

The American Legion Minutes

Second District

Compiled by: Larry Thronson Date: January 14, 2025 Time Convened: 7:02 PM
Approved by: _____ Post No: 735 Department of Iowa
Attendance: _11_ Officers: 4 Members: 7 Adjourning: 7:39 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. 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:

The guests is David Coleman who is a new member. Dave Coleman is in the boy scouts. David Coleman was in the Air Force.

Minutes of the meeting dated December 10, 2024 was distributed to the members. Motion by George Letson to accept the minutes, 2nd by Kenny Jones and it was subsequently approved by a unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Report: Tim Cunningham read and explained the financial report. Motion by amended Joel Kessler to accept the financial report as amended, 2nd by Bob Sprengeler and it was subsequently approved by a unanimous vote.

Flag Essay: Joe Helle stated that the essays are completed. The winners are Emma Brown at Hiawatha School, Lily Brain at Nixon School and Eleanor Spangler at Viola Gibson School. Joe Helle stated that Eleanor Spangler was the overall one that is forward onto District. There will be a check for each winner (\$25.00). Also the 111 participates will receive one dollar bills each. They will be present on February 17th on Presidents Day.

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Avenue of Flags: Larry Thronson stated that the forms need to be updated.

Building: Joe Helle stated that the new duck work on the building is completed.

Weapons: No Report

Website: Mike Coleman stated that the website is up to date. Mike Coleman stated that the most popular pages are: (1) Scholarship (2) Building Rental (3) Bingo (4) Contact Us (5) Photo Gallery.

Membership: No Report.

Scholarship Program: No Report

OFFICER REPORTS:

Post Service Officer: No Post Service Officer

Sick Call: Rick Pierce is doing ok. Bill Schaffer brother past away two weeks ago.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Kenny Jones and Mike Coleman was talking about getting the advertising out for the Christmas party. They suggested that we should do a mailing out to the members.

Joe Helle stated that the Oratorical contest that Toi Paga did not move on. The other girl from Marion moved on and won the District. She will be going to the Area on Sunday January 19, 2025.

New BUSINESS:

Joe Helle stated that we have to get the flag pole in the front redone.

Joe Helle stated that we will sponsor 2 Hiawatha kids league this year. The cost will be \$200.00 this year. Need to pay by February 1, 2025.

Joe Helle asked if ever received a statement saying that we owe dues of \$13.05? NO

Joe Helle stated that need to order a citizen award for Toi Paga.

Joe Helle stated that the Midwinter is coming up. Joe Helle will be going.

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Mike Coleman stated that he Washington High School coaches meet last night.

Kenny Jones stated that they need help at bingo on Thursday night.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Joe Helle received information from Mercy Medical Center Foundation for a donation. We decided no.

CLOSING:

Drawing: Gift Card from Scott's Restaurant
Winner was: Bill Schaffer

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Roger Frederick 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.

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 7:39 PM by Commander Joe Helle.