



Hopewell Memorial Post 146, The American Legion
Summary of Previous Meetings

**August 18th General Membership Meeting and
September 1st Executive Committee Meeting**

September 7, 2020

The following is a summary of the August 18th General Membership Meeting and the September 1st Executive Committee Meeting.

August 18, 2020 General Membership Meeting

1. **Membership Recognition:** Commander Harless awarded pins to the following members for continuous service.
 - * Betty Hendricks - 55 yrs * Judge Sam Campbell – 45 yrs * Doug Arrance – 50 yrs
 - * Ed Sanders – 35 yrs * Dan Benka – 30 yrs * Larry Nesbitt – 30 yrs
 - * Dr. Floyd Moore – 30 yrs * Mike DeJesus – 24 yrs * Lee Dixon – 20 yrs
2. **Initiation Ceremony:** Post conducted New Member Orientation for new members.
3. **Officer Reports:**
 - a. Membership (1st Vice):
 - Candidates for membership in the American Legion and Post 146 were presented as follows:
 - John Partin (USA) • Kenneth Willett (USA)
 - Charles Smith (USN) • Robert Davis (USA)
 - Action: A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to accept the above-named applicants as members of Post 146.
 - As of August 12th, we have received 102 renewals against our goal of 365members. So far, the Post has received seven new members.
 - b. Americanism/ Children & Youth Progs (2nd Vice):
 - All Hopewell schools will be operating virtually for the foreseeable future. Many programs are still awaiting guidance from the schools to determine if and when we may begin them.
 - Last Legion Year (this past June), the Department did not conduct Boys State, Girls State or the Cadet Law Enforcement Programs because of

pandemic restrictions. We must wait to hear when these programs may begin again.

- c. Bingo/Gaming (3rd Vice): No Report
- d. House Committee:
 - Roof Repairs: Repairs are complete but some minor work remains.
 - Patio Fence: Work will begin once the weather improves.
 - Club Room Redecoration: Still some details to be finished in the rest rooms, for example. House Committee has a punch list and is working it.
 - Beer and Wine: We will be changing brands from Sutter Home to Woodbridge. Types remain unchanged
- e. Finance Officer: Financial Report EOM July: Beginning Balance: \$66,037.38; Gross Deposits for all accounts: \$132,404.403; Expenditures \$93,640.92. Net end of month balance for July was \$104,800.86.
- f. Service Officer: No Report
- g. Chaplain: No Report
- h. Historian: No report
- i. Judge Advocate: No report
- j. Sgt.-at-Arms:
- k. 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Executives: No report

4. **Old Business:** None presented

5. **New Business:** Question was taken from the floor about the Early Bird scheduled for Saturday, September 19th from 2pm to 6 pm. Those members who have paid their dues and received the Early Bird stamp receive their meals free. Guests are \$10; children are \$5.

6. **Good of the Legion:**

- Members should remember to record the hours they spend doing work for others. If driving is involved, record the miles.
- Donation of Memorial Wreath: A special artificial memorial wreath was donated to the Post by A.B. and Mary Ann Connelly. It will be used for memorial ceremonies and at funerals for deceased members.



Memorial Wreath

September 1st Executive Committee Meeting

1. Correspondence:

Letter, American Legion Riders, Two Rivers Chapter announcing the 2020 Wreaths Across America Program. Ceremony scheduled for December 19th at 11:00 am at City Point National Cemetery in Hopewell. Donations are requested.

2. Officer Reports:

Membership (1st Vice): The Post now stands at 64% of the target (365) for this year.

We are off to an excellent start and have already met the new member target for the year.

- Americanism and Children & Youth (2nd Vice): This coming year will be a challenge for Americanism and Children and Youth Programs as the Hopewell Schools will be opening and conducting classes ‘virtually’ and the Prince George Schools will hold on campus/at school classes Monday through Thursday and ‘virtual’ classes on Friday. We still don’t know how this approach will effect such programs as the Middle School Patriotic Essay Contest and the high school JROTC Program.
- Bingo (3rd Vice):

