

MINUTES OF THE AMVETS DEPT OF NEW YORK SEC

March 22-23, 2019

BINGHAMTON, NY

On Friday, March 22 Round Table meetings were held by the Finance Committee and the Service Foundation.

The Service Foundation voted on Grants and Scholarships

On Saturday, March 23 Commander George Stondell opened the meeting at 1000. Chaplain Chuck Harrison gave the Invocation and Provost Marshall Rick Williams led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Rich Lamoreau conducted the POW/MIA ceremony. Commander Stondell read the Preamble and Executive Director Rich Rossi called the Roll call of Posts and Officers. A motion was made by Marty Bugaj to accept the Minutes as printed.

THE OFFICERS GAVE THEIR REPORTS WHICH WILL BE REPRODUCED ON THE WEB.

Bill Siegel the Buffalo NSO was the guest speaker.

Commander Stondell: The Commander highlighted his report which was in the Red Book.

First Vice Les Baker: Les's report was in the book. He added that Post 87 owed him dues for five members and every time he called the Commander wouldn't answer the phone. He complimented the Zone Directors on the work they perform and requested that Posts answer the phone when the Zone Directors call so they don't have to make unnecessary trips to the Posts

Second Vice Hal Queyor: Hal's report was in the book. He stated that 35 Posts were present which is a good turnout compared to other SECs. He reported that the raffle just broke \$5000. He informed the Membership that over 80% of the

delegates preregistered last year and the cost will be \$35 this year if you preregister and \$40 if you pay at the Convention.

3rd Vice Emery Perry: Emery's report was in the book. He spoke about the importance of Reporting and that he sent Post Cards to every Post urging them to report online.

Provost Marshall Rick Williams: Ricks report was in the book He reported on the Oct SEC. He stated that the Department made \$265 on Friday. He could not report on Saturday because he forgot to write the amount down.

Finance Officer Jack Gray: Jacks report was in the Book. He spoke about his budget. He stated that the Federal re-imbusement figure is \$.58. He explained that the budget was over because motions for donations made and passed on the floor do not take into consideration the budget. In the future all requests for money must be submitted to the Finance Committee before they are voted on. Post 48 requested a donation for the Wounded Warrior Softball Team. The Finance Committee approved \$500. Jack requested that all checks be cashed before the 30th of the Month so he could properly do his books for the Convention.

Judge Advocate Marty Bugaj: Marty's report was in the book. Marty reported on an appeal of charges by Mike Dixon of Post 48 who was suspended based on charges made by Pete Polalkis. Mike was found not guilty and Pte was suspended for 90 days for filing frivolous charges.

NEC Jack Gray: Jacks report was in the book. Jack stated he did not attend the District meeting and that the Department was represented by Alt NEC Rich Dejesu. Jack announced that this was the 75th anniversary of AMVETS. He stated that he attended the NEC and stormed the Hill with the Sons. They visited 101 Congressman.

Executive Director Rich Rossi: Rich highlighted his report which was in the book.

Empire Amvet Editor Phil Levy: Phil highlighted his report which was in the book.

NSO Denise Bugaj gave a verbal report and stated that if anyone wants Alvin Cespedes to attend a downstate function to contact him at 212.807.3178. She also explained that the NSO budget was cut by \$500,000 and they lost 10 NSO Officers.

Women's Veterans Rep Pat Knecht: Pat was excused and her report was in the book.

Service Foundation: Marty Ashman read his report which was in the book and also announced the Scholarship winners. Jim Owens announced the Grants and Dave Feary gave the Finance Report. Harold Chapman made a motion to have the Executive Director made a member of the Service Foundation Staff without a vote.

Legislative Chairman Bob Becker: Bob highlighted his report and announced that AMVETS is going to Storm the Hill in Albany next year. Marty Bugaj made a motion to add \$5000. to the budget to support the storming of the hill.

The remaining Officers reports were highlighted and the reports will be reproduced on the Web.

Unfinished Business: Rich DeJesu complimented Al Merrill and Terry Forward for the work they did on the new License Plates. Al Merrill stated that so far 21 License Plates have been ordered. Bob Becker stated that Amvets programs have saved the State 55 million dollars and 747 years of incarceration.

Good and Welfare: Marty Ashman announced that he was running for District Commander and the Service Foundation. John Foster announced he was running for Provost Marshall. Jim Owens announced he was running for the Service Foundation. Jack Gray announced he was running for NEC.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED