

Kells Grennie Post 316
Minutes for Meeting Held on January 16, 2017
At New Dorp Moravian Church

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Commander Joseph Occhipinti the Flags and POW/MIA Chairback were presented by Sgt-at-Arms Gus Larosa and saluted by the members in attendance, opening prayers were read by Leo Milham, the Pledge of Allegiance and the preamble were recited by the members. The Commander asked Gus to step forward and was presented with a Sgt-at-Arms Pin.

Regular Business: The Commander asked the Adjutant for the Roll call of officers all were present except for VC William Baumwoll and Chaplain Dennis Rosenwald. Commander asked for the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting, they were read and a motion was made by John V and seconded by Charlie and carried.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Allen reported that we have 129 paid and our goal is 165 so we are at about 78.2 %. He said Leo gave him another paid member tonight and he also has received a few transfers from Post 1 but they need to be signed by the member.

Consolidated Treasurer Report: Leo reported on all accounts, the money market, Operating Fund, membership fund, Post Fund, 18-month CD, and the 36-month Leo said that the amount that was suggested and voted on to donate funds to the Post Fund for operations was completed. This was discussed at the last meeting when the membership voted on the matter. For the Post to function in normal parameters it was decided for all Legion function a \$10,000 a year budget was decided on. Leo said again that we are paid up at Moravian Church thru June and for the February party and we do not meet in July and August because there is no air conditioning. There will be no regular meeting in July but a partial meeting will be held at Charlies house date and time to be announced later.

Leo talked about Eileen Carucci and the work she does collecting funds to purchase gifts for Veterans in Nursing Homes for Christmas. Leo said he went to Northfield bank and asked them he they would be interested in helping with the program. Northfield did donate after certain problems were corrected. Leo said that Northfield Bank will purchase additional flag and help prior to Memorial Day when we place flags at Moravian Cemetery. Leo said last year we placed 600 flags on grave sites and this year our goal is to do 1000 flags. Last year besides members we had grandchildren and members of a Girl Scout Troop. The exact date had not been decided yet but it will be on a Saturday. Motion was made by John to accept the report and seconded by Gus and carried.

Old Business: John suggested we give out certificates to those other than Post members come down and help distribute the flag, Leo said we did.

Leo said that we originally said when we make donations to various organizations we stated we would not give to Religious and Political Organizations. But it was said organizations like St. Jude's is a hospital and not a religious organization. The motion was made by John and

seconded by Bob and carried. The article in our Post procedures that restricted donating to religious organizations was changed.

John Said he had copies of the Valentine day Flyer and letter printed out at staples and the cost was \$128.25 John said maybe we can do two mailings a year of a newsletter and send it out with conventional mail at a cost of about \$400 plus the printing of the newsletter.

Post Treasurer: Carmine Reported that as of December our Post treasury is up to date and running smoothly. He reported all funds coming in and going out to the membership. Any member that would like the actual figures please contact him.

Service Officer – Joe Toronto said the VA has established a presumptive service connection for veterans, reservists, and National Guard Members exposed to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune from August 1, 1953 through December 31, 1987 who later developed one of the following eight diseases, Adult leukemia, Aplastic anemia, Bladder cancer, Kidney cancer, Liver cancer, Multiple myeloma, Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Parkinson's disease.

Unfinished Business- Carmine said he received a note from the County Auxiliary about the Girls State program, last year we sponsored one girl this year we will sponsor as it was voted on last year. The tuition for the girls was \$275 per applicant but went up and is now \$312. The tuition cost for two girls will be \$624. He said that is plus the bus transportation which is about \$50 each. He said we have received anything on the Boy's State, but that cost is a little less.

New Business: Joe said the Four Chaplains breakfast will be held on February 12 at the Staaten and the price is \$35. He said the guest speaker will be from the Four Chaplain Chapel in Philadelphia. Any members attending will pay the full price and will be reimbursed for half the amount at the meeting following the event. You can send a check to Carmine made out to the Post or pay tonight.

Charlie talked about the up-coming Valentine's Day party and told all members to attend and bring their family members. Charlie said as of tonight we have about 50 people attending. Charlie said we are going to order from a nice restaurant. The party will be on February 10 from 6 10 pm. Charlie also thanked everyone that attended John Calabrese's wake. A moment of Silence was held for member John Calabrese who recently passed away and Taps were played in his memory.

This month's charity donation will go the American Cancer society in John Calabrese's name.

Lester said he filed our e 990 post card for the federal tax non-profit organizations good until December 2017.

Leo said we have one more item we must vote on, which type of American Legion Grave Markers to order, Plastic are \$9.95 or Bronze are \$34.95. Question brought to the floor was the plastic are not as durable and ca break easy. John made a motion to continue with the bronze and seconded by Allen and carried.

Calendar: Bob Mahoney reported that the Mid Winter Conference in Albany is from January 20 -22. February 12 is 4 Chaplain Breakfast, February 17th is the County meeting at Gold Star Post at 10 am. On April 7th, the National Commanders Dinner will be held at Antuns and the price is \$65. The tickets must be paid for by the end of February and send payment to County Treasure Anthony DeNatale.

Carmine said there is another A/C trip coming up if you are interested in going see he after the meeting.

Door Prize: Winners – David and Richie

With no further business to be discussed Closing prayers were read by Chaplain Leo Milham and the Flags were and saluted and retired meeting ended at 9:10 pm

Respectfully Submitted
Lester Modelowitz
Adjutant