

AMERICAN LEGION POST 154

Minutes of the Membership Meeting held on 1/25/2017

Meeting was called to Order by Commander Sasse at 6:00

All officers were in attendance except Bryan Bledsoe (Adjutant); Lonnie Morse (Historian); and Lew Allert (2-Year Committeeperson) who were excused.

Minutes of the December meeting were read. Upon motion made by John Fevold and seconded by Len Crosby, the Minutes were approved as presented.

Financial Report was given by Len Crosby, Finance Officer. Upon motion made by Jeff Broadhead and seconded by Paula Atwood, the Financial Report was approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Membership and Americanism: Our membership is currently at 56 which is 76.4% of target. The Commander pointed out that our membership has grown from 33 in our first year to our current total.

Economic and Finance: Len Crosby requested approval to move \$1,000 from the Post's money market account to the checking account to fund bills for insurance and the mail box which are currently due. Upon motion made by Larry Carstenson and seconded by Helen Kinder, the transfer was approved. The budget was also discussed.

Len also requested advice from the membership as to the request that a line item for Veterans Assistance ranging from \$150 to \$250 per month. After extensive discussion, it was decided to either allocate a set amount (\$300) for such assistance to an existing member or members of Post 154, or to consider donating a similar amount (\$300) to another VSO that has a mechanism for vetting such assistance requests and an existing donation program. These suggestions will be discussed by the Executive Committee.

Veterans Affairs – Ruth Aresvik reported on outreach efforts she has planned for the New Year.

Veterans Council – No report

Graves and Registration – No report

Children and Youth – Jeff reported on the Oratorical contest.

Honor Guard – Todd reported on the Wreaths across America and continued support of the Medical Lake Veterans Cemetary.

Health and Welfare – Paula reported that she had been sick and that Charlie Till continues to be sick.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Budget – Len reported that the Budget was in final draft form/
- Midwinter Conference – Commander did not attend due to health issues.
- Veterans Appreciation Event: Commander read a letter of appreciation from Richard Budverson one of the Veterans honored at the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Christmas Party – Great Event!! Everyone had a good time.
- Concession Trailer – After discussion on the cost to bring the trailer to code so that it could be used at events, the membership voted to dispose of the trailer by donating or giving it away to another organization or individual. Motion made by Larry Carstenson and seconded by Paula Atwood.
- Easter Egg Hunt – April 15 at 11:00 at Majestic Park. Age groups revised.
- Spring District Meeting – March 18 in Clark Fork – Cost is \$10
- American Legion Birthday (3/15) – Commander will discuss the possibility of doing a joint birthday celebration with Post 143.
- Elections – Commander will not run for re-election. She asked that interested members consider running for an office, and asked that existing officers who are willing to continue notify her as soon as possible.
- Bill Kinder suggested that the Post put an article in the 41 North publication about its programs and mention the Easter Egg Hunt and other events.

PRESENTATION: Paula and Dale Atwood presented the Veterans Memorial titled “The Last Roll Call” that they have been working on for the last year or so. The Memorial will be used at Veteran funerals and memorials, and will be displayed at Post events. They did an outstanding job, and it was admired by all the members.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15.

Deanna Sasse, Commander

Len Crosby, 2nd Vice Commander