



**Membership Meeting Minutes
Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154 Inc.
American Legion Department of Idaho
Commander Deanna Sasse**

May 24, 2017

Call to order: Membership meeting was called to order by 1st Vice Commander John Fevold and convened at 6:00 pm.

Quorum: Sergeant-at-Arms certified that there were 12 members in attendance. A quorum was present

Roll Call of Officers:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Commander	Dee Sasse	Excused
1 st Vice Commander	John Fevold	Present
2 nd Vice Commander	Len Crosby	Present
Adjutant	Bryan Bledsoe	Present
Service Officer	Ruth Aresvik	Present
Finance Officer	Len Crosby	Present
Historian	Lonnie Morse	Absent
Chaplain	Paula Atwood	Present
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bill Kinder	Present
Judge Advocate	Jeff Broadhead	Present
3 Year Committeeperson	Todd Halvorson	Present
2 Year Committeeperson	Vacant	
1 Year Committeeperson	Helen Kinder	Excused

Guests: Sue Fevold, Harold Markiewicz, Potential new member Eric Driscoll & his son Eric

Installation of Officers: was done by Past District 1 Adjutant Bryan Bledsoe:

Commander	Dee Sasse
1 st Vice Commander	John Fevold
2 nd Vice Commander	Larry Carstensen
Finance Officer	Len Crosby
Adjutant	Bryan Bledsoe
Service Officer	Ruth Aresvik
Finance Officer	Len Crosby
Historian	Lonnie Morse
Chaplain	Paula Atwood
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bill Kinder
Judge Advocate	Jeff Broadhead
3 Year Committeeperson	Craig King
2 Year Committeeperson	Todd Halvorson
1 Year Committeeperson	Helen Kinder

Minutes: Motion: Moved by Jean Bledsoe that the minutes from the April 26, 2017 General Membership meeting be approved as posted on the website – Second by Bill Kinder - Motion Carried

Finance Report: Motion: Moved by Bryan Bledsoe that the Finance Report for April 2017 be approved as given by Len Crosby – Second by Jean Bledsoe - Motion Carried

Len Crosby reported that the first weekend of Poppy Donations brought in about \$1,100

Committee Reports:

1. Membership & Americanism – Bill Kinder reported 71 members and just 1 more needed to meet our goal of 72
2. Legislative – Len Crosby met with Senator Nonini and the Jacklins, who have donated the land for the proposed Veterans Home at Riverbend Business Park in Post Falls. They placed a call to David Brasuell who is the administrator of the Idaho Department of Veterans Services, to determine the status of the Veterans Home. With a new administrator of the VA there has been a change in the design rules for veterans homes. Previously all that was allowed is a pod of homes with 10 or 12 residents to a pod. By allowing a redesign of the home by consolidating into one building they think that it will save about 30% on the initial construction cost and about 40% on operational costs over time. With this new information, the application has been pulled from the VA and it is in the process of being redesigned. The goal is to have the redesign completed with the whole package resubmitted by August and not lose its place in line at the VA. It is probably still a 5 to 7 year process.
3. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation - Service Officer, Ruth Aresvik made great connections at Stand Down with Vet Center. Contact information will be in the upcoming newsletter.
4. Kootenai Veterans Council – Charlie Till reported that the Council discussed the many Memorial Day events coming up.
5. Graves and Registration, VAVS - Chaplain, Paula Atwood encourages pre-registration at the Washington State Veterans Cemetery.
6. Honor Guard – Todd Halvorson reported that they posted colors at Stand Down, provided rifle volleys for 5 veterans at the Washington State Veterans Cemetery, conducted a practice, on Memorial Day will participate in two ceremonies, and provide honors for a Navy veteran in Sagle
7. Jean Bledsoe asked for newsletter articles as Thursday the 25th is the cutoff date.

