

DATE: October 4, 2023

SUBJECT: Minutes of the October 3, 2023 Post Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM with 5 officers, 9 members and 2 guests present.

2. Hand Salute rendered. POW flag placed by Sergeant-at-Arms Gibson, and a prayer offered by Commander Duffett followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble to the Legion Constitution.

3. Roll call of officers: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Yoder and Chaplain McQuain excused; all other officers present.

4. Recognition of Past Commander Mike Kubitza and guests Canfield School Superintendent Joe Knoll and Brenda Gregory of the KAZ Company.

5. Superintendent Knoll briefed the Post on the upcoming school levy. He expounded on what the \$100+ million would be used for; and also the impact of the levy on homeowner taxes. Additionally, he advised of two upcoming community meetings to further explain the levy.

6. Ms. Gregory discussed with members the Medicare open enrollment period and her recommendation that veterans – even those who get their primary care through the VA system – explore Medicare supplemental coverages.

7. Committee reports, correspondences:

a. Commander: Commander Duffett read Steve McQuain's resignation as Chaplain due to health reasons. Steve will remain a member of the Post. Commander Duffett encouraged any member wishing to serve in the appointed position of Chaplain to let him know as soon as possible.

b. First Vice Commander Cooper: Nothing to report.

c. Second Vice Commander Yoder: Excused.

- d. Adjutant Coleman: Nothing to report.
- e. Chaplain McQuain: Excused.

f. Finance Officer Diloreto: Provided Finance Reports for September. Details of the Post's finances will not be reported in the monthly minutes. Members interested in details of the monthly financials can email Finance Officer Diloreto directly. Member Kosar moved to accept the financial report as presented. Sergeant-at-Arms Gibson offered the second and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Unfinished/Old Business:

a. Commander Duffett reported on the MCVSA 2023 Awards Banquet at which our Post nominee for Youth of the Year (Sarah DeRosa) was recognized.

b. The Post will participate in the following Veterans Day activities:

- (1) Thursday, November 9, 2023 beginning at 8:15AM at CH Campbell Elementary School, Veterans Day Assembly.
- (2) Friday, November 10, 2023 beginning at 8:00AM at Canfield High School Auditorium, Veterans Day Assembly with special emphasis on Vietnam Era veterans (2023 marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of US participation in the Vietnam War).
- (3) Friday, November 10, 2023 beginning at 10:00AM, the Post will visit 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classrooms at Hilltop Elementary School to discuss who veterans are and why it is important to recognize them.
- (4) Friday, November 10, 2023 throughout the day, Dominic Diloreto, Bill Gibson, et al will visit nine (9) nursing homes to present "Thank You Veterans Cards" prepared by 4<sup>th</sup> Graders at Hilltop School to veteran residents.
- (5) Saturday, November 11, 2023 beginning at 11:00AM the Post will conduct a brief Veterans Day ceremony at the Veterans Plaza on The Green.

For all of the above activities, the Commander is encouraging Post members to participate. For the school activities, members should let either the Commander or Adjutant know they will be attending.

c. Finance Officer/Honor Guard OIC Diloreto expounded on his frustrations in ordering Honor Guard uniforms from Emblem Sales. Confidence is not high that we will have all required items by Veterans Day. He will keep on them to ship expeditiously.

d. Commander Duffett noted that he will be forming a small team of Post members to manage the Post 177 Scholarship Award (\$1000) to be presented to a Canfield High School senior in Spring 2024. Immediate need will be for the subject of the essay applicants will be asked to write.

- 9. New Business:
  - a. Past Commander Kubitza briefed the members on the meeting with Ken Noon of Summit Monuments. His company made the black monuments that sit on our Veterans Plaza. The discussions with Noon were what we could do to add additional names to the Plaza. There is room for approximately eleven (11) additional names on the obelisk monuments. Noon's recommendation is to add two (2) additional monuments identical to our Platinum Sponsor monument and have them flank the platinum monument. He believes we can probably add forty (40) additional names, total, to the two (2). We are awaiting a quote from Noon for the two (2) additional monuments. We will solicit donations for names to be added – perhaps \$100 for Post members and \$250 for non-members.
  - Mahoning County Veteran Appreciation Luncheon (free to veterans) will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at the Maronite Center beginning at 11:00AM. Although the deadline for RSVP's has passed, it might be possible to still attend. Calal Felicia at 330-720-2450.
  - c. The Carl Nunziato VA Outpatient Clinic is offering walk-in flu shots from 9:00-11:00AM and 1:00-3:30PM, Monday through Friday.
  - d. Next County meeting will be held at Austintown Post. There will be no assessment to posts this year. Post 177 will host County meeting in January 2024 at a place and time TBD.
- 10. Memorial to a departed member: None.
- 11. For the good of the American Legion: None.
- 12. Commander Duffett: Final Prayer.
- 13. Recover POW Flag: Sergeant-at-Arms Gibson.

14. Next regular Post meeting will be on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 beginning at 7:00 PM in the Township Hall.

15. Adjourn at 8:20 PM.

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CHARLES M. COLEMAN Adjutant