

Kells – Grennie American Legion  
Post No. 316

Minutes of Meeting  
September 21, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm, by Commander Joseph Occhipinti. Sgt-at-arms John Vivolo put the flags in place and the POW/MIIA chair back. Opening prayers were read by the Commander. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble were recited by the members.

The roll call of the officers were taken by the adjutant. VC Bill Baumwoll and Chaplain Dennis Rosenwald were absent.

Minutes from the July 20<sup>th</sup> were read and a motion was made by Leo Milham and seconded by Charlie Goffredo and was accepted by the membership.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership** Chairman said our current quota for this year is 177 which is up five more than last year. He said he received a check from Department to pay for PUFL's for \$90 and we have to give the 2<sup>nd</sup> District \$39 and he will write a check for that amount.

He said also said we have 92 members that are paid in so far.

Charlie thanked everyone for the cards and prayers while he was in the hospital after his stroke.

Leo said the Agent Orange

**Treasurers** report: Carmine read the opening balance for August. Carmine said we still are holding a raffle ticket from Gold Star Post that was supposed to be held on September 23th but was pushed up to December 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone that would like o know all the actual figures please contact Carmine. Carmine also said at the County meeting a decision was made by the Post Commander for any members that want to attend the County Installation that the Post would pay for half of the admission price. Joe said he did not know if that decision should been brought before the Board and Leo said it should have. Joe took full blame for the error. Members that had already paid for the dinner were given back \$32.50. A motion was made by

Leo Milham to accept the report and was seconded by John Vivolo and accepted for audit by the members.

**Health and Welfare:** Leo reported that the Agent Orange directory has just added 27 naval vessels that were in the immediate area of Vietnam and those that served on these vessels could be Agent Orange Victims. Leo said contact the VA about the 27 Blue Water vessels that were added.

Leo also mentioned that those veterans who receive 100% disability you are entitled to travel reimbursement but must file for it and it is sent only by direct deposit to your bank of choice. But it can take from up to 3- 6 months to go through.

**Corporation Report:** Leo gave a report on the Corporation funds Our monthly expenditures are anywhere from \$900 - \$1400 depending on the month. Which include the Lofton insurance company is \$340.00 , Home serve \$173 quarterly, Con Ed averages about \$238.00, National Grid \$148.00 , Verizon \$111.00 and the water bill which has risen.

We also have expenses for all the fire extinguishers that are bi-annually checked which run anywhere from \$100 – 200. Leo also said we have to inspections of the building by the city once a year that runs \$375.00 .

Leo said all the legal paperwork for the sale of the building is completed at it now goes to the attorney general. It had to be stated that we are not giving our charter we are just moving to a new location because of expenses. Leo said that we are lucky that the buyer of the property is not in a hurry. Leo had taken a portion of money from the CD account to put into a money market fund in case something came up and we needed extra funds it would be in a liquid account. He told the members about the money market account and how much funds we still have available He said if we are lucky we will not have to go into that account because that is the total of our funds. Anyone that would to know the actual funds available please contact him.

Leo added a little humor to the meeting, he said we received confirmation on the returned rifles. But still do not know what happened to the US Tank He received a toy tank from a few of the local post pranksters, named John and Charlie who claimed they did not do it. Leo then said a few days later he received another package that contained toy soldiers to guard the tank so it will never be lost again also saying this tank had fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Leo brought the 45 Cal Pistols to the present. The

Police told him the weapons no longer would be able to be fired because the barrels were sealed and are basically parade weapons. It was suggested that we give the weapons to another Post or to an ROTC group and have then sign off that they have taken possession of the pistols.

House Report David said since the last meeting the hall was used for two parties and the Farrell Home owners association used the hall for a meeting. The County had their last meeting here and New Dorp Civic Association will be here on Thursday. The County will be at our Post on October 16<sup>th</sup> for the Political Forum. Also Tupperware will use the hall for two nights.

Joe said the Memorial Mass will be held on November 29<sup>th</sup> at the Father Capodanno Chapel at Fort Wadsworth.

Joe also said Eileen Carucci is accepting donations to purchase gifts for veterans that are in various nursing homes. Ferdi Salvatore made a motion that the Post donate \$100 for the Christmas gifts. Lester said it was a great thought to donate money but also reminded what Leo had just said that are funds are very low. Another motion was made by Charlie Goffredo to donate what is collected from the 50/50 between now and Christmas. The motion was carried by the members.

Lester said that on October 16 the County Meeting / Political forum will be held. He said last year there were more candidates that legionaries present which was quite embarrassing. This year there are two candidates for the Office of DA, Michael McMahan and Joan Iluzzi and also the South Shores City Council position in which Joseph Borelli was running unopposed.

Joe suggested that the floor be opened to general questions but Lester said that runs into problems when too many questions are asked you never get a direct answer. The best is always as is just to make sure that the questions are known before the forum. Dennis McLoone said that having members from the floor suggest questions but would have to be submitted before the meeting otherwise there is too much confusion.

New business: John Vivolo suggested getting a calling list to notify members a week before each meeting. Joe said have an in-between meeting to try and put a calling list together. Lester said he would compile a list of names and phone numbers that are available on the My Legion Website.

Also Ferdi talked about veterans named Fred Campo who had recently passed away but it was unknown he was still a member. But Allen looked at the list and said he was a member for more than 70 years.

Carmine spoke about the County Installation that he spoke with the new Department Commander James V. Yermas and said he is really a well-spoken gentleman. Dennis McLoone said the same and also said he has some really good ideas on getting the membership up.

Dennis also said on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 11 am Larry Thompson park will be rededicated. Larry was a Vietnam Veteran who killed in action.

On the same evening is the Vietnam Veterans Dance at the Staaten.

On November 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day the Richmond County American Legion will hold their annual ceremony in the Staten Island Mall. Get there by 10:30 am it will begin at 11 am in center court.

The County Oratorical Contest will be held on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at Holy Rosary Church. December 7<sup>th</sup> Pearl Harbor day ceremony on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Staten Island Ferry. On October 16<sup>th</sup> the County Meeting/ Political Forum at Kells-Greenie Post at 7 pm.

#### Correspondence

Staten Island Fleet week spaghetti dinner on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

There was a letter from the US Army Depot saying they received all the rifles that were shipped back.

Good of the Legion, Lester said he is nearing completion of the History program and has added a lot of info to the website a partial video is in place.

50/50 Raffle \$75 was won by John V. he donated \$25 back to the post for the Christmas gifts to be purchased by ladies Aux.

With no further business to be discussed closing prayers were read by the Commander. Taps were played, the POW/MIA Chair back and the Flags were retired and the meeting ended at 9:15 pm

Respectfully

Lester Modelowitz