



**LEONARD W. KIDD MEMORIAL
AMERICAN LEGION POST 2001, Inc.**

Minutes of Meeting
8 May 2014



Members in Attendance: Commander Charlie McKinney, John Alban, Dave Austin, Jon Canerday, Roy Eibert, Al Gabriel, John Laffoon, Norman Larson, Jim Linn, Chuck Loomis, Ron Milberg, Bob O'Such, Larry Porter, Greg Rhoades, Larry Rosenberger.

Opening. Commander Charlie McKinney called the meeting to order at 19:30. The colors were posted prior to opening. The acting Chaplin, Al Gabriel delivered the opening prayer and the Commander read the POW ceremony.

Post Minutes. Adjutant Larson presented the minutes from April and noted that they had been distributed previously. A member moved to accept the April minutes. The motion was seconded, and the minutes for April were accepted into the archives of the Post by unanimous voice vote.

Membership. Adjutant Larson presented an overview of the Post membership and highlighted that the Post had 66 members in good standing.

Finance. Finance Officer Larry Porter presented the financial statements for April. The Post has a combined fund balance of \$13,127.78 and a Boys and Girls State balance of \$2,050.66. Comrade O'Such moved to accept the report, subject to audit. A member seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote. The report was accepted into the Post archives.

Poppy Distribution. Second Vice Commander John Alban stated that the Post will distribute poppies on 23 May and 24 May at the Ashburn Village Giant. Please contact Comrade Alban if you would like to participate.

Flag Retirement Ceremony. Comrade Loomis discussed plans for a flag retirement ceremony for 14 June, with a second ceremony on 11 September or possibly 9 October. The Post needs an incinerator for the ceremony to properly dispose of the old and unserviceable flags and requests you contact Chuck Loomis if you have access or can provide information on obtaining one.

Annual Event. Comrade Bob O'Such provided an update on the county-wide event to be sponsored by all of the American Legion Posts within Loudoun County scheduled for 27 September at Stonebridge High School in Ashburn Farms from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The event will help the posts identify active duty and former military in the county and especially those who need assistance. He opened the floor to a general discussion. Comrade O'Such wrapped up the discussion by pointing out that retired Brig. Gen Allison Hickey from the Department of Veterans Affairs has agreed to speak at the event and County Board Member Shawn Williams is also supporting the event. Comrades can contact Bob O'Such if they would like to assist with any part of the event.

Boys and Girls State. Comrade Rhoades gave a summary of the program. Our Post will send 7 boys and 5 girls based on order-of-merit from the interviews. Orientation for the participants is on 13 May at 6:30 pm at Stonebridge High School. Post may send additional candidates if funds become available.



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Historian. Post Historian Larry Rosenberger gave an update on the progress of the Post history for 2013-2014. The Post will submit the history book at the Department Convention and compete with other Posts for best history.

Baseball. Comrade Loomis discussed the Post American Legion youth baseball program. Our senior team coach is Bill Mason. The season will start on 5 or 6 June. Tryouts are scheduled for 25 May and the season will have 15 games. A change from last month is that the Post will not be sponsoring a Junior team this year.

Election of Post Officers for 2014-2015. The Adjutant presented the current candidates for the 2014-2015 year:

Commander: Charlie McKinney
1st Vice Commander: Chuck Loomis
2nd Vice Commander: Bob O'Such
Adjutant: Norm Larson
Sergeant at Arms: Roy Eibert
Chaplain: Al Gabriel
Finance Officer: no candidate

The Adjutant reported that there were no additional nominations since the candidates were presented at the April meeting. None of the member in attendance presented any additional nominations. A member moved to vote on the group of officers as presented as a slate rather than by individual position. The motion was seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The adjutant then called for a voice vote for the slate as presented. There was a unanimous voice vote for the slate, with no votes against (15 for/zero against). The Adjutant pointed out that the members who could not attend had 14 days to vote by e-mail or letter mail (addressed to the Post e-mail or PO Box). Voting will close as of 22 May. The June meeting will include the swearing-in of the officers for 2014-2015.

Honor Flights. Commander McKinney noted that Honor Flights are bringing in veterans to Washington DC to visit the monuments and members can assist with the visits. The weekend of 10/11 May has two flights coming to DC – one from Missouri and one from Montana. Contact Commander McKinney if you would like a schedule of the upcoming flights.

Support to Deployed Soldiers. Commander McKinney said he had been contacted by a Lieutenant Colonel in Kuwait who was asking for support in the form of “care packages”. Commander McKinney suggested that the Post members bring in items for donation to the June meeting. The Post is looking for coffee, beef jerky, powdered drinks (Gator Aid, etc.) and other non-perishable snacks. The Post will consolidate the items at the next meeting and send them to the deployed soldiers. Anyone who would like to help with this initiative, please contact Commander McKinney or Adjutant Larson.

Post Officers. Independence Day Parade. The members present indicated they were interested in participating in the Leesburg Independence Day Parade on 4 July.



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Adopt-a-Highway. Comrade Ron Milberg said that Post would do a clean-up of its adopted section of Claiborne Parkway on 26 April.

For the Good of the Legion.

Get the Vote Out. Comrade Austin noted that all members in the Ashburn Village area need to vote on a key change to the governing documents of the association. The change affects the financial rules/regulations and it is in the best interest of all members in Ashburn Village to review the proposal and vote as soon as possible.

Sons of the American Legion. Comrade Loomis said that there is a group working on starting a detachment of the Sons of the American Legion here in Ashburn. Contact Comrade Chuck Loomis if you are interested or want more information.

Memorial Day Article. Comrade Al Gabriel read the article from the National Commander in last month's Legionnaire magazine. The article was about Memorial Day and presented a letter from a fallen soldier.

Last Parade. Comrade Alban stated that he had seen a group called the Radio Rambles at the Grand Ole Opry in Tennessee. The group has a song titled "Last Parade" and all proceeds from the sale go to support "The Patriot Guard" [A counter-protest organization which ensures dignity and respect at memorial services honoring Fallen Military Heroes, First Responders and Honorably Discharged Veterans."] Comrade Alban highly recommended listening to the song.

At 21:15, there being no further business before the Post, acting Chaplin Gabriel delivered the closing prayer and Commander McKinney adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting will be at 19:30, on Thursday, 12 June at the Mills Recreation Center, 43895 Grottoes Drive, Ashburn.