

# The American Legion Minutes

## Second District

Compiled by: Larry Thronson Date: July 09, 2024

Time Convened: 7:03 PM

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Post No: 735

Department of Iowa

Attendance: \_10\_ Officers: 4 Members: 6

Adjourning: 7:38 PM

## The American Legion

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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. Commander Joe Helle read a statement that we learned from the Linn County meeting: A POW and MIA empty chair is placed at all official meetings of The American Legion. As a physical symbol of the many American POW and MIA still on account from all wars and conflicts involving the United States of America. This is a reminder for all of us to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity and the repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defense of liberty and a full accounting of those missing. Let us rededicated ourselves to this vital endeavor.

### **GUESTS:**

Joe Helle called up Tori Paga who went to Girls State. She was sponsored by Palo Post 679. It's similar to Boys State. Tori Paga was elected as Attorney General. Girls State was held at Drake University. Tori Paga was one of the girls selected to go to Girls Nation in Washington D.C. from July 20, 2024 to July 29, 2024.

Minutes of the meeting dated June 11, 2024 was distributed to the members. One correction was made to the minutes. Motion by Tim Cunningham to accept the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Sprengeler and it was subsequently approved by a unanimous vote. .

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance Report:** Tim Cunningham read and explained the financial report. Motion by Troy Andersen to accept the financial report as read, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Sprengeler and it was subsequently approved by a unanimous vote.

**Flag Essay:** No Report

**Avenue of Flags:** Joe Helle stated we have 989 flags now. Larry Thronson stated that we had one flag stolen. Joe Helle stated that we have lost two flags this year. Tim Cunningham stated that he has one flag on his route that needs to be destroyed because it has too many holes in it. Larry Thronson stated that he made a new route.

Tim Cunningham had 93 flags on his route (New Route 17). Joe Helle stated that did some checking and Ely, Center Point, and Shellsburg all charge \$50.00.

**Building:** No Report

**Weapons:** No Report

**Website:** Mike Coleman stated that the renewal for the website is \$89.00 Mike Coleman stated that the website is up to date. Mike Coleman stated that the most popular pages are (1) Avenue of Flags (2) Flag Disposal (3) Bingo (4) Building Rental (5) Contact us.

**Membership:** Larry Thronson stated that Gerry Kaiser ask him to print off an online membership report and then I send it to him. Tim Cunningham stated that he got a note from state saying thank you for paying for his three year renewal the renewals on July 1<sup>st</sup> will go up to \$45.00. Joe Helle stated that our goal for 2024 was 87 and we got 84.

**Scholarship Program:** Joe Helle stated that the scholarship committee received a thank you note from one of the winners (Sean Steinbrech).

#### **OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Post Service Officer** (No Post Service Officer)

**Sick Call:** Rick Pierce has prostate cancer and will be going for radiation therapy. He is looking good.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Joe Helle stated to we need to vote on officers. Motion by Roger Frederick to accept Joe Helle for Commander, Mike Coleman for Vice Commander, Larry Thronson for Adjutant, Tim Cunningham for Finance Officer, Bill Schaffer for Sergeant of Arms, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joel Kessler and it was subsequently approved by a unanimous vote.

Joe Helle stated that he will have Dick Hogan come and install the officers on August 13, 2024 meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Joe Helle Stated that the Eagle Scout project has started. The landscaping has already started. Tim Cunningham stated that the parking lot will be started August 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>. Joe Helle stated thanks to Bill Schaffer and Rick Pierce for helping with the project.

Joe Helle thank Joel Kessler for getting all the flags out.

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Joe Helle stated that we have to get a new United States flag in the building we will order a new flag and new spreader.

Joe Helle stated that the Linn County meeting on July 23, 2024 at 6:30 PM in Center Point.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

## **CLOSING:**

**Drawing:** Gift Card from Scott's Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_  
Winner was: Bob Sprengeler

**Motion to adjourn:** Motion by Troy Andersen to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Coleman and it was subsequently approved by a unanimous vote.

Chaplain Joel Kessler led the post in a closing prayer.

Commander Joe Helle read the closing statement: Till we meet again lets us remember our obligation to our country can be fulfilled only by faithful performance of all duties of citizenship. Let serves the community, State and Nation be ever a main objective of the American Legion and its members. Let us be ever watchful of the honor of our country, our organization and ourselves that nothing small swerve us away from the path of Justice, Freedom and Democracy.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM by Commander Joe Helle.