



The American Legion - Hopewell Memorial Post 146

General Membership Meeting

February 18, 2019

Consolidated Summaries of Previous Meetings

January 21st General Membership and February 4th Executive Committee Meetings

Summaries of Previous General and Executive Committee Meetings:

a. January 21st General Membership Meeting:

Officer Reports:

• Membership (1st Vice):

- The Post now stands at 92% of the renewal objective with 331 paid members.
- Amanda Sims (USA) and Claiborne Tucker (USN) applied for American Legion and Post 146 membership; and Felix Locicero (Post 184, Herndon, VA) and Charles Mayle (Post 141) applied as transfer members.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to accept the above-named applicants as members of The American Legion and Post 146.

• Americanism/ Children & Youth Progs (2nd Vice):

- Essay Contest: Eight essays were received from Carter G. Woodson Middle School for the annual Americanism Essay Contest. Entries were judged on January 7th. The 2020 Post 146 contest winners are:

1st Place - Emiley Griffin - \$100.00

2nd Place - JeNiya White - \$50.00

3rd Place - Kaydence Jarrett-Peace - \$25.00

Winning student's Teacher: Mrs. Megan Babb - \$100.00

Additionally, Emiley's first place essay is the Post 146 entry at the 4th District Essay Competition in February.

- John Randolph Scholarship Fund The fee structure for managing the Post's scholarship has changed and the new fee is an increase over the past. The Executive Committee agreed to raise the scholarship amount from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Applications for scholarships are due not later than February 15th.
- Boys State: Letters from Department have been sent to all high schools. Meeting with Hopewell HS counselors is planned for February. We will be working with the ALA to select candidates for Boys State and Girls State this year.

- Bingo/Gaming (3rd Vice): BINGO started off the year well. An accounting of last year's authorized donations came in at a bit more than 12 percent, comfortably above the 10 percent target.
- House Committee: New canopy recently installed
- Finance Officer: Beginning Balance: \$75,475; Gross Deposits for all accounts: \$98,107; Expenditures \$89,633. December Net end of month balance: \$81,949.
- Service Officer: No Report
- Chaplain:
 - Thomas Lanik passed away January 16th. A memorial service is scheduled for St. James Catholic Church, 11:00 am, Saturday, February 1st.
 - Donald Bagshaw passed away January 17th. Condolences are scheduled for January 23rd and 24th at J.T. Morris & Sons Funeral Home from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. A memorial service will be conducted at the funeral home on Saturday, January 25th at 11:00 am.
 - SAL members G.G. Renn and Jerry Vance recently passed away. Renn on January 16th and Vance on January 19th.
 - Loretta Perry is now living at Brighter Living Retirement Center, room 136 and would appreciate cards and visits.
- Historian: Requested interesting personal stories for input into the monthly newsletter.
- Judge Advocate: No Report
- Sgt.-at-Arms: No Report

Correspondence: None

Old Business (Cdr):

Donations for McGuire Hospital – a question was raised about the plastic donation bin reported missing at the last meeting. Sgt-at-Arms replied that the bin had been found and that donations will soon be accepted. Focus will be on helping homeless veterans, so needs are different. Watch for the bin with a new list of needed items.

New Business: (Cdr): None

Good of the Legion: (Cdr)

Copies of the "Fort Lee Traveler" are available in the Club Room

b. February 4th Executive Committee Meeting:

Officer Reports:

- Membership (1st Vice): As of January 30th, renewal stood at 93% of target; putting us in 2nd place in 4th District.
- Americanism and Children & Youth (2nd Vice):
 - Boys State 4th District Director reported that this year county government positions are being added to the program
 - Hopewell High School has 15 candidates for Boys State. They will be interviewed/evaluated on Feb 11th
 - Post will send letters to local nonprofit organizations requesting donations to support Boys State Scholarships
- Bingo (3rd Vice): The Post took in \$36,721 in BINGO receipts in January, so the donation target is \$3,672. With last month's donations, the transfer of \$3,000 to the Restricted Fund and the allowed claims for facility maintenance and repair, the Post has spent \$8,662 so far this year; well above target.
- Post Finances (Fin Off): Beginning Balance: \$70,425; Gross Deposits for all accounts: \$93,047; Expenditures \$85,072. Net end of month balance for January was \$78,401. The Edward Jones Account end of year report shows Post investments at \$92,374.
- House Committee: The committee accomplished the following:
 - Formalized a policy for issuing and replacing key fobs. Article about the policy will appear in the next newsletter
 - Awarded a janitorial contract for cleaning the Post to Professional Maintenance Co. (PMC) in Prince George, VA. Tentative start date: March 1st
 - Roof of the post building has been repeatedly patched ever since the post took possession (1999). Inspection done when doing latest repair indicates the entire roof should be redone. Currently awaiting bids for the work which will not be undertaken until warmer weather arrives.
- Chaplain: Mark Creech's (Post Finance Officer) wife is very ill; has been in and out of the hospital. Larry Gammon, Post Service Officer, has experienced a recurrence of cancer. Prognosis is good. He continues to help veterans with Veterans Affairs issues.

