

AMERICAN LEGION POST 543

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 25, 2017

Commander Mike Fegan called the meeting to Order at 7:00 P.M.

The Color Guard advanced the Colors.

Chaplain Gary Crowden offered the opening prayer.

Commander Fegan recognized the POW/MIA Empty Chair.

Commander Fegan led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commander Fegan led in the reading of the Preamble to American Legion Constitution.

Commander Fegan presided over Roll Call of Officers. Chuck Blackburn Sgt. at Arms excused.

Commander Fegan asked if there were any new members here for the first time to stand up and state their names and what branch of service. Commander Fegan also welcomed Division

Commander Mark Erskine and our guest speaker LTG. Michael Linnington US Army (Ret) Chief Executive Officer, Wounded Warrior Project.

Commander Fegan reported that on Sick Call was General Joe Kinzer with knee surgery, and is doing well.

MOTION: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of General Membership Meeting of September 27, 2017.

Our Guest Speaker LTG. Michael Linnington Chief Executive Officer Wounded Warrior Project, gave us the inside of what goes on with the Wounded Warriors, and what the project does to try to get these wounded service men and women back to recovery. It is a very long and tedious healing process. LTG. Linnington also recognized Bob Duke , and Holly and Dave Williams for sale of used clean golf balls with the proceeds going to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Commander Fegan presented a check to LTG. Linnington from Post 543 to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Commander Fegan presented Bob Duke, Holly and Dave Williams Certificates of Appreciation for their continued support of Wounded Warrior Project with the sale of used golf balls.

Dan Bennett, Adjutant reported as of this meeting we have 156 members renewed memberships.

Doug Pratt, Finance Officer presented the financial report. All accounts were in order. Our audit Report was done for 2016-2017.

Paul Witmer, Service Officer gave his monthly report, and is looking for help on Sunday November 12, 2017 with Poppies at Walmarts with the South Brunswick JORTC. Please sign up With Paul. Paul also stated that the VA in Wilmington is now open three days a week for VA Cards. The days are Monday in the afternoon, Wednesday in the morning, and Friday in the Morning. Make sure you bring your DD214 with you to get your picture taken.

Nomination for Vacant Board Position. Chairman Doug Elznic reports that Steve Muir put his Name in for that position. Commander Fegan asked the General Membership three times if There were anymore names interested in the position. After no more name were brought Forward, Commander Fegan closed the nominations. We will hold the election of the Member At Large position at our next General Membership meeting on Wednesday November 15, 2017. Bill Morgan spoke about our Veterans Day Ceremony November 11, 2017 at 11:00A.M. at St. James Community.

Rick Quashne spoke about the Veterans Day Dinner at 7:00 P.M. at Members Club on November 11, 2017. Rick also spoke about the Marines golf tournament on November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Members Club. Also the Marines will be bringing down two bus loads of service men and women for Thanksgiving Dinner with St. James homeowners.

Commander Fegan talked about the Post Christmas tree, and how we will setup our tree again With the St. James Service Club. Donations to go on the tree will be accepted at the next Post Meeting on November 15, 2017.

Rick Sessa, Children and Youth Chair wanted to remind everyone to come out the Chilli Cookoff, And vote for your favorite American Legion's Post Chilli.

Bill Morgan reported that the Honor Guard will be involved in the Veterans Day Ceremony. Christmas by the Sea Parade is December 2, 2017 in Oak Island. Please attend.

Commander Fegan reported on Executive Committee Meeting. Monies were approved for Operations North State, Special Operations Warrior Foundation, Wounded Warriors Project, Folds of Honor. The Executive Committee will take the same position as the American Legion National Regarding the NFL and it's players.

Commander Fegan will look at putting together a committee to look at Military Charities. Mike will be contacting members shortly.

Division Commander Mark Erskine spoke on the importance of membership, and reported that we are ahead of our goal for November. Mark wants our district to raise \$6000.00 to help costs for National Commander. Our next Division meeting is in Wilmington.

Chaplain Crowden offered closing prayer.

Color Guard retired the Colors.

Comander Fegan adjourned the meeting at 8:22 P.M.