

The American Legion Minutes

Compiled by: Larry Thronson Date: July 13, 2021

Time Convened: 7:08 PM

Approved by: _____ Post No: 735

Department of Iowa

Attendance: _10_ Officers: 3 Members: 7

Adjourning: 8:03 PM

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Meeting was called to order by Commander Joe Helle. Chaplain Joel Kessler led the post in opening prayer. Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble to the Constitution was said by all.

GUESTS: Dick Hogan

Dick Hogan gave an update on what happened in Des Moines last weekend. Dick Hogan stated that the constitution was approved but there could be some language changes to it. Each post can decide when the new officers should be installed. Convention for next year (2022) will also be in Des Moines at the Airport Holiday Inn and again in 2023. The rooms will be the same price as the last 5 or 6 years at \$99.00. No parking fees. Dick Hogan wants more people involved with the County and the District conventions. Especially the County conventions.

Membership needs to have more young people. Good reason for veterans to join is that the American Legion has a lot of benefits that can help them.

The new second District commander is Bob Waugh. He is a nice guy and he will do a great job.

The new officers were installed by Dick Hogan. The officers are: Commander: Joe Helle, Vice Commander: Troy Andersen (Absent), Adjutant: Larry Thronson, Finance Officer: Tim Cunningham. Appointed by Commander for Chaplain is Joel Kessler.

Minutes of the meeting dated June 8, 2021 was distributed to the members. Motion by Rick Pierce to accept the minutes, 2nd by George Letson and it was subsequently approved by a unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Report: Tim Cunningham read and explained the financial report. Not much changes from last month. Motion by Mike Coleman to accept the financial report as read, 2nd by Kenny Jones, and it was subsequently approved by a unanimous vote.

Flag Essay: Joe Helle stated that we are just waiting for the schools to start up again. Hopefully we can get back in the schools this year.

Avenue of Flags: Larry Thronson stated the total is 708 subscriptions, and 755 flags. The total amount is \$30,009.00. The post also provided soft serve ice cream cones for the volunteers. Thanks to Troy Andersen.

Building: Rick Pierce stated that the rough draft is done and he needs to deliver it to the city for approval. Joe Helle stated that maybe the scout could help to get the number of hours he needs. Contact the scouts to replace the ropes on flag poles at the Shiloh Commentary and the American Legion Post.

Weapons: No Report

Website: Mike Coleman stated that the site is up-to-date. Mike Coleman stated that the rolling 3-month comparison - Users have increased 45%.

Most popular pages over last 3 months:

#1 Main page

#2 Avenue of Flags

#3 Bingo

#4 Flag Disposal

#5 Contact us

The minutes are up to date.

Membership: Gerry Kaiser stated that he cannot get online for the membership report. Commander or Adjutant can set up anybody for the membership.

Scholarship Program: No Report

OFFICER REPORTS:

Post Service Officer: Joe Helle stated that we need to get a post service officer

Sick Call: Joe Helle stated that Richard Olmstead passed away on July 3, 2021. There will be a get together on July 25, 2021 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Gerry Kaiser stated that Dick Ekstrand is a World War II vet and he is in bad shape. He won't be around much longer. Joe Helle stated that Bob Jones was in the hospital for about 2 weeks.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Kenny Jones said that the Christmas party is scheduled for September 25, 2021. We will have prime rib or chicken. The information on how many will be coming and what they want to eat (prime rib or chicken) must be in 2 weeks in advance. The time is 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM is the social hour and at 6:00 PM we will eat. Troy Andersen will bring his ice cream machine for dessert and maybe there will some other desserts brought? We would also be inviting our BINGO partners from the Shrine.

Mike Coleman thanked the Legion for sponsoring a team for the Shriners golf outing on July 10, 2021.

Joe Helle stated that the next outing will be the Hiawatha Police K9 Unit at Hunter's Ridge on August 1, 2021.

NEW BUSINESS:

Joel Kessler stated that the All Veterans meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. He suggested that we should have a representative at the meetings. It's for all veteran organizations. Joel Kessler also stated that the Iowa Veteran commentary in Adel, Iowa is open to all veterans and their spouses.

Joe Helle was wondering if we should reimburse Troy Andersen for his expenses for the ice cream machine. Joe Helle will ask Troy the next time he sees him.

Dick Hogan reminded that October 9, 2021 is the 2nd District Convention in Marion. They will send out some more information later.

CLOSING:

Motion by Rick Pierce to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Mike Coleman, and it was subsequently approved by a unanimous vote.

Chaplain Joel Kessler led the post in a closing prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM by Commander Joe Helle.