

Minutes of the Hollis VFW Post 11373 Meeting

20 October 2024

Meeting Open Time: 7:00 PM at the Legion Hall in Brookline, NH and via Zoom.

1. Officers and members in attendance or by Zoom: (10) Mark Tigert, Chris Lussier, Bob Smith, Bruce Moran, Kerry Spangler, Jeff Smith, Mark Andrews, Jim Bélanger, Stew Jackson, and Greg d'Arbonne.
2. **Introduction of any Guests by members:** None present.
3. **Reading of the Minutes:** A motion was made by Bruce Moran to dispense with the verbal reading of the Minutes since they were published via e-mail to the members; seconded by Mark Andrews and unanimously approved.
4. **Quartermaster's Report:** The Quartermaster's Report was read. The Post received \$225 for the return of paint; an EFT of \$153.12 from National for dues; a \$100 donation; and \$0.77 from Interest. Disbursements for the month were: \$300 to George Robinson for reimbursement; \$50 reimbursement to Chris Lussier for supplies purchased; \$95 to Jim Bélanger for reimbursement; \$60 to the cleaning lady for Veteran home cleaning; \$80 to the Brookline Legion for the VFW's share of the Zoom bill; \$1,961.14 for Holiday Card Central building supplies. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Quartermaster's report be accepted as read, pending audit; seconded by Bruce Moran, and unanimously approved.
5. **Correspondence:** Nothing to Report.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy programs: Greg d'Arbonne will get with George Robinson about the programs so Greg can post this on Facebook in case there are Home Schooled students who want to participate.
 - Service Officer: Nothing to report.
7. **Membership:** Kerry Spangler was voted in as a member of the Post.
8. **Old Business:**
 - Hollis Old Home Days (OHD): The Post did not participate as the weather was so severe it would not have been worth the time.
 - Casino Fund Raiser for the Post: Chris Lussier stated our week to receive the proceeds of the event was in September. The Post received the funds which requires the Post to raise the Quartermaster's bond, which Chris will do ASAP.
 - Post members will visit WW II Veteran Steve Kolesnik, who is at the Premier Rehab Center, after the Wednesday breakfast.
 - Veterans Day:

- Chris Lussier contacted Rev. Rassmussen and coordinated for the use of the Church amphitheater and inside the church in case of inclement weather.
- Greg d'Arbonne spoke to Colonel (Ret) Sandra "Sandy" Warde, USAF and the DAR New Hampshire State Registrar and she has accepted our invitation to be the Guest Speaker.
- The "4 Vets" will sing the Service Songs.
- Bruce Moran will do the Invocation and the Benediction.
- Jim Bélanger made a motion that the Post pay the church janitor \$50 for the cleanup of the church hall; seconded by Chris Lussier and approved.
- Bruce Moran made a motion that the Post purchase two gross of small US flags; seconded by Chris Lussier and approved.
- Poppy Distribution Schedule at the Hollis Transfer Station:
 - 0800 to 1000 = Chris Lussier and Bruce Moran
 - 1000 to 1200 = Mark Tigert, Bruce Moran, and Jim Bélanger
 - 1200 to 1400 = Stu Jackson, Bob Smith, and Bruce Moran
- Schedule of Veterans Day Activities at the Schools, 7 November:
 - 0745: Light Breakfast at the Middle School followed by the ceremony.
 - 0815 to 0915: Middle School Ceremony.
 - 0945 to 1045: High School Ceremony.
 - 1300: Hollis Upper Elementary School Luncheon for Veterans
 - 1330 to 1430: Hollis Upper Elementary School Ceremony

9. Remember National Home: Prayer was said for the National Home and residents.

10. General Orders: As distributed by the Department and District and posted on the Department website.

11. New Business:

- Bob Smith made a motion that the Post donates \$30,000 to "Operation Delta Dog"; seconded by Chris Lussier. The members discussed the motion and Mark Andrews made a motion to amend the motion that the Post donate \$25,000 as that is the cost for one dog to go to a Veteran based on "Operation Delta Dog's" website; seconded by Bruce Moran and the amendment passed. The motion to donate \$25,000 was voted on and passed.
- Jim Bélanger suggested the Post contact the Welfare Departments in Hollis and Brookline and let them know that the Post will help cover any needs the Towns cannot provide for a Veteran or the spouse of a Veteran. Greg d'Arbonne will draft a letter for review and then send it to the Towns.
- Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that the Post donate \$5,000 to "Operation Care for the Troops" (OCT); second by Mark Andrews and approved.
- Bruce Moran stated the Annual "Support Our Soldiers" (SOS) event is 16 November and last year the Post bought a table to attend. Bruce Moran made a motion that the Post purchase a table for ten attendees at eh November 16 SOS Dinner at a cost of \$2,000; seconded by Chris Lussier and approved. Greg d'Arbonne made a motion that if there is room at the table, the Post invite Dr.

Laura Landerman-Garber and Charlotte Troddyn to attend as our guests as they did last year; seconded and approved.

- Bruce Moran made a motion that the Post elect Kerry Spangler as the new Adjutant for the Post; seconded by Bob Smith and unanimously approved. Everyone thanked Kerry for stepping up to fill this role. Greg will inform Paul Lloyd and Chris Lussier will make it official in the Post Election Report.

12. Comrade or Family of Comrade in distress: Nothing to report.

- Bruce Moran stated he is wearing a brace on his right knee as he fell and twisted it recently.
- Chris Lussier stated he will have an operation on his neck to remove a benign tumor.

13. Good of the Order: Nothing to report.

- Commander Tigert stated he has raffle tickets for the "30 Guns in 30 Days" drawing if anyone wants them.
- Commander Tigert stated a friend who is a retired Marine is offering free Yoga classes to any Veteran who wants to take them. Contact Mark for details.
- Kerry Spangler stated he stopped by the Beth Abraham Cemetery in Nashua and replaced six flags on graves.
- Bruce Moran stated he gave the Invocation at the Grape Festival, and it was well received.

14. Closing: The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM. The next meeting is 7:00 PM, Sunday, 17 November at the Brookline American Legion Hall, Brookline, NH and by Zoom.