Unfinished (Old) Business:

1. Pending Major Purchase Actions: Status Reports
 - a. Canopy/Awning for E. City Point Entrances: Installation Completed

- b. Approved Decorating Committee Recommendations: No action at this time as a hold on all new work was enacted by a vote of the General Membership.
 - c. Electrical System Evaluation: No action at this time as a hold on all new work was enacted by a vote of the General Membership..
2. Paralyzed Veterans Association has confirmed using the main activity room on February 22, 2020 to conduct a Fishing Tackle Yard Sale/Flea Market. They report that 32 vendor tables have been sold for the event. The Post will offer a buffet breakfast for the event.
 3. ABC License Application: Adjutant reported application submitted to the VA ABC on January 14th. The Post has been contacted by an ABC Agent who is the case officer working the application. The Post has received a number of new forms and document requests which are in preparation. Target for completion and submitting the new forms is February 15th.
 4. Donation Plan for 2020: The Donation Plan presented at the January meeting was reviewed. After discussion, the committee agreed to use it as a planning tool for the remainder of the calendar year. Adjutant will keep it updated to reflect actual donations approved/made each month.

New Business:

1. The adjutant reported that Finance Officer, Mark Creech, had resigned because of the illness of his wife. The Commander recommended that Mark Mauger, currently a member of the Budget and Finance Committee, be appointed as Post Finance Officer to complete the remainder of Mark Creech's term.
Action: Motion made, seconded and APPROVED to confirm the appointment of Mark Mauger as Post Finance Officer for the remainder of the Legion year.
2. Capital Improvements: The Post currently has a balance in excess of \$92,000 in the Edward Jones Investment Account. The Adjutant recommends the Executive Committee consider using a small portion (not to exceed \$10,000) to purchase needed infrastructure materials and equipment to upgrade the Post facility, specifically areas for which BINGO revenue may not be used.
Action: Motion made, seconded and APPROVED to recommend that not more than \$10,000 from the Edward Jones Investment Account be applied to infrastructure repairs or improvements. As required by the Post By-Laws, any purchase costing more than \$2,500 must have general membership approval.
3. Policy on Issue of Key Fobs: The House Committee has finalized and approved a formal policy on issuing and replacing key fobs for access to the Post Club Room.

The new policy will be the subject of an article in next month's newsletter and copies will be available at the next General Membership Meeting.

4. Sponsorship of Boys State Delegates: Received a letter from the Director of the Boys State Program requesting the number of delegates the Post wishes to sponsor for the 2020 session scheduled for June 21-27, 2020 at Radford University. [2nd Vice Cdr Action]

Action: 2nd Vice Commander (Bob Horneck) will coordinate the process and candidate selection with Hopewell High School. He will provide updates as the program progresses.

Donation Requests:

1. Hopewell High School: 2nd Vice Commander requests donation of \$580.00 to Hopewell High School to support the Veterans History Interview Program.

Action: Motion made, seconded and APPROVED to donate \$580.00 to Hopewell High School to support their Veterans History Interview Program.

2. Girls State Scholarship Program: 2nd Vice Commander requested donation of \$400.00 to Unit 146 of the ALA to support their Girls State Scholarship Program.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to donate \$400 to the ALA in support of the Girls State Scholarship Program.

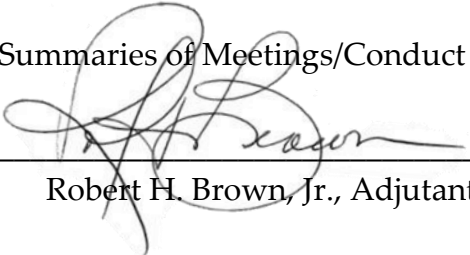
3. Brighter Living Retirement Center: Based on the 2020 Donation Plan, the committee will continue to support the on-going lunch for the Brighter Living Retirement Center.

Action: Motion made, seconded and APPROVED to donate \$66.00 to Squadron 146, SAL to provide quarterly support for lunch for the Brighter Living Retirement Center.

Good of the Legion:

Ft Lee DMV will provide "REAL ID" Virginia Driver's Licenses with little waiting time. The "REAL ID" version of the VA Driver's License is required to gain access to Fort Lee, but also for traveling. For a complete list of all required documents needed to obtain a Real ID, visit: dmvNOW.com/REALID.

Official Summaries of Meetings/Conduct of Business is attested by the undersigned.



Robert H. Brown, Jr., Adjutant