Monthly Recap – July - August

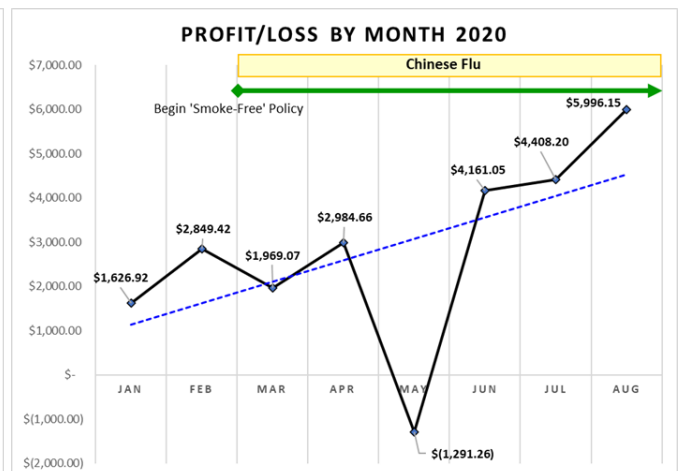
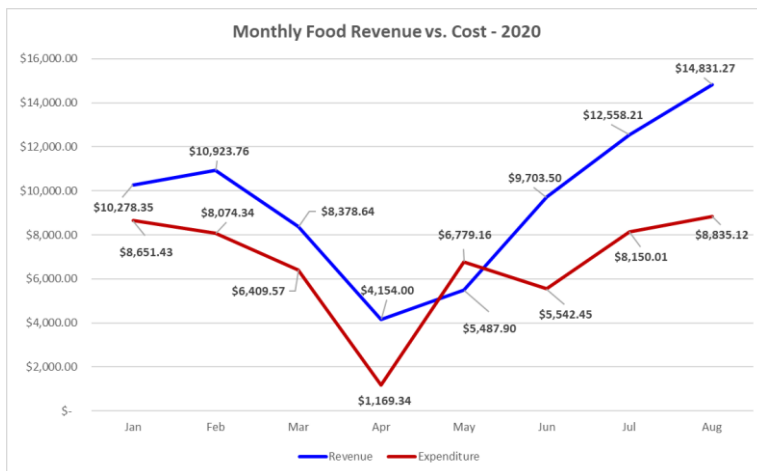
Month	Gross Income	10% Rqmt.	Actual Donations	Other Uses	Total Donated	Available for Donation
July	\$22,490.75	\$2, 249.08	0	0	0	(\$228.82)
August	\$41,802.75	\$4,180.30	\$1,000	\$ 958.55	\$1,958.55	\$6,030.90
YTD [31 Aug]	\$169,422.50	\$16,942.25	7,481.40	\$7,467.95	\$14,949.35	-\$1,992.90

BINGO resumed on July 15th. No donations were made in July to give the Post time to strengthen the BINGO account. At the end of August, the Post was \$1,992.90 under the 10% donation target with \$6,030.90 available for donation.

- Post Finances (Fin Off):
 - Financial Report: Beginning Balance: \$104,800.86; Gross Deposits for all accounts: \$114,108.80; Expenditures \$102,810.75. Net end of month balance for August was \$116,098.91. (see attached report)
 - Payroll Protection Plan: The Post received \$26, 300 through the Federal Payroll Protection Plan. This money may be used for “payroll costs, costs related to the continuation of healthcare benefits and insurance premiums, employee salaries and commissions, interest on mortgage obligations, and rent and utility payments”. [Ref: U.S. Small Business Administration, Interim

Final Rule, 13 CFR Part 120, Business Loan Program, Paycheck Protection Program]

- House Committee: The committee has accomplished the following:
 - Roof Repairs: Roof repairs are complete.
 - Patio Fence: Patio fence is installed.
 - Club Room Redecoration: Still some items left to be completed (notably, improvements to the rest rooms). House Committee has a punch list and is working it.
 - Wine: We switched brands from Sutter Home to Woodbridge. Selection remains the same, as do prices.
 - Use of Credit Cards: The vendor initially selected to provide credit card services failed to assist with training or answer repeated requests for information and assistance. The House Committee has directed the contract with that vendor be terminated and another vendor contacted.
 - BINGO Hall Redecoration: A special working group composed of Ed Sanders (Chair), Bob Mickle, Jinx Traina (SAL), Debbie Davis (ALA), and Vicki Bendall (ALA) is being assembled to develop and suggest improvements for the BINGO Hall.
 - Club Room Activity Report: Despite the pandemic, sales have increased over the past month. See charts, below:



Charts show not only the impact of the mandated 'lock-down', but how Club Room operations have come back and grown since the lock-down. Food sales hit all-time highs in July and August. Profit is up, continuing a positive trend since the beginning of 2020.

