



AMERICAN LEGION POST 177

Post Office Box 53

CANFIELD, OH 44406

DATE: 07 December 2013

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Monthly Meeting, 04 February 2014

1. Meeting called to order at 1900 hrs.
2. 12 members present
3. The POW flag was placed and a hand salute by all members rendered. This was followed by a prayer by the post chaplain and the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Motion to approve the minutes from December's meeting was tabled until March's meeting because a copy was not available for members to read.
5. All members present introduced themselves. A new member, Raymond Pfahl, was introduced and welcomed to the post. He is transferring from an American Legion Post in Indiana.
6. Committee Reports:
 - Commander -
 - Current membership has 53 names on the book, 49 have paid for 2014 and 4 are still unpaid.
 - Informed members present about the Homestead Tax Credit. For more information individuals need to contact the county government tax office.
 - First Vice - None
 - Adjutant -
 - Motion to table revision of Post 177 Constitution and By-laws until March's meeting because there was not enough time to type corrections and make copies for members to view.
 - 2nd Charles Coleman
 - Finance -
 - Ken Craig has volunteered to be the post treasurer.
 - There is a total of \$625 in the post's account.
 - Need to contact SAL regarding their donating money to the post.

- Chaplain -
 - Informed members present that they may be eligible for miniature service medals and how to obtain them.

7. Unfinished business:

- Need to contact the War Vet Museum to schedule a time to inventory and remove Post property. POC is Pam Spees.
- The cost to replace the Post flag is \$900. It was decided by the members present to seek estimates from several seamstresses to see if it is more economical to repair the flag instead.

8. New Business and Correspondence:

- Bill Gibson reported that YSU Veterans Affairs is constructing a new building on campus and that Carl Nunziotto, the director of the program, would be willing to address Post members about what they do and possibly how we can increase our membership.
 - Bill Gibson will coordinate this and report back to the post at the next meeting.
- The Mahoning County Board of Disabilities is sponsoring a lunch on 13 March from 1100-1200 free of charge. The location is the Poland United Methodist Church at 1940 Boardman-Poland Rd. Poland, OH 44514. If interested, contact George Gabriel no later than 10 March at 330-797-2902.
- The United Veterans Council is presenting a recognition and awards banquet on Friday, March 21 at the Saxon Club located at 710 S. Meridian Rd. There is a Social hour at 1800 and dinner at 1830. The cost is \$20 per ticket. The post has 8 tickets for any member interested in purchasing one.
- Details for the post's role in the upcoming Memorial Day Program was discussed.
 - Due to the current status of Post membership, the members are not physically able to perform any color guard duties.
 - Another concern is the lack of preparation for drill and ceremony by the SAL who has done this in the past. The lack of proficiency in drill and ceremony looks bad for the post and it would be better for the post to find another avenue to support this event.
 - One option would be to contact another organization such as YSU ROTC or the Civil Air Patrol to provide a color guard.
 - The post needs to see if there is a check list for preparing for the Memorial Day Activities such as Coordinating guest speakers for the event

- Charles Coleman suggested that it would be worthwhile to schedule a future meeting involving a tour. One place would be Camp Ravenna.
9. The next monthly meeting of Post 177 will be on Tuesday, 04 March 2014 beginning at 7:00 PM in the Canfield Township Offices, 21 South Broad Street, Canfield, OH.
 10. There being no further business, Mr. Kubitza directed adjournment at 1955 hrs.



CHARLES M. COLEMAN
First Vice Commander
Canfield American Legion Post 177

1 Encl
Post 177 Constitution (DRAFT)

**THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
AMERICAN LEGION POST 177, CANFIELD, OH 44406
DEPARTMENT OF OHIO**

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes. To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America, to maintain law and order: to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism: to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars: to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State, and Nation: to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses: to make right the master of might: to promote peace and good will on earth: to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy: to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

ARTICLE I – NAME AND HEADQUARTERS

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be Post No. 177, The American Legion, Canfield, Department of Ohio.

Section 2. There is no Post Headquarters. All notices and documents addressed to the Post shall be sent to **Post Office Box 53**, Canfield, OH 44406.

ARTICLE II – OBJECTS

Section 1. The objects and purposes of this Post shall be to promote the principles and policies set forth in the foregoing preamble, and the National, Department, and County Constitution and By-laws of The American Legion.

ARTICLE III – NATURE

Section 1. This Post is a civilian organization and membership therein does not affect or increase liability for military or police service. Rank does not exist in The American Legion; no member shall be addressed by his military or naval title in any meeting of the Post.