Health & Welfare: Paula Atwood reported that Member Bobby Johnson passed away Feb 1st Helen Kinder is ill and Rod Genter is recovering from a surgery

Unfinished Business:

1. Many of the members of Post 154 participated in Stand Down. A big thanks to all the Post 154 members & spouses that participated.
2. Applebee's Fundraiser will be Saturday September 30th. The Executive Committee voted to make a \$100 deposit to reserve the date and that has been paid. About 14 volunteers

will be required with everyone reporting at about 8:30 am. Tickets will be \$10 each and they will be available for pre-sale soon.

3. Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser is well under way with planting scheduled for approximately the 3rd of June. There will be a Harvest Festival on October 21st and Sue Fevold made many great connections at Stand Down for this event.
4. The landowner of the Pumpkin Patch is having a track meet (shot put, discus, javelin throwing) and the Post has offered to help park cars. If you would like to help on June 2nd and or 3rd please contact John and Sue Fevold.
5. Flag retirement ceremony at 10 am on June 14th & Executive Committee meeting to follow.

New Business:

1. **FIRST READING** of a possible change to the bylaws based on Executive Committee recommendation. There was a **Motion** by Len Crosby to accept and recommend to the membership the following changes to the bylaws – second by John Fevold **Motion Carried**

The following parts stricken out in BLACK will be DELETED and those in RED will be ADDED to the Post 154 bylaws.

Article III – Post Executive Committee

Section 1. Separate from the officers of the Post, the Post Executive Committee shall consist of three (3) members elected from the Post membership and will be known as a committeeperson and together with the officers of this Post shall be elected during annual elections on the 4th Wednesday of April, and take office at the next following monthly meeting, after the election. ~~All elections of Post Executive Committeeperson and officers shall be by ballot, and the candidate or candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to the respective office for which they are nominated.~~ **The procedure for electing a committeeperson shall be the same as set out in Article XIII Section 1 for Post Officers.** The immediate past Commander shall automatically become a member of this committee with voice but no vote.

Section 2. The Post Commander shall chair the Post Executive Committee. It shall be the duty of the Post Executive Committee members to act as a general advisory board to the Post Commander.

Section 3. Three (3) Committeepersons shall be elected and will serve on the post Executive Committee. ~~as follows: one member for a one year term not to exceed a total of three consecutive years and one member for a two year term not to exceed a total of four consecutive years, and one member for a three year term not to exceed a total of six consecutive years.~~

1. **One committeeperson for a 3-year term**
2. **One committeeperson for a 2-year term**
3. **One committeeperson for a 1-year term**

Article XIII – Elections

Section 1. The annual election shall be held during the regular membership meeting in April where Post Officers and Post Executive Committee members shall be elected. ~~Voting shall be by secret ballot.~~ **Voting shall be by voice vote if there is only one candidate for an office, by ballot**

if there are multiple candidates or by acclamation if there is an unopposed slate of officers.

Nominations can be made from the floor at the March general membership meeting provided the nominee gives verbal consent if present, or written consent if not present and also at the April general membership meeting. Officers and Post Executive Committee members so elected by simple majority vote shall be properly installed into office at the next regular meeting held at the May membership meeting

Motion by Len Crosby to approve the 1st reading of the bylaws change – Second by Todd Halvorson Motion approved

Jean Bledsoe commented that she has been the chair for the Veterans Recognition Event the last couple of years and would like a co-chair to assist in the planning. Please contact her if you have an interest.

