry Sexton. Passed Unanimously.
  - B. F.O. Slafer: Gaming report: Pull Tabs: Quarterly taxes paid, license fees also; w/balance. Video: \$2k out for utilities, w/balance. Motion/accept Cupples; 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Olson. (P) (U)
  - C. Bar: Jay Hamalle: Profit for month, w/balance. Motion/accept Olson; 2<sup>nd</sup> Cokley. (P)(U)
  - D. Joe Tokarz, TALARC (Ham Radio): Donation, \$15 to post, for facility use for their exams.
- VI. New Business
  - A. Dr. Mark Fernandez excused from tonight's Guest Speaker (family business.) Rescheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - B. Letter of praise from Jim Brooke/Oakwood Cemetery family, to the Honor Guard Flag Folding Team for Don Gillette's recent ceremony. Best precision he has ever seen!
  - C. Thank You (T.Y.) received from Ottawa High School "Volley for Vets" successful fundraiser supporting "Operation Wild Horse." Cheyenne Joachim/for the team.
  - D. T.Y. from Betty Gillette and family for Honor Guard services for Don Gillette.
  - E. T.Y. from the Voluntary Action Center for our recent donation.
  - F. T.Y. Certificate received for our participation in the Membership Caravan in January.
  - G. T.Y. Certificate received from the McHenry County Marine Corps League for their Ball.
  - H. T.Y. received, Community Food Basket, for our donation to "Freezin' for a Reezin'."
  - I. Mobile Food Pantry: distribute food on Sat. Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> 10am, at the 1050 Bldg @ hospital.
  - J. Donation Request (D.R.): Grand Ridge Grade School PTO Trivia Night fundraiser. Motion of \$100 Bob Olson; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jerry Sexton. Passed (P) Unanimously (U)
  - K. T.Y. received from Department of Illinois Commander Lomac Payton for our generous donation to the US Disaster Relief Fund for the state of Florida.
  - L. D.R. for the "Ottawa Outlaws" youth baseball travel team solicited via Ron Leiteritz. Motion of \$100 by Mike Harden; 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bob Cupples D.R. for "Wolfpack Baseball" travel team. Discussion: New; need more info: tabled. Passed (U)
  - M. D.R. for "Wolfpack Baseball" travel team. Discussion: New; need more info: tabled.

- N. Ottawa Memorial Association: First meeting for Memorial Day Ceremony committee will be at Post 33 on Tuesday, March 07, 2023 at 7:00pm. All welcome!
- O. Call Letter announced for the 12<sup>th</sup> District meeting in Oswego on Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>. Collecting items for needs of the LaSalle Veterans Home.
- P. Trustee bid received from Halm Electric. They toured the building and gave us a list of needed repairs. Additional bids needed. Add: removal of old wires!
- Q. Executive Board/Trustees had a recent meeting in which they ranked repair projects for costs vs. benefits, in order to fulfill the needed repairs.
- R. Membership report: 83.55%. Three new tonight; four deceased to report (43 last year).
- S. Duback: Delegate/Alternate form for Post 33 to the Veterans Assistance Commission in Peru has been completed. Mike Harden and Tom Shea will represent us. Also, they must pass a test for the Illinois Open Meetings Act in order to be accepted.
- T. Ed Stash: He and his wife Debbie participated in the Special Needs Winter Olympics held in Galena. Many miles, but very worthwhile! The Summer Olympics will have 15,000 kids! Much help needed June 09, 2023 in Bloomington! Please support them and the Department. Programs for tennis and basketball are expanding, as well.
- VII. Departed members and veterans: Chaplain Mike Harden: 1. John "Jack" Corrigan 2. Donald Lovelace 3. Gary Halm 4. Thomas Anderson 5. Michael Sutfin 6. James "Jim" Reynolds. (Also, SAL member Larry Barra.) With Prayers.
- VIII. Standard Closing Procedures (Salute to Colors; Prayers, Chaplain Harden.)
- IX. Adjournment at 1940 Hours.

Drawings: #673 Joe Tokarz  
#142 Scott Gerkitz, absent