

Kells – Grennie American Legion Post 316
Minutes for meeting held on January 15, 2018
At New Dorp Moravian Church

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Commander Carmine Vacirca. The Commander called on upon the Sgt-at-Arms Gus LaRosa for the presentation of the Flags and a hand salute was given by the members in attendance.

The POW/MIA Chair was also put in place. Opening prayers were read by VC William Baumwoll. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble to the Constitution was recited by the membership.

Regular Business: The Commander asked for the roll call of Officers and Committee Chairman's all were present except Chaplain Joe Occhipinti.

Commander asked for the reading of the minutes from the last meeting. They were read, and a motion was made by Richard Burdge and seconded by Charles Goffredo and carried.

Committee Reports

Membership

Allen said we 118 paid so far which is about 72% of our goal. Allen said that Carey Spearman's transfer to our post went through and is now a Post 316 member. Lester said he sent out about 20 emails to members of Post 1 in Albany about possibly transferring to our Post and did not get any responses.

Post Treasury: Carmine read the balances as of the beginning of January. Carmine told the members attending the meeting about our monthly expenditures. If any member would like to know the exact figures, please contact Carmine

Service Officer: Leo read a letter from the Kiwanis Club that was about a possible boat trip for veterans suffering form PTSD and other mental disorders. They have chartered the Brooklyn VI for a day of fishing for these veterans and are asking for a donation from the Post.

Leo also said that MSG will give seats to a veteran at any sports event for free where seats are available on the same day of the event, must show proof of Veterans ID.

Leo said if any member is trying to get a VA Home Loan be very careful there have been a lot of known scam attempts.

Corporation Treasurer: Leo gave his report on all the Post Corporation accounts. If any member would like to know the exact figures, please contact Leo.

New Business

Leo said he paid the Church for 6 months rent and reserved the Hall for May 19th 8am –.2pm we will put out the Flags. After the flags are distributed we have a collation in the hall.

Leo Made a motion to sponsor the challenger baseball team again this year for \$300 was seconded by Gus and carried.

Leo made a motion for the Post members to attend a wake for Veterans that are not members of the Post when contacted by the deceased family. Richie Burdge seconded the motion and it was carried.

John made a motion that we send a donation of \$200 to the Kiwanis Club towards the Veterans Fishing Trip.

John asked if we could possibly raise our monthly charity by \$50 and made a motion and seconded by Gus and carried and will begin at the April meeting.

Leo mention the gentleman who had purchased the Post Building Howard Reynolds had recently passed away and Carmine had flowers sent to the funeral, although he was not a member but was a veteran and without the help that he gave us we would have had many problems

Bill Baumwoll reported he received a letter from Diane Gerber of the Auxiliary regarding the Girls State season for 2018. And appreciated our support. The tuition is \$325 per nominee plus the cost of transportation which Bill said is unknown at this time. Carmine asked the membership if we are going to send two girls again

Leo asked about getting the mission statement for the Boys and Girls State and possibly put in a request for a grant from one of our politicians who have said that they are available towards educational programs. Lester said he will go up to Senator Lanza's and try to get some information.

Carmine said he spoke with Mrs. Lana Noon who with her husband were missionaries toward the end of the Vietnam War. They had no children but then became involved in the Operation Baby Lift and adopted to Vietnamese children and now she is involved with someone that wrote a book about the airlift and turned into a script for a play., which is called the Children of the April Rain. Carmine they do the play every year about the same time. They will come anywhere to perform their play. It would cost about \$1500 – 2000. Carmine said he will reach out to the county and to the VVA. Lester suggested to table this discussion until Carmine speaks to other groups about it.

Carey talked about a cable program they were on some years back and the subject was Veterans returning home from Vietnam and the disrespect that some received from strangers and even from their own family members.

Carey would possibly like to schedule another show with the Cable Company.

Allen said the Fire Department offers a Fire Safety for Seniors and they will come down to a meeting. Allen said he will call them and try to set it up for our March meeting.

Calendar: Leo said this Friday night is the Post Party and the Z2 Restaurant from 6 – 9pm all members cans bring one guest.

Bob Mahoney said the Four Chaplains Luncheon is on Saturday, February 3rd at the Staaten. Bob said to let Joe Occhipinti know how many are coming and pay for the total about at the event.

County Meeting at Gold Star Post at 10 am on January 26th.

Door Prize Drawing: Richie Burdge and Allen

With no further business at hand the Commander asked closing prayers. Taps were played and the flag was saluted.

Meeting closed at 8:50 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Post Adjutant

Lester Modelowitz

