

**Kells – Grennie American Legion Post No. 316
Minutes of Meeting for
May 18, 2015**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Post Commander Joseph Occhipinti. Opening prayers were given by the Commander, Gus Larosa placed the POW/MIA chair back. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble was recited by the members. The Commander asked roll call of Officers. VC Charles Goffredo, Chaplain Dennis Rosenwald and Sgt-at-Arms John Vivolo were absent.

The Commander asked for the reading of the minutes of April 20, 2015. They were read by the Adjutant and accepted by the members. Lester said that during the meeting if a member has the floor to please let that person finish speaking. If a number of members are trying to speak at the same time it is hard to decipher what is on the recorder.

The commander asked next for committee reports. Treasurer Carmine Vacira told the members what the balance of the post funds were at the end of the last meeting.

There were expenditures for the Children & Youth Breakfast, The Ladies Auxiliary for Girls Nation, the April Post Collation, Richmond County Commanders dinner and the collation for the May County meeting.

Membership Chairman Allen Palazzo could not give a complete report because he has a problem with computer. The commander said that the County Chairman said we were fifty members below our quota and this would have to be checked and our current 2015 total stood at 177 paid and our membership should be at about 232. Commander Joe O. said the County Membership Chairman did say that Department did somehow make a mistake in the numbers.

Boys State Chairman Bill Baumwoll said that the Boy's State Candidate is Edward Cazione from Farrell High School, and the Girls State Candidate is Carleen Conners. Bill said he asked the candidates to attend our next meeting to be introduced. Joe O gave a short corporation report in lieu of Leo not being here. The Post is still keeping its head above water and we do have a potential buyer of the building. Because of our 501 status 9(non-profit) we most likely have to go to court and the funds received from the sale of the building will have to go into a trust fund. Joe said just because the building is being sold we

have to put hard work into expanding our membership. When the time comes we will look for a meeting place. Joe also expressed his thoughts and hoped that no members will drop out because of the selling of the building. He said our top priority now is hold on to members that we have and put more effort in to recruiting new members.

Emery suggested to approach Lady Queen of Peace Church and possibly use one of their rooms for our meetings. Joe said there are many options we can look into for keeping our meeting in this general area. Carmine suggested possibly meeting at a restaurant but Joe and others said that it not a good idea.

David said he will continue to take hall booking through August for now. Joe said that on Memorial Day members are invited to the Memorial Day Service at Lady Queen of Peace. Lester he will get the names of the deceased members from the past year.

David also said that on Monday after the Memorial Day Service at Lady Queen of Peace he and Bill have Bagels and Coffee prepared. David also complimented Bill Knapp for all the help he has given to keep the building in good shape. He said that does things that he could not do like going up on the roof to fix the lights that shine on the flag pole. Joe said that on Sunday morning June 24th members will meet at the Post at 9 am to visit the six monuments in the New Dorp area and place the wreaths.

Joe Toronto gave a Service Officers report and said there are two bills in Washington pending HR Bill 1769, and Senates companion Senate Bill 901. These bills are called the Toxic exposure research act of 2015. Joe explained that what they what is for Department of Veterans Affairs to have a special department for research set up for the descendants of veterans for all era veterans not just for Vietnam veterans effects from agent orange and hope to set up an advisory committee.

New business: Nominations for election of Officers of the Post for the years 2015 – 2016. One vote was casted to keep the officers from the past year.

Next under new business names for delegates for the County and Department conventions were picked.

Correspondence was read by Post Adjutant. A 1950's doo op show will be held on October 17, 8 pm at the CSI Center for the Arts. Part of the proceeds will be

donated the Richmond County American Legion. Tickets are \$50 for orchestra and \$40 for balcony. For more info call Joe Cammarata at 718-317-7306. On Sunday June 7th the Hero Games sponsored Monsignor Farrell High School to honor all servicemen and women, past and present. The event will held on the football field at no cost. Food, Desert, Beer, Soda, Water a tee shirt and entertainment. It will begin at 11am – 2 pm. RSVP to Carmine @ 347-631-0177.

Monday, May 25, 11 am Memorial Day Ceremony on the Intrepid.
Staten Island Memorial Day Parade starts at 11:30 am on Hart Blvd & Forest Ave. Richmond County American Legion Convention Journal. A motion was made by Bob Mahoney to take a half page add and seconded by Ferdi Salavatore and carried by the membership.
A thank card was sent to the Post from the Francis Greenwald family thanking the Honor Guard for attending the wake.

Calendar: Frank Peter's homecoming event will be held at the Staaten on May 30th at 7 pm
Diane Gerbers homecoming is June 6th at the Crystal Room at 6 pm.

Department Convention July 15 – 18 2015 in Buffalo, NY
Americanism:

Carmine talked about an upcoming event that will be held at PS 32 in Great Kills to tell the entire 5th grade class's about the American Flag and Patriotism. The event is on the Calendar for May 26th.

Our next Post meeting will be held on Monday, June 15th.

The next County Meeting will be the County Convention which will be held at the Varsity Club, 215 Liberty Ave. The sign in time is 6 pm.

The 50/50 was held and newly nicknamed Mr. 50/50 won again

With no further business to be held closing prayers were read he asked for prayers members that were home ill and to remember Francis Greenwald who recently passed away. Taps was played and the Flag was saluted and retired. Meeting officially closed at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Post Adjutant

Lester Modelowitz