

Kells – Grennie American Legion Post 316  
Minutes for meeting held on February 19, 2018  
At New Dorp Moravian Church

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Commander Carmine Vacirca and customary American Legion Services were performed.

Roll Call of officers Absent: Lester Modelowitz, Joseph Occhipinti

There were no previous minutes read because the Adjutant was absent.

New Member Michael Henken – Naval Reserve 1965 – 1970, Active duty on ship ion Gulf of Tonkin and Mekong Delta.

## **REPORTS**

**Americanism** – Charles Goffredo - Progress

### **Boys State Girls State**

William Baumwoll – Girls State run by the Legion Auxiliary started their candidate process in November. Our liaison Diane Gerber will provide candidates in the next few months. At the County Executive Meeting Daniel Martin reported that the county committed to 21 Boys State candidates for 2018. He said he was having a hard time getting candidates and asked if anyone at the Posts knew of qualified interested students they should provide their name and school. The Post will be able to sponsor two candidates this year. Leo Milham indicated he was in contact with the Kiwanis which has a Key Club International is the oldest and largest student-led service program for high school students. Key Club promotes leadership through serving others. He feels they may be able to provide up to 20 qualified candidates. Leo requested a letter describing our Boys state program to research this matter.

Carey Spearman suggested that the candidates present their experiences to the students at their school through some kind of presentation. John Vivolo said past candidates should provide encouragement through a presentation at our Post. Post involvement in the process was suggested by William Baumwoll.

### **Corporate Finances**

Leo Milham reported on the assets as of 2/17/2018. If any member would like to know the exact figures, please contact Leo.

**Service and Welfare:** Joe Toronto reported on the VA's river fluke exposure pilot study. This involves military personnel that ate this fish in country. Unrelated the VA has located 140 toxic sites at military facilities.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Carmine Vacirca said Jim Yearling of the New Dorp High School ROTC has not responded to the posts request for them to get involved with our post. Carmine suggested Curtis High School ROTC could get involved instead.

Carmine clarified the Veteran's appreciation breakfast sponsored by Project. Hospitality and UCIVO at 9:30 at the Staaten Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> was only limited to a couple members (Carmine, Joe and Bill went and there were many empty tables)

National Commanders Dinner in Queens on Friday April 13 7PM \$65 per person the Post pays half plus \$34 for a ride the dinner from gold star Post (at 5PM)

Children and Youth Lunch at Staaten Sunday, April 15 11AM \$48 per person Post pays half Memorial Day flags at Moravian – the hall has been reserved Saturday, May 15 from 9AM to 2PM - Bagels and Lunch for volunteers. 5 boxes of flags were ordered, and additional flags will be purchased. Motion for Boy scouts (only) to do 5 monuments on same day - motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Carmine trip to Philadelphia to include 4 Chaplains either a day trip lunch or 2-day trip stay and tour Philly maybe in June.

Date for next County Meeting is March 16 at 12PM Merrill Post. It is the Legions Birthday Nominated West Point

Robert Mahoney - Midwinter Conference - Law and order sell badges to support police and Homeland Security. Also, Anthony Di Natale has a presentation for reaction to an active shooter - where to go etc. He will do demonstration for our Post. The result of the Hawaiian bomb scare 38 minutes did learn a lot as to what to do - will come to Post.

Allen Palazzo Fire Department has a presentation on home fire safety – to do at Post in March John Vivolo - Post to donate \$250 for our monthly (March) donation to the American Legion Charities 7 funds.

Leo Milham said nominations and elections will be held in May and June. We need help because the Commander is also functioning as the Post Treasurer. We will also have corporation elections and must get a Corporation President because current president Joe Occhipinti has not been active.

The Post received a thank you from the Reynolds family for flowers sent to the funeral to the passing of Howard Reynolds who purchased our Post building and was also a Veteran.

The Autistic Children's Prom given at the Staaten needs our support and we should consider this in the future.

Carey Spearman Give the VVA picture of monument plaque to Northfield Bank to display since they do so much for the Post.

Meeting ended at 9:30 pm

Minutes taken by VC William Baumwoll

Respectfully Submitted

Adjutant Lester Modelowitz