Lewiston Veterans Home Food Convoy: Suggested donation of \$1 to benefit the Lewiston Veterans Home Food Drive which takes place in October. Total collected ss\$25.00 + previous \$110.44 **TOTAL \$135.44**

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm

John Fevold, 1st Vice Commander

Bryan Bledsoe, Adjutant



Membership Meeting Agenda
Commander Deanna Sasse
Manuel Schneidmiller Post 154, Inc.
American Legion Department of Idaho
May 24, 2017

Opening

1. *1 rap of the gavel and the doors shall be closed by the Sergeant at Arms*
2. *3 raps of the gavel and all members present shall stand*

Colors

Prayer – Uncover through the Pledge of Allegiance

POW/MIA Empty Chair

Pledge of Allegiance

Recite Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion

Sergeant at Arms certifies number of members and a quorum present

Roll Call Officers & Executive Committee Members

Guests & Introductions

Installation of Officers – by Past District 1 Adjutant Bryan Bledsoe

Commander	Dee Sasse
1 st Vice Commander	John Fevold
2 nd Vice Commander	Larry Carstensen
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Minutes

Financial Report

Committee Reports

1. Membership & Americanism – 1st Vice Commander John Fevold
2. Ceremonials - 2nd Vice Commander Larry Carstensen
3. Economic, Finance & Legislative – Finance Officer Len Crosby
4. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation - Service Officer Ruth Aresvik
5. Kootenai Veterans Council – Charlie Till
6. Graves and Registration, VAVS - Chaplain, Paula Atwood
7. Children & Youth - Judge Advocate, Jeffrey Broadhead
8. Honor Guard – Todd Halvorson

9. Technology & PR - Jean Bledsoe

Health & Welfare Report – Chaplain Paula Atwood

1. Post member Bobby Johnston passed away Feb 1st
2. Helen Kinder
3. Rod Genter

Unfinished Business

1. Poppy Fund Raiser update
2. Stand Down – thanks to all the Post 154 members & spouses that participated
3. Applebee's Fundraiser – Saturday September 30th – Executive Committee voted to make a \$100 deposit to reserve the date
4. Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser – planting and preparation
5. Parking help for Pumpkin Patch landowner on June 2nd and 3rd
6. Flag retirement ceremony June 14th & Executive Committee meeting to follow

New Business

1. Lew Allert has been helping Matthew Halsey, who is a wheel chair bound veteran with Multiple Systems Atrophy. Lew has donated a 2,500-square foot garden plot where Matthew is going to cultivate an Organic Garden. Some of the vegetables will be given to veterans and some will be sold at the Farmers Market to fund the cost of the seeds, plants and the possible expansion of the garden by another 8,000 square feet next year if all goes well. The soil has been tilled and is ready for planting. VOLUNTEER(S) are needed to help plant the seeds. Matthew does get out of the wheelchair and crawls along the ground but is limited to the time he can do this. The intense sun also has a negative effect on him.

If you or someone you know, with a big heart, has an interest in helping with this project please contact Lew Allert at [\(208\) 661-0463](tel:2086610463).

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Post & Legion Calendar Combined

May 26 – National Poppy Day – Post 154 @ Yokes in Post Falls & Super 1 in Rathdrum

May 27 – Post 154 Poppy Program @ Yokes in Post Falls & Super 1 in Rathdrum

May 29 – Memorial Day

1. 10 am Evergreen Cemetery Post Falls – Honor Guard

2. **Noon Pinegrove Cemetery Rathdrum – Honor Guard and Post members**

June 2 - Parking for track meet Southeast Corner of Ramsey & Highway 53

June 3 - Pumpkin Patch Planting

June 10 – Applebee’s breakfast \$10 to support the DAR

June 14 - Flag Day and the 242nd Anniversary of the US Army

1. **Flag Retirement Ceremony 10 AM @ Lions Club**

2. **Executive Committee Meeting immediately following Flag Retirement**

3. **CANCELLED 6 PM Executive Committee Meeting**

June 16 – Honor Guard at Washington State Veterans Cemetery

June 25 – Start of the Korean War (1950)

June 28 – Post 154 Membership Meeting

Lewiston Veterans Home Food Convoy – To date \$110.44 - Suggested \$1 donation is collected from those that would like to donate at each membership meeting

Raffle Drawing

Chaplain Prayer – Stand & Uncover

Flag Salute

Adjournment