

**Kells – Grennie American Legion Post 316**

**Minutes of meeting held on**

**February 16, 2014**

**Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Post Commander Joe Occhipinti. Opening prayers were read by Chaplain Dennis Rosenwald the Commander asked to Remember all personal that are POW's or MIA. The the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble were recited by the membership. The Commander then asked for the Roll Call of Officers all were present except Emery Chagnon.**

**Commander asked for the reading of minutes of the January meeting, they were read and accepted by the membership. Commander then asked for the Treasurers report. Post Treasurer Carmine Vacirca told the members the immediate balance after a donation of from the Post Corporation funds. The Post treasurer wrote a check for tonight's collation and also a refund from the Post office was added to the balance if anyone requires additional information please contact the Treasurer. Elias Arout donated \$50.00 towards the Girls Nation. VC Bill Baumwoll said there was nothing yet to report on Boys State or Girls Nation. He did say that if anyone would like to contribute something for the next newsletter to get it to him before the next meeting in March. VC and membership chairman Allen Pollazo said that he was trying to catch up on membership, a few members might have paid their dues twice. Commander said that on February 21 members from various posts were coming to our Post to call members that might have lapsed in their dues and re-invite them to return.**

**Corporation Treasurer Leo Milham told the members the closing balance on the checking account and the balance in the money market account. Leo explained that all outgoing bills are done by direct payment. Our biggest issues are the Post utility bills and the insurance bill is \$316.00 per month for 11 month's. Our biggest income is the Church that uses the Hall who will be moving out in the very near future. Leo said that we will be in bad shape monetarily if we do not pick up another tenant quickly. Leo also said that the Post received a**

possible offer from a broker to sell the building. VC Charlie Goffredo also said he has reached out to the real estate broker on possibly getting a tenant to rent some space. John Vivola said to hang a sign in the waiting area saying space available. Lester said he would print up such a sign. Leo said that the best tenant would be a dance school or a church. Leo and Charlie we are just starting to deal with this and it is a slow issue.

Leo mentioned that probably the best type of a possible rental of the hall would be a dance school, the worst thing would be that we have to get rid of the carpeted areas and have just a tile floor installed.

Other possibilities would be selling the property, but because it is a small lot the problem is harder. Joe said right now we have a meeting place if we sell the building we would have to look to rent a space to meet, Leo said that if it come down to that we can always ask the church that meets here now.

Commander Joe O. said he was upset that he was not informed of the things that were discussed with a few of the Board Members about possibly selling the building.

The other problem discussed was that we are not the only Hall that rents out space and there is a lot of competition.

If eventually we have to sell the building and rent a small space to hold our meetings. Spider gave a house report and said the hall was used for two parties and we have three bookings for upcoming usage of the Hall. David also said that during events held here people open the windows when it gets to warm so to eliminate that new key locks were put on the windows. Lester talked about the website and the ongoing history project. He said that he made a Power Point Presentation of the history of the Post and also a power point presentation of the Preamble to the Constitution and is available to view the website.

Commander Joe O said that the next meeting he would is going to try and get a large screen to show everyone our website and also learn how to use Legion.org.

**Service Officer Joe Toronto said Hill Day was going to be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and the meeting will be held at the Albany Hilton.**

**There was no unfinished business so the Commander went into new business.**

**Allen touched on his visit to nursing homes with other people from the County when they gave out Christmas presents to patients. He also said that they would like veterans magazines. If you can save your Legion magazines to donate to veterans in nursing homes. Dennis brought an idea to sell quartermaster items at meetings but it was brought that items of this nature have to be purchased from Emblem Sales. Carmine said when you purchase items from emblem sales to put your Post down and the Post can get some credit towards purchases the Post might make.**

**Good of the Legion. Leo talked about the project that his son Dr. Michael Milham is involved in the Child Mind Institute. His son and a few other Doctors will be speaking at the next County Meeting on Friday February 20th. They have rented office space at the South Ave Teleport**

**Allen Pollazzo asked for members to save their veteran magazines that receive to donate to nursing homes for veterans.**

**John Vivolo talked about putting a sign in the lobby that our hall is available for all types of functions. Lester said he will make a poster.**

**Commander Joe talked about upcoming meeting on February 21st members from various post will be here doing re-invites to members of the Legion that have expired membership.**

**Feb 20<sup>th</sup> County at Cichon Post**

**March 20<sup>th</sup> Legion Birthday at Varsity Club**

**April 10<sup>th</sup> County Meeting at Gold Star Post**

**April 17<sup>th</sup> National Commanders Dinner at Antons**

**April 19<sup>th</sup> Children & Youth Breakfast at the Staaten.**

**May 30<sup>th</sup> Department Commanders Dinner at Staaten**

**June 10<sup>th</sup> Wounded Warriors Dinner at Staaten**

**July 14 – 18 th Department Convention in Buffalo**

**Carmine mentioned a few trips that if you want to attend contact him, trips to Washington, DC and Philadelphia, and visit the Four Chaplains Chapel.**

**With no further business to be conducted the 50/50 raffle was held and Lester was the winner.**

**Closing prayer were read the Pow/MIA Chair was retired and taps were played. Meeting ended at 9:10 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted  
Adjutant, Lester Modelowitz**