

Commander - Merlin L. (Bud) Evered
Adjutant - Harrison H. Solt III
Chaplain - James G. McKibben III
Officer of the Day - James A. Knowles
Service Officer - William E. Clarke

Minutes of 14 February 2011 Post meeting at St. David's Parish Hall, Gales Ferry, CT

The regular meeting was opened at 1:05 PM according to ritual with Commander Evered presiding. A salute to the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance were conducted. There were ten members present. There were no guests.

Adjutant Solt read the minutes of the 10 January 2011 meeting and they were accepted as amended. The amendment was made to paragraph 4 of "Good of the Order". The sentence "The January meeting will begin at 1:00 PM on Monday January 10, 2011" was amended to read "The February meeting will begin at 1:00 PM on Monday February 14, 2011".

Correspondence

1. The Adjutant introduced six State Adjutant emails and Department distributed flyers. Copies on file in the Post Correspondence Log.

Financial Report

CDR Evered read the monthly financial reports for January 2011 (period of 1 January 2011 through 31 January 2011). A motion was made and seconded to accept the financial report. During post motion discussion the merits of the donation of \$70.00 to the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes Christmas 2010 Drive was discussed. Major discussion points, in no particular order, were:

1. Questions were asked and answered regarding who the organization was and what their goals were.
2. Was there merit in the drive and a connection to our goal of supporting the veteran in a drive established to insure all children of disabled Vets in the program receive a Christmas gift?
3. Some concern was raised regarding the funds not helping a veteran directly. Granted there was an indirect connection to the vet.
4. It was pointed out that the \$70.00 was, in essence, the remaining balance of the \$300.00 budgeted in 2010 for the annual Post Christmas Program.
5. It was suggested that this donation stand but perhaps a future solicitation should not be honored nor future donation considered.

After all had an opportunity to speak, discussion was closed and the financial report was put to a vote. By majority vote, the financial report was approved and accepted as presented.

Comrades in Distress

Neither comrades nor family members were identified in distress.

Committee Reports

Membership: The Post closed out 2010 with 64 of 78 members in good standing. This is an 82.5% rating. As of 11 January the post stood at 66 of 78 members in good standing. This is an

84.62% rating. Continued reaching out and phone calls will be made to delinquent members to encourage them to renew their membership.

VOD/PP:

1. Because the Post had only two VOD contestants and no PP contestants the Commander as Chair of the Committee will contact the winner and 2nd place contestant and give them the option of receiving their recognition and awards either at the Ledyard High School end of year awards ceremony or at a Post meeting.
2. The District Four VOD/PP/Teacher of the Year awards luncheon will be held Sunday, February 27, 2011 at 1:30 PM at VFW Post 1265 in Pawcatuck, CT. The post will underwrite the attendance donation. The deadline for signing up is Saturday February 19. Any member interested in attending the luncheon should contact Commander Evered to be added to the list of attendees.

Post 4608 20th Anniversary Recognition and Celebration:

1. Plans continue for the Post's 20th anniversary recognition and celebration. A Committee chair and Committee members are needed and solicited. Any one interested in helping with this event should contact the Commander.
2. At this point there are 5 Charter Members, 2 Past Post Commanders, and 2 Past Post Quartermasters that will be recognized. Member lapel service pins have been procured and available for distribution at the anniversary celebration.
3. The church notified the Post that events, excluding Post meetings, now held in the church hall are on a fee basis. It is estimated that if a recognition and celebration event is held in the church hall, depending on the event length and facilities requested, a fee between \$75.00 and \$400.00 will be assessed. In addition, insurance requirements from both the event host and any caterers or other services employed will be required. In addition food handlers must be certified. Finally, a "Hold Harmless" agreement must be entered into by the event host before an event may be held in the church.
4. The Commander has solicited and received celebration event attendance commitments from State and Local civic leaders. The Department, District, and other Military and Fraternal organizations have not yet been contacted.
5. As a result of the new church policy celebration planning will have to be revisited. In light of these developments a formal written solicitation, to the membership, regarding desire and availability to attend, venue desired, as well as other preferences regarding the celebration will be made. This solicitation is scheduled to be mailed before the next meeting.
6. Current Celebration Assignments:
 1. Comrade Patenaude and Shirley Patenaude have volunteered to create a photographic history of the Post for viewing at the celebration.
 2. Commander and Mrs. Evered will create/procure the invitations and event notices.
 3. Commander Evered will take care of the mailings.

Unfinished Business.

1. Awards to Businesses: Distribution of "Good Neighbor" certificates to the business previously identified is ongoing.

New Business.

1. No new business was introduced.

Good of the Order.

1. Recently Comrade Chaplain McKibben notified the Commander that he has been attending funerals of Ledyard resident veterans who are not members of Post 4608. A motion (Motion 2011-01-11) to send a VFW sympathy card to the family of deceased Ledyard resident veterans was passed at the January 2011 meeting. Both the Commander and the Chaplin will monitor the local paper obituaries to identify recipients for cards. Chaplin McKibben will prepare and mail future cards.
2. The March meeting will begin at 1:00 PM on Monday March 14, 2011.

There being no further business the Commander closed the meeting. The meeting was closed at 2:18 PM.

A, no cost to the member, post meeting gathering was held at Valentino's Restaurant in Ledyard Center. The Commander initiated this gathering in lieu of mid meeting refreshments. The intent was to continue the members' camaraderie while exposing the Post to the community. The February 14 post meeting gathering completes the final gathering planned. Members should make their thoughts and desires known to the Commander regarding continuing the post meeting gatherings.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "H. H. Solt III". The signature is written in black ink and includes a long horizontal flourish at the end.

H. H. Solt III
Adjutant