

Kells – Grennie Post 316
Minutes for meeting held
November 21, 2016
New Dorp Moravian Church

The meeting was called to order by Commander Joseph Occhipinti, the Flags and POW/ MIA Chairback were put in place by Sgt-at-Arms Gus Larosa Opening prayers were read by Joe Occhipinti. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble was recited by all members in attendance. Joe asked for the roll call of officers. VC Bill Baumwoll and Chaplain Dennis Rosenwald were absent.

Commander Occhipinti asked for the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting, Charlie Goffredo made the motion and was seconded by Dennis McLoone and carried by the membership.

Commander announced a new member of the Post, Frank Denatale who served in the US Army as was welcomed by the members.

Committee Reports

Membership: Allen reported that we have 108 members paid up as of tonight's meeting. He also said he was informed by the County Membership Chairman that our quota was changed from 162 to 165 members.

Allen also talked about a tax relief bill for Veterans that was passed in the State Senate and State Assembly and is now on the floor of the NY City Council. He has copies of a letter that is addressed to City Council Speaker Melissa Mark – Viverito. He said you email or use regular mail to send a copy to her and our local city council representatives.

Treasury:

Carmine read a complete treasury report for the Post Treasury and gave a brief report on Leo 's Corporation report in Leo's Absence. He said at the December meeting Leo will give us a more up to date report. A motion to accept the report was made by Charlie, seconded by John and carried. Any member that would like to know more about these reports please contact Carmine and Leo.

Service officer report: Joe Toronto said that hepatitis C screening is now covered under Medicare. Joe also said social security and the VA will be working together to speed up veteran's disability claims. Joe also mentioned a periodical flyer you can subscribe to called worst pills and gives you an update on all new medications that come out. The Commander asked Joe if he heard of a new disorder from agent orange that you can get from fish that in the waters in and around Vietnam. Said to look it up under the VA,

New Business: Bob Mahoney said the next County meeting is the Christmas Party on December 16th at the Merrell Post. The Legion Memorial Service is at the Father Capodannao

Chapel on December 4th at 8:30 am. December 7th is the Pearl Harbor Day ceremony on the SI Ferry, a bus will be leaving the Gold Star Post at 8:30 am. The members will be on the 10 am boat if you want to travel alone. December 11 is the County Oratorical Contest at Holy Rosary School at 10 am.

John V talked about the ads for Post membership that run in local church bulletins and will let us know at the next meeting which they will be featured in.

Dennis said there was a Town Hall meeting today at the VA and veteran were asked to give their opinion on what they believe should or should not be happening. Dennis said there was a homeless veteran that was at the meeting and said he has been getting a runaround from the VA with his claim.

Dennis also mentioned the art exhibit being held at Snug Harbor and all the art work was made by various veterans.

All veterans are invited and there will be food served. Charlie mentioned that he and a few other members went to the Brooklyn Museum and viewed some of the art that is going to be displayed at Snug harbor.

Bob Mahoney said he will be going to the mid-winter conference in January up in Albany and asked for authorization from the Post. Dennis said he will be going with Mary but will be paying on his own.

Lester made a motion that the Post pay for two baseball style SAL hat. Carmine seconded the motion and it was carried. Allen said he has Legion Hat that is too small for him. And wanted to know if anyone wanted it. He gave it to the new member Frank that joined tonight.

Charlie talked about the Christmas party. If we were to have a party at the church the only open Friday's were the 1st and 2nd, or possibly at a restaurant Carmine suggested Bela Vita or La Fontana. After a short conversation, it was deemed that we do not have enough time now, so it was decided that we will plan a holiday party for some time in January. Charlie said tomorrow he was going to Staaten and would enquire about a possible party there.

Lester talked about the great newsletter that Bill puts out every three months, but is only available on line. He said that not everyone use a computer. Those that do not never know what is happening, so maybe we should go back to a print and mail newsletter. Allen said even if we only do a mailing once or twice a year it might attract more members to attend meetings. John suggested sending out a letter or post card about a holiday party with an RSVP to members residing on the Island.

John V said we talked about making monthly donations to needy charities, he made a motion that we donate to the American Red Cross, or another needy organization. Lester suggested Meals on Wheels. John V made the motion to donate \$100 to Meal on Wheels and seconded By Allen Palazzo and was carried by the members.

Dennis reminded all that members from different Posts were bringing gifts for Veterans to the local nursing homes on December 14th and are meeting at the Gold Star Post at 9 am. Joe said

that Northfield Savings Banking was also donating \$150 toward the Gift Endeavor but Allen that was not finalized yet.

Old Business: Carmine said the members that went on the Bus trip to Atlantic City sponsored by the Yacht Club had a good time and there was another trip being planned for some time in Mach, and he will let all know more when he gets the correct date

Door Prize Drawing – had 2 winners.

With no further business to be discussed he Commander read the closing prayers and said to keep Post Member John Calabrese in our prayer. Taps were played and the Flags and the POW/MIA chairback was retired.

Respectfully Submitted
Adjutant Lester Modelowitz