- Service Officer: Completed a Department of Virginia course for Service Officers. Course was presented on-line (contracted) and took about 50 hours to complete –

excellent course. Working with veterans is difficult because of the pandemic. Cannot meet face-to-face as in the past, so we are communicating and sharing information as best we can.

- Chaplain: **Richard Hummel** passed away on May 28th; **Boyd Briggs** passed away August 8th; and **Rick Adams** passed away on August 11th. **Chuck Steininger** (50 yr. member) is being treated for pancreatic cancer.
- Historian: Month of anniversaries: Sept 2nd is the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII, 101st anniversary of the founding of The American Legion is Sept 16th, and on Sept 18th, the US Air Force celebrates the 73rd anniversary of its establishment.
- Sgt-at-Arms: Quarterly New Member Orientation scheduled for December. Committee concurred in holding the orientation on December 15th beginning with dinner at 6:00 pm
- Judge Advocate: Fielding a four-person team to participate in the John Randolph Foundation Golf Tournament on September 25th.
- 1st, 3rd Executives: No Reports

3. **Donation Requests** (Donation Coordinator):

The Donation Committee recommended the following donations:

- \$200 to the Hopewell High School Athletic Program for support of the school's baseball program
- \$500 be appropriated to support the First Responders Appreciation Picnic set for Sunday, September 13th
- \$250 to the US Army Women's Museum – annual gift

Recommendations from the committee:

- \$3,000 be transferred to the BINGO Restricted Account (3rd Vice)
- \$300 to VFW Post 637 to sponsor a team at their September Golf Tournament (Cdr)
- \$500 to Tech For Troops to support their on-going efforts to provide computer training and equipment for local veterans (Mark Creech)

Action: A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to fund all of the recommended donations listed above. Total donations for September: \$4,750.00

4. **Old Business:**

- a. **Current Business/Operating Restrictions** (Cdr): As of 01 July, the Commonwealth is in Phase 3 of recovery from the COVID-19 Epidemic. Guidance has not changed

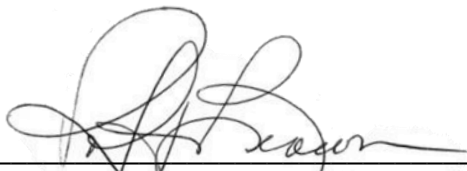
- b. **Pending Major Approved Actions:** Status Reports
 - 1. Club Room Renovation [see House Committee Report]
 - 2. Patio/Patio Fence [see House Committee Report]
 - 3. Roof Repair [see House Committee Report]
- c. **Application for Federal Payroll Protection Program** (Finance Officer): [see Finance Officer Report]
- d. **Early Bird/Member Appreciation Day:** The Early Bird/Member Appreciation Day picnic is scheduled for Saturday, September 19th from 2 pm to 6 pm at Weston Manor. Early Bird members get food and two beverages free of charge. Guest are \$10 with children 12 and under: \$5. There will be some games, special food and possibly music.
- e. **Use of Credit Cards in the Club Room:** [see House Committee Report]

5. **New Business:**

Proposed Capital Improvements Fund: It has been proposed that the committee establish a "Capital Improvements Fund" line item in the budget where the Post may hold any monies received from fund-raisers or gifts, or allocations from the general fund for the specific purpose of funding major building or equipment repairs, upgrades or replacements. For example: if the Post had an on-going drive to replace the roof, any money raised or donations received could be placed in the Capital Improvements Fund (for accounting purposes) and tracked in this line item account. Money could be used in conjunction with other funds or on its own to fund approved major building or equipment repairs, upgrades or purchases. All approval limits established in the Post 146 By-Laws would apply.

Action: Taken under advisement. Discussion tabled until the October meeting.

Official Summary of the Meeting/Conduct of Business is attested by the undersigned.



Robert H. Brown, Jr., Adjutant