

James Harvey Spire
Post 787
Cicero, NY



General Membership Meeting: Sept 20, 2018

Commander Porter called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with 22 members in attendance.

Officers in Attendance: Commander Porter; 1st Vice Dauer, 2nd Vice McCrum; Adjutant Auchterlonie; Finance Officer Keegan; Chaplain Heidenreich; Service Officer Terry; Historian Puettner; Trustees Sanford, Taylor & Yanchik. Sgt-at-Arms Vergith was absent.

Adjutant Auchterlonie read the minutes of the May 17 GM meeting. Motion to accept as read by Mr. Taylor 2nd by Mr. Sanford ...passed

Finance Report: Finance Officer Keegan read the finance report which showed \$ 99,285.71 in all accounts. Motion made to accept as read subject to audit by Mr. Auchterlonie ,2nd by Mr. McCrum ...passed

Membership: Mr. Auchterlonie reported the Post's current membership goal for 2019 is 746, an increase of 6% over last year. We currently have 446 credited and another 36 submitted for 64.6%. He will send post card reminders to those non-renewed about Early Bird. Dues must be paid by Veterans Day, Nov. 11, to qualify for Early Bird. The Early Bird Dinner will be Dec. 2nd. As a recruiting incentive, the new National Commander Brett P. Reistad will award members his Commanders pin for the recruitment of three new Legion members.

Sick Call & Relief: Chaplain Heidenreich listed those members who transferred to Post Everlasting since our last membership meeting: Sam Solitto, Francis Burgess, Carl Barber, Robert Forkhamer and Randolph Bishop.

Public Relations: Mr. Sanford briefed on the upcoming "Bring A Vet to Lunch" event set for Sept. 30th to help bolster membership.

He also announced the committee was working with the State Police to include a Halloween Safety event to coincide with the Kids Halloween Party on Oct. 28th. It will include a K9 unit, McGruff and a child ID and fingerprinting program.

Ms. Lichvar discussed the Public Relations Committee efforts to get a governmental program from the New York State Citizen Preparedness Corps to present at the Post. The program will center on emergency preparedness and each participating family will receive a Disaster Preparedness Kit. A date has not yet been set for the event. Recommendations were that the public be invited since the Post is a designated emergency shelter.

Community Service: Mr. Yanchik thanked everyone who participated and helped out at the State Fair. The Post raised over \$10,000.00. He also announced he would be setting up at the upcoming Veterans Expo and Parade in November which will also celebrate the American Legion's 100th birthday.

Donations: Mr. Puettner received a request from the local Salvation Army for a donation. Mr Dauer made a motion to donate \$250, 2nd by Mr. McCrum...passed. Mr. Puettner also said this was the time of year we usually donate to Feed Our Vets. Mr. Auchterlonie made a motion to donate \$500, 2nd by Mr. Yanchik...Passed.

Unfinished Business: The parking lot upgrade will be finished next year. It needs the top coat to be completed before striping can be done.

Mr. Taylor asked who was doing the Bingo Kitchen on the fifth Wednesday in October. Commander Porter said he was in communication with Mr. Plato and that the Color Guard may get back involved. Nothing is set yet.

The Commander said he had spoken with Brian Lauri regarding our incorporation. Mr. Lauri, said he would try to get something moving on it. We are appreciative for what he does. He is a Post member, and as such does this stuff pro bono for us. He does, however, have his own legal practice, is a Town of Clay judge, a Deacon at Sacred Heart Church and the Judge Advocate for the 174th.

The Commander also said Mr. Lauri had sent a letter to Syracuse Realty closing the matter regarding their proposed access road on our property.

New Business: Flu shots will be given at the Post on Oct. 12th from 4:00 – 7:00 pm by RiteAid.

There will be a Blood Drive at the Post on Thursday, Sept 27th.

Flags of Honor will again be held at the Wegmans on Route 57 in Liverpool on Nov. 6th. The Color Guard and Legion Riders have been asked to participate.

Fall Clean-up at the Post will be Saturday Oct. 20th. Volunteers are needed.

Mr. Sanford announced the upcoming newsletter would include two events sponsored by Victory for Vets.

Good of the Legion: The Department of New York visitation dinner will be held at our Post on Oct. 6th.

Cost of the dinner (\$24) will be borne by the Post for members wishing to attend. Members will be responsible for paying for any guests they may bring. Please RSVP by Sept. 25th. The Department Commander, Sons Commander and Auxiliary President will be present.

Mr. Keegan reported the Golf Tournament was a great success and fun was had by all. The Sons conducted a Chicken BBQ for all the players. The Post netted \$565.00.

Mr. Auchterlonie announced he was starting early this year on the Boys State program and also wanted to try and get some interest in the Oratorical Contest at the schools. Anyone interested in assisting with these important American Legion programs should contact Mr. Auchterlonie.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55.

Respectfully submitted.

Butch Auchterlonie
Adjutant