



*WALTER L. FOX POST #2
835 Bay Rd.
Dover, DE. 19901*

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
October 13, 2008

Commander John Hufford opened the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: present – 1st Vice Commander Danny Seeman, 2nd Vice Commander Michael Cohill, Finance Officer & IPPC Kim M. Endres, Adjutant John Endres, Chaplain Nelson Dodd, Ass't Chaplain & Executive Committeeman P. Bastian, Sgt. at Arms Wayne Hicks, Service Officer Donald E. White Jr., Stewart-at-Large Charles Lee, Executive Committeeman Steve Shappee.

Excused: Ass't Finance Officer Rebecca Crouser, Historian Richard Benedict, Executive Committeemen Jeff Crouser and Mike Windows. Absent: Asst-Sgt-at-Arms Dick Miller.

Members present: 35 including Officers - .02 % of membership

J. Endres made a motion to accept the September General Membership meeting as posted and distributed. Seconded by E. Buckley. Voted and passed.

J. Endres made a motion to accept the October E/C minutes as read and distributed. Seconded by P. Bastian. Voted and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank you letter from Special Olympics for our donation.
- Thank you letter from Chester River Health Foundation for our donation.
- Thank you letter from Chesapeake Bay Foundation for our donation.
- Thank you note from the widow of Frank Coursey for our donation to Hospice.
- Request for donation from 2008 USA Indoor Field Hockey team.
- Department is running a get-away raffle to be awarded at Department Christmas party tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. 1st prize one night stay at Dover Downs and a buffet dinner for two at the "Festival Buffet" and two small baskets of cheer for the runners-up. Call Post 30 at 302-328-9715 for tickets.
- Open Invite to the Annual CHEER Veteran's Day Celebration Tuesday, November 11, 2008 from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm at Georgetown Senior Center 546 S. Bedford St. Would like Veterans' organizations to bring their American Flag and Unit Flag and if possible, a color guard unit to participate in the opening ceremony.

SICKNESS & DISTRESS: None reported.

GUESTS & NEW MEMBERS: Commander Hufford introduced new member Tony Barilla.

K. Endres inquired if anyone had any questions with this month's financial report? None

Committee Reports:

First Vice Commander: D. Seeman read the names of 48 new members and moved to accept them. Seconded by M. Cohill. Voted and passed. He further reported:

- 2009 membership count is 1374 members, 68% of membership goal.

Scouting: D. Seeman had nothing to report at this time.

Second Vice Commander: M. Cohill reported the Veterans Day Ceremony will be at 11am on November 11th. He further reported on the change that all veterans can salute the flag whether they had head gear on or not.

POW/MIA M. Cohill had nothing to report at this time.

Bingo: M. Cohill reported help is always needed. Attendance is decreasing and he feels it is because of the current economy. If the attendance does not increase consideration should be given to stop bingo.

Service Officer: D. White spoke on the planning he is doing for visits to local nursing homes He plans on being at the Post on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3-5 pm other times please leave a message for him on extension 19. He is working with the Department Service Officer on the process for applying for benefits and reminded everyone there is Veterans Clinic in Dover. J. Hart reported 6 Post 2 members visited the Veterans at Smyrna Home and Hospital on their own this month.

Public Relations: D. White reported in the works.

Legislative: D. White reported he assisted Dick Bundy with the Candidates Night at the Post.

C & Y: S. Shappee reported the Children's Halloween party will be October 25th from Noon to 3 pm with face painting and refreshments.

PMT: P. Bastian reported the team paid honor and respect to Edward Frye & Gordon Zdana and also accomplished the following: Attended the Patriots' Day and MIA/POW ceremonies.

SAL, Historian, Holding Co, Life Membership & Athletic: No report.

PHMSC: K. Endres reported like bingo Trivia night attendance is decreasing, Michele spends several hours preparing for the game, at least 4 teams are need so please come out and support this fun night at the Post with a chance to win \$25.00. Further reminded everyone about Shrimp & Ribs Saturday night from 4 to 8 pm, adults Halloween party on October 25th at 8 pm in Fox Lounge. There will be an employee meeting on Sunday October 19th at noon, may need a volunteer to bartend in the Fox Lounge.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

J. Endres reported a Clubroom & Lounge bank statement balance as of September 24th of \$10,555.12. Transferred \$28,500.00 to the Post during September. There was a profit of \$731.01 from the ATM machine with a transfer of \$731.00 to the Post baseball expense escrow new balance of \$1,531.24. He then made a motion to accept the reports subject to audit. Seconded by D. Seeman. Voted and passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

Good of the Legion:

J. Hart spoke on the lack of ceremonies at the Post, see attachment A.

W. Martin discussed veterans that do not have the capacity to be out leading a normal life and put away in institutions by the State who have little or no family, guest or cash. He further discussed his recent request of the Executive Committee to reconsider the Posts position of not visiting the veterans in Smyrna Home and Hospital as a Post function and asked the membership to reconsider their position. Commander Hufford stated that this discussion has been held too many times and any further discussion needs to be made to Post 14 in Smyrna where no one has contacted their Commander. The Commander further stated that he has been visiting Silver Lake Nursing Home in Dover this month and there are veterans there that have no family, guest or cash to purchase anything so Post 2 needs a program to visit our local veterans instead of a location not in our jurisdiction.

R. Craig discussed the condition of the Post parking lot after bingo on Friday nights and all the trash that is tossed in the parking lot. Post members need to speak up and say something when they see someone throwing trash on the ground. Remember we have trash containers for your trash not the ground. W. Hicks further reminded everyone that the Flag disposal can is not for trash.

J. Endres reported the deadline for the newsletter is this Friday October 17. He further discussed the need for an increase in membership dues beginning in Legion year June 2010.

D. Seeman made a motion to donate \$100.00 to 2008 USA Indoor Field Hockey team consisting of 8 local High School girls. Seconded by P. Bastian. Voted and passed.

D. White congratulated Commander Hufford and K. Endres for retaining the Post as a large Post status for their work last year.

There being no further business Commander Hufford closed the meeting at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted for the Commander,

John A. Endres
John A. Endres

Attachment A

I would like to bring to your attention a disturbing situation that is developing.

When we are supposed to have a ceremony for particular events, the attendance at these events continues to diminish.

Just recently, there should have been a Ceremony for 911 or September 11, 2008 (7 years after that terrible day.) There were 8 people at this year's ceremony. The 8 people consisted of 6 Memorial Team Members, the wife of one of the Memorial Team, and the Second Vice, all of Walter L. FOX Post #2

There was no prior publicity in the paper, or on the radio, there was no indication in the Legion Bulletin, in fact the bulletin indicated that there would be wings and trivia on 11 September 2008.

The next event came on 19 September 2008, and that was the POW/MIA ceremony. There were 10 members of the Post Memorial Team, and 2 Wives, and 2 of the members of the Memorial Team were committed to a funeral in Millsboro.

Again there was no newspaper or radio coverage, The Legion bulletin indicated there would be Bingo, Kitchen Special – Italian Sausage Subs, and the regular Pavilion Party.

I would think that the second largest American Legion, in this state, could give some attention to events that veteran organizations should be aware of, and pay appropriate Honors

Last year the Post Commander published a list of ceremonies that would be coming up, and also listed those that were responsible for that ceremony. The list also indicated other elements that were requested to attend, such as the Color Guard, or Post Memorial Team.

My recommendation would be to implement this list for future ceremonies. Also, re-define the duty of the Public Relations Officer, and appoint some one that can and will complete these duties.

Jack Hart