



Sons of The American Legion

Detachment of Iowa



720 Lyon St.
Des Moines, IA 50309

Detachment Executive Committee Meeting **Bedford, Iowa** **April 23, 2017**

Commander Gary Bonesteel opened the meeting in proper fashion at 9:00 AM. Detachment Chaplain Dennis Theobald offered opening prayer. Detachment Judge Advocate Michael Deacon stated the rules of the meeting. Welcome was given by Adjutant Mark Beery of Bedford and response by Vice-Commander Nicholas Ring.

Members in attendance were Commander Gary Bonesteel; Vice-Commanders James Lastovka and Nicholas Ring; Adjutant: Brian Kessler, Chaplain Dennis Theobald; Finance Officer Bob Rosenboom; Judge Advocate Michael Deacon; National Executive Committeeman Richard Young; Alternate National Executive Committeeman Bobby Jackson with three excused officers. Four Chairman were present with four excused; four Past Commanders were present with two excused; Advisors in attendance were Randy Freel and James Dean, District Advisors Randy Freel, and Alan Schenk. There were twelve Squadrons, 1 guests in attendance for a total attendance of 17.

Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Dennis Theobald, **Muscatine**, to approve minutes of February 11, 2017 as presented; motion carried.

Bob Rosenboom gave the Detachment Finance report for the 1st quarter (January-March 2017) with beginning balance of \$21,182.59, total expenses of \$8,432.39, total income of \$6,130.00, leaving a balance of \$25,949.95. Bob called the Detachments attention to the fact we have given \$7,195.50 in donations this year. Motion by Richard Young, **Washington**, seconded by Bobby Jackson, **Lorimor**, to approve the finance report as presented; motion carried. Bob noted the Nichole Clapp campaign has taken their first thousand dollars from us and a thousand dollars has been put in the account for Richard to use for his campaign.

After hosting a hospitality room at Mid-Winter, it was discussed about getting a freezer to keep the ice cream frozen as we had problems of runny ice cream. Bob said it would only cost about \$135.00 for a 3ft. cubic freezer from Menards. It was suggested we should do at all meetings where there would be hospitality rooms. With the discussion as far as location of the hospitality, everyone like the room, but thought it would be good if we could have it in the open closer to the hospitality rooms where we could get an outlet for the freezer, but if we were going to do it there we should have a banner for our area. Marcia Hoch said she would talk to Kathy about seeing if the National Guard could make us one for free. Mike said he would talk to Adjutant Derner about seeing if we can have a space out in the holidome with tables. Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Nicholas Ring, **Glenwood**, to purchase a freezer for the Hospitality room at Convention and Mid-Winter Conference; motion carried.

Brian talked about the last step in this round of squadron closures and being one last phone call and then sending the paperwork to the Department Executive Committee for them to approve the closures. Those Squadrons have said they wish to close or Detachment knew they should be closed were Belle Plaine #39, Eldridge #639, Waukee #737, Melcher #632, Cumming #562, and

Corydon #68. Five Squadrons expressed desire to stay open: Coon Rapids #357, Grinnell #53, Monroe #363, Lenox #250, and Walnut #422. Marcia Hoch said she would work on the paperwork for those that are left and if she didn't hear from Mike Deacon, Gary Bonestell, Bob Rosenboom, Ken Rochholz, Nicholas Ring, James Dean and Brian Kessler by Friday (April 28, 2017) she would send them to be closed. Motion by Bob Rosenboom, **Palmer**, seconded by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, to close squadrons: Ashton, #290, Avoca #227, Carroll #7, Central City #421, Charles City #174, Corydon #68, Cumming #562, Iowa Falls #188, Melcher #632, Terril #432, Vinton #57, and West Point #668; motion carried.

The Detachment decided they were going to do the membership awards for the highest District with membership based on membership 30 days before Convention. Discussion then turned to maybe giving the watches out with different criteria. Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Richard Young **Washington**, to give watches to the District Commander with highest percentage of membership growth, minus new Squadrons and revitalizing Squadrons, of a District 30 days prior to Convention and the District Commander present the second watch to the eligible Squadron with highest membership growth and the member in that Squadron he feels has done the most in that Squadron for their membership growth; motion carried.

The Detachment is going to give out ribbons for the Squadrons who have reached 75% or 100% membership by Convention. Mike Deacon, Richard Young and Gary Bonesteel said they would be willing to help hand them out on Friday of Convention.

Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Nicholas Ring **Glenwood**, to accept the 2016-2017 Convention Rules as presented; motion carried.

The Detachment worked on the Operating Structure with a few changes. Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Bobby Jackson, **Lorimor**, to give \$500.00 call to those designated by the Operating Structure to attend National Convention, motion carried.

Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Dennis Theobald, **Muscatine**, to include the Adjutant with those getting call to National Convention; motion carried.

Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Nicholas Ring, **Glenwood**, to approve revised operating structure; motion carried.

