

Kells - Grennie American Legion
Post 316
Minutes of membership meeting
March 21, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by VC Bill Baumwoll. Sgt-at-Arms placed the flags and the POW/MIA chair back. Leo Milham read the opening prayers, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble were recited by the members.

VC Bill Baumwoll asked for the roll call of officers. Commander Joe Occhipinti was our sick and also Chaplain Dennis Rosenwald. VC Emery Chagnon was also absent. Bill asked for the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes were read by the adjutant and VC Charles Goffredo made a motion to accept the minutes was seconded by John Vivolo and accepted.

Committee Reports

Membership Chairman Allen Palazzo reported that our paid membership is at 160 but he said he had received six more but are not showing on the national membership as of yet, but he also stated that five more renewals that he received tonight. So that would bring our paid members to 171 six shy of the amount needed for 100 .. Allen said that the next notices for membership starting in June for the 2016 - 2017 dues the membership will be \$45.00.

Americanism - No action Required

Post Treasurer: Carmine Vacirca gave his report and was accepted by the members attending. Anone that would like to know the exact figures in the account please call Carmine.

Service Officer - Joe Toronto said that the VA is going to eliminate the delay in the vital payment program for people that use the use outside provider because of delinquent payments and will be changing that very soon. Joe also said the VA is going to expand the drug treatment for Hepatitis C due to the fact that Congress had increased the funding. Joe also said the V A has awarded multiple contracts for about 23 million dollars to upgrade their cyber security and networking. Allen added that he picked up copies of information on the hours of operation of the Staten Island V A Clinic and also information about when veterans can go for lab testing. Lester said it is available on the Post website also. Leo said that veterans that do not receive 100 disability from the VA they will supply you with free hearing aids, eye glasses. If you live in a house with steps to climb inside your home you can go to your VA Primary doctor and they will evaluate and if you can no longer climb the step you can be eligible to receive a chair lift system. Leo also said that Seaview nursing home is a contracted VA facility and can be utilized by veterans that might need rehabilitation. Leo also said that St. Albans, Bronx and Montrose and Long Island VA health centers are underutilized .. Leo spoke about meds that you receive from the V A and a problem he had because he did not use all what they sent him.

Boy's State - Bill Baumwoll said that Dave Martin from County said more information on this years Boy's State Program should be available very soon.

House - David said the Soda Machine and the Coffee makers have been returned to the proper companies and the Ice Machine has been disconnected.

Building Sale & New Meeting Hall - Leo said as of Thursday March 18th all the paper work has been submitted and has been attentively approved and are waiting for written conformation so the closing can be scheduled. The whole process should be completed by the end of March or early April. Our next

meeting will be at the Moravian Church on April 18th. We might not meet in the room that we will usually be utilizing, but just for that month. Leo told the members the new mailing address for the Post is Kells - Grennie Post 316 PO Box 90096, Staten Island, NY 10309-0096. Leo also said that the Post phone number, except it will now be a cell phone in place of the land line. The cell phone will cost the Post \$25 per month, whereas we were paying \$111.00 for the land phone and internet service. Leo told the members the address of the Church and also the entrance to where you enter with a car. The meeting night and time will remain the same. The use of the meeting hall at the Church will cost us \$75 per month plus \$25 for cleanup after the meeting.

Corporation Report - Leo stated that we are losing money every. The elimination of the soda machine saves the Post \$80 and the coffee maker saves us \$40 per month and disconnecting the ice machine will save about \$200 from the water bill. Leo told the members about memorabilia on the table and there are photos downstairs, please take what you want. There are also a few Parade pistols available if anyone wants them see Leo after the meeting. Carmine said he will take the uniforms and honor equipment and store it away. Our next meeting will be a very important meeting to discuss how to preserve the funds from the sale of the building and what type of accounts to place them in. We have already given the AG a list of possible charities we will be donating to. If you have ideas of how we can help others please express your thoughts and ideas. We will continue with traditional legion functions and possibly return to things we did in the past. In the kitchen there are bottles of liquor some opened some not take what you want. Leo said the PO Box is all set up at the Woodrow Plaza Post Office and he and Lester will be the Post Masters. If any member would like to the exact amount in the Post Corporation please call Leo.

Old Business - Lester said he submitted all the information to Council Matteo office for getting the street renamed for the Kells-Grennie Post. He included a short bio about from its early beginning in 1919. He said he received a call from the Councilman's office and was told it can take up to 8 months from start to finish. It has to go to the community board, parks department, city council and the mayor's office. Lester talked about in 2007 he submitted a proclamation to the NY State senate to have March 29th remembered as Vietnam Veterans Day, and legislation was passed in May 2008. Lester read a resolution that he would like to be presented at the County Convention this year for March 29th to be recognized as a National Day of Remembrance. A motion was made to have this sent to County and seconded and passed. Another motion was made by Lester to have a similar letter sent to Congressman Donovan's office on behalf of the Post the motion was seconded and passed. Leo talked about the Flag Pole and Plaque in front of the building and what will happen to it after the sale of the property. The new owner did state to Leo that both will remain intact.

Carmine talked about another trip to Philadelphia but for now it has been put on hold. Carmine also spoke about last year's program that a few members attended at PS 32, he said that the teacher that invited us became ill and would like to send her a get well card from the membership and all were in favor.

Calendar - Bob Mahoney reported that April 10th at 9 am is the Children & Youth Breakfast, \$30 per person send check to Jim Wassmuth. April 15 is the National Commander Dinner at Anton's, \$65 per person send check to Anthony DeNatale. County meeting April 22nd at Gold Start Post at 7:00 pm. Bob also said that Shoprite is opening a new store on Veterans Road and is offering a free breakfast at the CYO on April 12th and 12 noon., if you would like to attend please call 718-906-5216. Lester said he was sending out the DATA FORM to Department and the new address for all Post Mail will be the Post Office talked about earlier and the dues as of July 2016 will be \$45.

Lester also gave John Vivolo a list of all post members he made that has phone numbers and some email addresses .. On April 17th Senator Lanza will be hosting the 8th Annual Vietnam Veterans Celebration at Tottenville H.S.at 1 pm.

50/50 drawing Gus LaRosa winner
Dennis winner of History DVD.

With no further business to be conducted the meeting was closed,\Closing Prayers were read by Leo Milham, Taps were played but before closing Bill asked the members for Moment of Silence as tonight was the last time that the members would be meeting at this Post Headquarters. At 8:55 pm the POWIMIA Chair was retired and the Flags were saluted retired.

Respectfully Submitted

Lester Modelowitz
Adjutant