

Veterans of Foreign Wars FW Post 8545
Meeting Minutes
14 July 2021

Commander called the meeting to order at 1930hrs.
Chaplain conducted opening prayer.
Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.
Dues cards checked and verified; all present allowed to remain.

Adjutant – Roll Call:

- Officers Present: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain, 3rd Year Trustee, 2nd Year Trustee, 1st Year Trustee, Service Officer.
- Officers Excused: Adjutant, Judge Advocate, Surgeon
- Positions Vacant: Building Manager.

Quartermaster Report:

- Financial Report:
 - National/Department Dues: \$350.00
 - Post general fund: \$4,431.50
 - Post Relief Fund: \$5,492.61
 - Post Dues Reserve Fund: \$78.83
 - Post Canteen / Club Fund: 4,572.68
 - Post Home/Building Fund: \$90.05
 - Savings: \$15,745,40Grand Total: \$30,760.97
- New member applications presented: Bill Constant is a Desert Storm Navy Veteran and Dennis Johnson is a Vietnam Veteran. Motion made and seconded for membership, approved unanimously. Additional two members approved during June 2021 meeting were present and all four were sworn in as members of VFW Post 8545.

Adjutant Report:

- Previous meeting minutes on Post website and emailed to the membership for review. Motion made and seconded to accept as posted, approved unanimously.

Service Officer:

- No report

Chaplain Report:

- Chaplain reported a Member had back surgery and that he called and left message to call if in need of anything.

Judge Advocate:

- No Report

Surgeon Report:

- No Report

Building Report:

- Commander reported that the building lost power 09 July 2021 and electricity was restored to the building except for the standing freezer. As a result, most items in the freezer were lost and salvageable items were placed in the kitchen refrigerator. However, the entire neighborhood lost power on 10 July 2021. Therefore, most items in the refrigerator were lost. Power was out due to a tree falling on a power line.

Unfinished Business:

- Commander discussed the flag room build out, noting several individuals had provided 2x4s for the project. Commander will discuss with Flag Team to determine how to properly build out flag storage.
- Shed completion: Caulking of the shed had begun with the bottom of all sides caulked. Upon completion, Laurie will contact membership for assistance with painting.

- Officer meeting with Shadow's program manager: Shadow is in training. Shadow and the program manager were to present the program at the recent Officer's meeting. However, they did not attend the meeting.
- Member proposed to reduce support from 80.00 to 40.00.
- Motion was seconded.

Questions:

- Is the statement that we are reducing to 40.00 due to pandemic? Commander stated it is reduced due to funding.
 - Member noted program manager was invited to discuss Shadow, and that we shouldn't pay as she didn't report.
 - Member asked if we could vote again if program manager does report?
 - Commander stated that could be brought to the executive meeting to discuss.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- Challenge Coins: Commander reported we are still looking at the process and identify good prices. Commander asked for membership to provide design for one side of the challenge coin.
- Member asked if the auxiliary doesn't meet the same time and date as Post meeting. Commander reported Auxiliary meets same date at 1100 hrs.
- Kitchen fire suppression system requires recertification, and that the company has failed to communicate with the Post. Laurie has identified a fire suppression contact for possible donation of time and services.

New Business:

- Auxiliary Boutique Popup will be held in the Napa parking lot. Post is looking for volunteers to man a membership booth. Both Sue and Laurie volunteered to set up and man booth. Additional volunteers should contact Senior Vice Commander.

- District Meeting: VFW Post 8545 will hold a future District Meeting. Meetings, service officer and recruiting training will be provided. Meeting is anticipated for November 2021. Final date will be provided to membership.
- Member Comment: The second Saturday of November is normally Poppy Drive.
- Breakfast will be held on 24 July 2021. Tony Perez is kitchen chief and needs assistance.
- Flag Team needs volunteers to assist with putting out and removing flags within the town. Flag Manager would like to have two separate teams for Church Street. If interested, please talk with Mike Kruely.

Good of the Order:

- Chaplain noted our Quartermaster's mother was just diagnosed with cancer.
- Pork Butt 31 July 2021 – Volunteers are needed. The location is True Value and set up will begin at 0230hrs 30 July 2021. If interested, call Carter Williams and / or email the Post website.
- Potato Sale: If anyone is interested, let Post know tonight.
- Brat Sale: If anyone is interested, let Post know tonight.
- Community flag program: Commander discussed members having flags in yards. We currently have 106 paying customers. The cost for a year is 40.00 for flag in personal yard. If interested, please contact Mike Kruely.
- Community breakfast – 24 July: Kitchen manager arrives at 0400 hrs and asked for additional volunteers.
- Next Executive Meeting will be held 02 Aug 2021. Requested agenda ideas from members to present to the Board. Email will be forwarded with date, time and request for input.
- Next Post meeting will be held 11 Aug 2021.
- Herb DeGrof stated for Veterans Day, 1100hrs, 11 November 2021, a speaker may be lined up but will confirm in writing. Additionally, the Smithfield High School band and chorus are committed. Park and Rec will assist in set up.

- Herb DeGrof reported Smithfield Middle School principal has requested assistance with Service Flags. Cost would be \$180.00. Suggested Post relief fund to pay for the flags. Our Commander reported he will discuss with State and National if Post Relief Fund can be utilized to cover the cost. It was noted the Marine Corps flag will be donated by member.
- Christmas parade is scheduled for the second Saturday in December. Post needs 5 individuals in uniform to carry service flags.
- Member asked about status of Post ABC license. The last officer submitted required paperwork on 14 July 2021 and the application will be submitted this week.
- Commander asked for donation of additional 2x4s for flag storage.
- National Home and closing prayer: Completed by Chaplain

Meeting closed at 2023hrs.

Official:

/Signed by Laurie K. Clay
Post Adjutant

By Order of:

/Signed by Bruce Fischer
Post Commander