

Kells Grennie Post 316
Minutes for Meeting Held on April 17, 2017
At New Dorp Moravian Church

Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm by VC William Baumwoll. The Flags were put in place by Sgt-at-Arms Gus Larosa and saluted by the members in attendance. Bill asked for the opening prayers and they were read by Lester Modelowitz. The POW/MIA Chairback was put in place. Pledge of allegiance and the Preamble were recited by the members.

Roll Call of Officers and Committee Chairman's: All were present except for Commander Joe Occhipinti and Chaplain Dennis Rosenwald.

Bill asked for the reading of the Minutes of meeting from March 20th, one correction was made of a possible other new transfer from Post 1.

Committees:

Membership: Allen reported that he added three more paid members which brings the total to 143 paid.

Americanism: Charlie said at the May meeting we will be discussing the day we will be placing flags at the cemetery. He said we had hoped to be able to use the church hall for a collation after we distribute the flags, but it is not available. Hopefully another place will be available.

Boys & Girls State: Bill said he received the names of the female candidates and will have the names of the boys on Friday. He said at the next meeting he will have all four names. Bill said we have separate funds in an account to give the candidates something special. John suggested giving each of the candidates a Barnes and Noble Gift card for \$50. A motion was made by John to give each of the candidates a gift card when they come to our meeting in the fall. Leo seconded the motion and it was carried.

Bill also said he is collecting information for the next newsletter installment.

Finance:

Post Treasury: Carmine read the Balance at the close of the March meeting. After expenditures For Girls State Candidates and the Bus fee, and the collation for the St Patrick's day meeting and for cleanup after the meeting told the members present the actual closing balance as of tonight. Any member that would like to know more on the figures please contact Leo or Carmine for that information.

Carmine also said that we still must pay for the Boys State candidates and the bus fee but he does not have enough funds in the account to cover that. Leo said when the time comes it will be brought under new business to make that adjustment, but we do not need approval for that.

Corporation Treasury: Leo read the balances from all the various accounts. Leo said that any funds that must be used that are above \$300 must be approved by the finance committee. Allen

made a motion for that and was seconded by Leo and carried. Bill asked for a motion to accept the finance report, Charlie made a motion and John seconded it and it was carried.

Service Officer: Joe Toronto talked about the Veteran Choice Program that it was due to expire this August. Joe said they are having some problems on individual State levels because some veterans that had qualified for the choice program at one time is no longer available to them. Joe said Veterans Crisis Hot line number is 1-800-273-8255 and it is available 24 7. Leo talked about a program for veterans or their spouse that can possibly get home care, He said it is not a scam but before anyone decides to fully apply make sure you read and listen to what they are telling you. They ask for a lot of personal information. This group are family care planners and only the first time you sit down with them to discuss various options is free after that they charge a fee. As veterans, you can go to any Veteran Service Organizations like the Legion, Dav, and apply for the same type of service which is free. Leo said they want to know how much money you and your spouse have in all your bank accounts and you must fill this out all online. Leo said if want to try it do your own research and be careful. Lester said he listed to a man from the Ci Chon Post talk about at the time it did seem enticing but the people that do this are a private company and not the VA.

Lester spoke about a program that the VA started about two years ago called tele mental health. An option for veteran that were not able to get to certain VA facilities they could talk and see a doctor while using a computer. He said he received an email and information from NYU Langone Medical Center and they were offering the safe type of care from the comforts of their home and said he would bring some material about it to the next meeting.

Nominations and Elections: Lester read off the members nominated for the officers for the 2017-2018 years. Commander Carmine Vacirca, Vice Commanders: Allen Palazzo, William Baumwoll, Gus Larosa, Leo Milham, Treasurer: Carmine Vacirca, Chaplain will be outgoing Commander Joseph Occhipinti. With no further nominations, he asked the members present to cast one for each nomination as was done and elections ended. Carmine asked Lester Modelowitz to remain as Post Adjutant.

Kells – Grennie Post 316 Memorial Corporation: Lester read off the names for nominations of members for the Corporation Board, President Joseph Occhipinti, Vice President Lester Modelowitz
Board Members: Carmine Vacirca, Leo Milham are automatic
William Baumwoll, Charles Goffredo, Joseph Toronto, Allen Palazzo, John Vivolo, Elias Arout. Nominations were closed and Elections for this committee will be held during the May Post Meeting.

Monthly Charity's: Lester brought up three local charities that might be nice to donate to. One was the Seaman's Society for Children, Community Health Action of Staten Island, and the Sandy Ground Historical Society. Leo made a motion to donate \$200 this month to the Sandy Ground Historical Society and was seconded by John and carried.

Old Business: John asked about the Day we place Flags at Moravian Cemetery, Leo said the day decided is May 20 at will all meet in Parking lot at 10 am. Leo said May 20th is a very busy day and other veterans groups have events also, Leo said the Church hall was not available for collation, but said he was looking around for another venue we could possibly use.

New Business: Bob Mahoney reported that Past Department and past National Commander Fang A. Wong is very ill and was diagnosed with a cancer caused by Agent Orange. Bob asked that everyone keep him in their prayers. Leo reported that George Athes

has Liver Cancer, and Post member Dennis Rosenwald has lung cancer. Bill said on June 11 there is 5K run for the Sgt Michael Ollis Foundation.

Clearing the Calendar: Bob Mahoney said the County is going back to meeting in the evening the next County Meeting is Friday April 21st at 7pm at Gold Star Post.

On May20th the Wounded Warrior Motor Cycle procession from Walter Reed will not procession. up Richmond Ave but instead travel from Route 440 to Travis Ave.

Door Prize Drawing Held

With no business to be conducted Bill asked for closing prayers, the flags were saluted and retired for the evening.

Respectfully Submitted
Post Adjutant
Lester Modelowitz