

**Kells-Grennie American Legion Post 316**  
**Minutes of meeting**  
**April 19,2021**  
**New Dorp Moravian Church**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Commander Carmine Vacirca, Opening prayers were read by Chaplain William Baumwoll, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble was recited by all in attendance and the POW-MIA Chair was put in place by the Sgt-at-Arms.

Commander asked the Adjutant for roll call of Officers and Chairman's all were present. Commander asked for the reading of minutes from last meeting. The minutes were read and accepted by all in attendance after one correction that the Girls State program is virtual this year but Richmond County was not involved this year because the Girls cannot be screened in person because of the Covid 19 Virus.

**Committees: Americanism-** Charlie said we have some flags left over from the 2019 event and we will be getting more from the County in a few weeks. The event this year will be held on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting at 8:00 am. A lite breakfast will be served and after the flags have been put out we will be serving sandwiches for lunch. Charlie said he spoke to Office Brown and he will be getting the Police Explorer student to help. Leo will be in contact with the Siller Foundation and Northfield Bank about their volunteers to also help. Lester said he will print out certificates for the students that will be helping us.

Leo said with all the restrictions from the City and State we must limit the amount of people in the hall to only 40. Leo said Lester had written a letter to the Church stating that we will be following all the safety rules related to the Covid 19 restrictions.

John said we must maintain a system that our members will serve the food to those participating. They cannot touch the food or drinks. The servers will be wearing gloves and masks.

**New Business**

Carmine introduced a member who never attended meetings, Mike, served in the Navy during the Vietnam in the Philippines'. Carmine also said that long time member Ed Widlund passed away. But because of the restrictions he asked who could attend the wake to give a flag and a grave marker to the family.

Carmine also said that Bob Mahoney is still in Eggars Nursing home but is in Hospice.

Carmine said he received two continuous membership awards one for Bob Mahoney for 50 years and one for Ferdi for 60 years of membership.

Carmine said the USIVO is holding their annual Hearos dinner at the Staaten in May 5<sup>th</sup> and the price is \$75 per person,

Carmine read a letter from Anthony Pergola who is the Program Chairman for the Frank LaMarsh for Department Commander asking for donations. Motion was made to donate \$100, Leo suggested we donate \$200. The motion was seconded by Charlie and all were in favor.

**Boys and Girls State:** Bill Baumwoll said that the Girls State program was being conducted on-line like last year. The Richmond County Auxiliary said because they cannot interview the candidates there will be not candidates for girls state this year from Staten Island.

Bill said the Boys State program will also take place on-line and the County has ten boys that going to be involved from Staten Island Schools. Each Post will get one candidate, but Bill said he does not have the name of the student. Bill said for the future he is going to try and canvas high schools in our zip code area, such as Farrell HS, New Dorp HS and Staten Island Tech HS. The cost for each student this year will be \$150.

**Treasurer:** Leo reported that he received letters. One from St. Pauls Methodist Church, one from St. Edwards Church and one from the Bowry Mission thanks the Post for donations to their food pantries. A thank you from Charlie's wife Jean thanking us for the intended gift when she was in the hospital but said to use the funds and donate to St Jude's Hospital in her name.

Leo then read out all the various accounts including operating funds, membership, Post Treasurer, Non-Profit Checking, Platinum Savings and the 9-month certificate.

Leo said Lester made a flyer for the May 22 flag event but this year we will not include the Kiwanis Club because it will increase the amount of student volunteers which we cannot accommodate because of the pandemic rules. So, we will just depend on Northwell bank volunteers.

Leo also said last summer we brought food to all the Staten Island Police Precincts for the community outreach that we do. In May we will bring food for a luncheon to VA Clinic and a plaque with our thanks for what they do for the Veterans on Staten Island. Leo spoke about other organizations that in the future we will try and help them.

**Membership:** John Vivolo reported that since National changed the My Legion Website it has been a problem updating the membership. John said Lester spent hours trying to figure out how to use it.

Lester said he called Department and National for help their answer was they are trying to fix all the glitches. Lester said many of the Post membership chairman's have also had a problem using the new site.

**Service Officer:** Joe Toronto reported that the VA was giving the vaccine to all veterans. Leo said the Federal government will reimburse people for family members that died of Covid 19. Lester said they refund up to \$9000.00 for funeral expenses.

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**Elections** Chairman Charles Goffredo said he canvased potential members to run for Officers of the Post. A motion was made by Lester to keep the present slate of Officers. Leo seconded the motion, and all members presents were in favor of the motion of keeping the Officers the same as the previous year. The Post adjutant casted one vote for the Commander and the Five Vice Commanders to remain in their positions.

The corporation board will also remain the same as the year before.

Richie Burdge said the Staten Island Ferry Boat ride for the handclapped is cancelled for now and will probably not taking place anymore.

There will be no Post meetings in July and August.

With No further business to be discussed the meeting ended. The Chaplain read closing prayers taps were played and the Flags saluted and retired.

Respectfully Submitted  
Adjutant  
Lester Modelowitz