Section 2. This organization shall be absolutely non-political and non-sectarian, and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles or for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Section 3. Each member shall perform his full duty as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Any person shall be eligible for membership in The American Legion who was a member of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Air Force of the United States and assigned to active duty at some time during any of the following periods: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955; February 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975; August 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984; December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990; August 2, 1990 to the cessation of hostilities as determined by the government of The United States of America: all dates inclusive, or who being a citizen of the United States at the time of his entry therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of the said periods; provided, however, that such service shall have been terminated by honorable discharge or honorable separation, or continued honorably during or after any of said periods; provided, further, that no person shall be entitled to membership who, being in such service during any of said periods, refused on conscientious, political, or other grounds to subject himself to military discipline or unqualified service.

Section 2. All applications for membership accompanied by service discharge papers shall be referred to the Membership Chair and/or the Post Commander. Upon approval of eligibility, the application accompanied by the dues shall be presented to the Post at a regular meeting and shall be acted upon at such meeting. A majority vote of the Post shall be necessary for acceptance.

Section 3. There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership. Dues shall be paid annually. **Should there be a date set?**

Section 4. No person who is a member of another American Legion Post can be a member of American Legion Post 177.

Section 5. Members may be reprimanded, suspended, or expelled from the American Legion. **And** Officers may be reprimanded, removed from office, suspended or expelled from membership only upon proper showing of cause per ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2 of the Department By-Laws.

Section 6. Any member who has been suspended, expelled or removed from office has the right of appeal to the Department Executive committee in the manner prescribed by said Committee. The decision of the department shall be final.

Section 7. No person, who has been expelled by a Post shall be admitted to membership in this Post without the consent of the expelling Post, except that where such consent has been asked for and has been denied by such Post, he may then appeal to the Department Executive Committee for permission to be admitted to membership in the Post and he shall be ineligible for membership until such permission is granted. **Is there a new member checklist?**

Section 8. A member who has been expelled or suspended from this Post for any cause other than non-payment of dues may be reinstated to membership by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee and a majority vote of the Post; provided, however, that he shall make payment of any arrears in his dues from the time of the expulsion or suspension, and also other regular dues which have been payable in the interval between his expulsion or suspension and his reinstatement.

Section 9. Any member in good standing desiring to transfer from this Post to another Post is entitled to a certificate from this Post stating his membership, the duration thereof, and the date to which his dues are paid. **Do we have a certificate format on file?**

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

Section 1. The Administration of the Post's affairs, between meetings of the Post, and except as may be otherwise provided in the By-laws of the Post, shall be under the supervision of an Executive Committee which shall consist of no fewer than three (3) and no more than five (5) members, to be known as Executive Committeemen, in addition to the elective officers of the Post which are the Commander and one (1) Vice-Commander.

Section 2 All elective officers and Executive Committeemen shall be elected and installed in the month of June annually and they shall hold office until their successors are duly installed or as otherwise provided.

Section 3. Every member of this Post, in good standing, shall be eligible to hold office in this Post except as otherwise provided herein..

ARTICLE VI – FINANCES AND DUES

Section 1. The revenue of this Post shall be derived from membership or initiation fees from annual membership dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the Post.

Section 2. The annual dues of individual members of the Post shall be THIRTY DOLLARS (\$30.00) and, in addition thereto, any amount charged as dues by any intermediate body between the Post and Department of Ohio per member; the amount of the Annual Post dues shall be as set forth in the Post By-laws.

Section 3. The Post shall expeditiously collect the annual dues for its members and shall pay to The American Legion, Department of Ohio such amount due to the National, Department, District, and County Organizations.

Section 4. All moneys received in any manner for welfare purposes of any nature by the Post shall be deposited in a duly authorized banking institution and none of such moneys shall be withdrawn except for welfare purposes and, upon draft signed by the Finance Officer of the Post and at least one other member thereof duly elected for that purpose.

Section 5. This Post shall not solicit another Post or County Organization for purposes of financial aid or relief.

ARTICLE VII – AUXILIARY

Section 1. The Post recognizes an Auxiliary Organization known as the AUXILLIARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 177, OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF OHIO.

Section 2. Membership in the said Auxiliary Organization shall be governed by the Constitution of The American Legion.

ARTICLE VIII – SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Section 1. This Post recognizes Sons of The American Legion Organization known as the SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 177 OF THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF OHIO.

Section 2. Membership in the Sons of The American Legion shall be governed by the constitution and By-Laws of the sons of The American Legion.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This Constitution adopted is subject to the provisions of the National, Department, and **Lake County Constitution** and By-laws, The American Legion. Any amendments to said National, Department, or County Constitution and By-laws which conflict with any provisions hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution to the extent of such conflict.

Section 2 This Constitution may be amended at any regular Post meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members attending such regular meeting providing there is a quorum present, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at **two (2)** preceding regular meetings of the Post, and provided further that written notice, including a copy of the proposed amendment shall have been sent to all members at least ten days in advance of the date when such amendment is to be voted upon **before any changes take effect.**