Motion by Nicholas Ring, **Glenwood**, seconded by Dennis Theobald, **Muscatine**, to approve and send the Detachment Budget for 2017-2018 to the Department Finance Committee and the Department Executive Committee for their approval and the ratified at the Detachment Convention; motion carried. Worksheet is on file with Adjutant.

Marcia Hoch talked about how some of our Squadrons have deficits or surpluses in their membership accounts. She asked if she could send out a statement at the end of June with balance the Squadron has on hand or in the hole in membership dollars to start the next year. It was discussed maybe she should send them out more often in the future with it being decided she could send them out with each newsletter from now on.

Motion by Bobby Jackson, **Lorimor**, seconded Mike Deacon, **Ames**, to give \$100.00 each to Keokuk National Cemetery, Iowa Veterans Home and Cemetery at Marshalltown, Iowa Veterans Cemetery in Van Meter for Wreaths Across American project. motion carried.

Motion by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, seconded by Nicholas Ring, **Glenwood**, to give \$200.00 to Bedford Squadron for hosting the Spring Conference; motion carried.

Motion by Bob Rosenboom, **Palmer**, seconded by Bobby Jackson, **Lorimor**, to print 300 calendar books; motion carried.

Commander Bonesteel recessed the meeting at 11:30 AM for lunch.

Commander Bonesteel reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM.

Marcia Hoch gave the remarks from the Department of Iowa; she also handed out certificates for those Squadrons that were 100% membership by the March 15 Legion Birthday.

Commander Rochholz brought his remarks and talked about the 100th Anniversary placemats for the American Legion, the stories on it and encouraged everyone to use them.

Motion by Bob Rosenboom, **Palmer**, seconded by Dennis Theobald **Muscatine**, to put \$1,000.00 into the Commander's project for the parking lot at Department; motion carried.

Liaison with The American Legion/Internal Affairs Randy Freel gave his report he will give to the Legion DEC, and is on file.

Allen Schenck gave a report from the 7th District reporting on their membership and how well they are doing. Ninth District Commander James Dean talked about 9th District membership.

National Executive Committeeman Richard Young reported on the Triple Nickel Ribbon Resolution he is taking to Spring NEC and noted there would be nothing to report till after the meeting the first weekend in May.

Dennis Theobald gave the report for the Membership Chairman and discussed how well the Detachment is doing. Dennis presented Bobby Jackson with an award for getting the 5th District to goose egg free status first in the Detachment.

Dennis Theobald also gave his report as Legislative Chairman talking about talking to your legislators about Veterans Issues.

James Lastovka brought the Americanism report from Gary Palas, all concerning the events of the Department Americanism Committee.

Most of the Committee's reported they wouldn't have any information till after the spring NEC on May 5-7.

Commander Bonesteel gave his report where he discussed his health and an idea for a Detachment of Iowa polo shirt. The Detachment told the Commander we will back him and if his health turns, we will help him in whatever way we can, but to stay the course for another year. Adjutant Kessler said he would look into getting polo shirts made for the Detachment of Iowa.

Motion by Bob Rosenboom, **Palmer**, seconded by Mike Deacon, **Ames**, to accept all reports as presented; motion carried.

For Sick Call: Ron Sebring from Bedford is sick with cancer and Annie Blanchard, wife of PDC Mike Blanchard, had surgery to remove her right foot.

Bobby Jackson talked about the Department of Iowa American Legion Auxiliary Junior Girls having a raffle of the Green Lantern fleece blanket, that was donated by Central Region National Vice-Commander Michael Lawler, to raise money for Nichole Clapp's National Presidents Campaign Fund.

Under the Good of the Sons: Bedford wished to donate the registration fee to Commander Rochholz project for the Department parking lot.

Only Commander Bonesteel was interested in attending the Department of Iowa Leadership School June 2-4, 2017.

Detachment Convention will be the July 22 in Des Moines at the Airport Holiday Inn, starting at 9:00 AM with DEC to follow. Those attending were asked to be thinking about Detachment Officers for the 2017-2018 year, with this year being the year we need to elect NEC and Alt. NEC for the 2017-2019 years. It was also noted we have one endorsement for Detachment Chaplain.

Those expressing interest in attending the National Convention in Reno were: Commander Gary Bonesteel, Finance Officer Bob Rosenboom, PNC Mike Deacon, NEC Richard Young, Alt. NEC Bobby Jackson, James Dean, Department Commander Ken Rochholz, James Peterson, Gary Haverman, and Jim Valentine. Final ratification of all delegates will be at Detachment Convention in July.

The DEC Fall Conference will be at Detachment Headquarters on October 29 starting at 9:00 AM. There will be no training or Detachment activities at this meeting. Arrangements for rooms for those wishing to stay the night before are still be arranged.

Chaplain Theobald offered the closing prayer, with Commander Bonesteel closing the meeting in proper fashion at 3:00 PM.

Brian Kessler
Brian Kessler
Detachment Adjutant
Sons of the American Legion