



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Hardin Post 113

1251 Ring rd.

P.O. Box 147

Elizabethtown, Kentucky, 42701

General Meeting

First Vice Jeanine Morrison: Called for the start of the December, 7th General meeting at 1900 with the appropriate opening ceremonies.

Chaplin Steven Sheets: Offered opening Prayer.

- **Sargent at Arms Mike Kabel** Recognized our guest attending the meeting. Michael Leon which is the past Department Commander also he's membership director for the department of Kentucky. We have the area B Commander Joe Garrett, and the Fourth District Chaplin Homer Wine.
- **Michael Leon** Just wanted to Thank you all I didn't have far to come. I came from Post 320 which is 35 miles outside of Louisville. Right now we're moving real well on membership we're at 1116 and we need another 214 to make our 75% goal which is December 13th we made every goal. I especially want to commend your Post because you all year in and year out do such a great job getting members. Other than that I look forward to a successful meeting and hopefully talk to everybody after the meeting.
- **Adjutant Drew Chitty** Read the minutes from November's General Meeting. John Saunders made a motion to accept the minutes. Randy Cote 2nd the motion.
- **First Vice Jeanine Morrison** A motion was made to except the minutes from last General meeting. All in favor 33 members approved 0 members disapproved.
- **Post Manger Tanya Garcia** The Post is closed for Swope on the 16th, we're having the Post Christmas Party on the 22nd. Starts at 2100hrs. The Post will be closed Christmas eve and Christmas day. New Years eve tickets are still on sale. 72 people joined us for Thanksgiving dinner 45 were veterans that would have sat home alone that night. We need people to step up and help clean please. Talking about the Christmas Party. The 10th I like to see anyone might come in we are having a vigil for moms left behind. They just need some to help serve hot cocoa so they can they can socialize among themselves. We have one more dance going on, on the 23rd \$10. At the door. It's the guys who played last week.

- **Adjutant Drew Chitty** we currently have 1319 active member's total. And we have 979 members for the year 2024 putting us at 81.4% of our annual membership.
- **Second Vice Larry Johnson** We've been looking around with the House Committee looking to try and spruce it up. We're looking at some life size statues. Out in front of the, where it can be seen from the road. One is an Airforce statue and the other is an Army Statue. We had brake downs in the kitchen with the ice maker the float had to be fixed. Possibly need another one in the future. Have a problem with one of the freezers. Hopefully it is just the element which is coming Friday. We did have an E-Board meeting Tuesday. We discussed the card reader. We talked about replacing the card reader as it is with the same thing that we have. It's going to be almost \$1,000. With cards and a new reader. John Saunders spearheaded the investigation into all of this and came up with a lot of good options for us. One was to keep the card reader as it is. Next one was an rf id. It's one of these chip systems like you have a credit card or a little key fob. The main problem with that is was all the maintenance that would be involved with that. It was going to take somebody, like in the adjutant position to make sure that all names and everything was all updated and keeping everything up. The expense on that one was \$239.00. the cards was \$16.99 for 50 cards. We would need about 900 or more. 100 fobs was \$31.00. if anything happened to them you would have to pay to have it replaced. The third option was to go with no system. We looked at that, we didn't like that idea. But the thing is and lets be honest people walk through those Bingo doors and walk through the hallway. So if we truly want a secure lounge we are going to have to spend thousands more to put another card reader in the hallway and another card reader in the kitchen. You can shake your head no all you want, but guess what. That's the truth of it. If you want a secured lounge we're going to have to spend thousands of dollars. Here's the other problem with that. Somebody walks up they hit the buzzer and they let them in. so we can spend thousands of dollars and still not fix the problem. So we went with a 90 day trial, a three month trial with just going without a card reader. Then we'll take another what's going on. If its actually been a problem. The bartenders have been instructed to check ID's. if they do not recognize anybody. I know some of you been upset, but that's just what the E-Board decided as a whole.
- **Randy Harris** Yes Commander and Larry. I got a bunch of bullets here on the card reader. I hope I don't have to go over everyone of them. To me, it's a privilege to have that door card. Coming to a meeting and its that sign on the door that says members only. Taking over the card reader is childish I think. Doesn't do anything. Saying its going to be that way for a month, or two months or three months. With no justification about what data your going to collect and why your waiting one month or three months. I can give you some figures right now. I can just pull them right down here and say this is what's going to happen. You don't need to wait that long. You don't need it open, I think the way it's working right now is adequate. Theres some things wrong with it by people pushing that buzzer. It's our lounge, it's our members lounge its not an open post. I think this should be pulled and be done away with. We have 692 cards signed out right now. Theres 500 more that haven't been signed out. That's enough cards for probably the next 4 to 5 years. Like I said is there any data collected in this next three to four months? Is there going to be someone sitting there looking at who's coming in? you got to have some kind of data, some kind of reason for that. I for one like to see someone make a motion that is stayed the way it is, and I hope I have some support on this. But I truly believe it's a member's lounge. You

should respect it, protect it and control it. Randy Crowe made a motion to do away with the tape. Drew seconded the motion.

- **First Vice Jeanine Morrison** any discussion?
- **Steve Stewart** Clarify the motion. I believe what we're saying is put the old system into effect. And at least have some of the security back in place is that what we're saying? Several members responded yes.
- **First vice Jeanine Morrison** any further discussion? All in favor. 33 members approved 1 opposed.
- **Post Adjutant Drew Chitty** So its reinstated until we decide what we are going to do.
- **Finance Officer Julia Sheets** we received a thank you letter from the Hardin County Special Olympics for the \$1,000.00 we donated. Month of November was a better month for us. We paid our taxes for county and city taxes this month which was over \$11,000. And some change. Our income this month was \$94,944.10 and our total expenses was \$83,639.45 which gave us a net income of \$11,394.
- **John Saunders** I have a couple of things. The first one is, there's no advance copies of the finance report before the meeting so that people can look at it or it be placed on the big screen. There's no opportunity for questions, if there is no finance report.
- **Finance Officer Julia Sheets** it is Posted out in the hallway.
- **John Saunders** but did they have enough time to read it before the meeting.
- **Finance Officer Julia Sheets** I was late getting here, my granddaughter had surgery. I didn't get here until 10 minutes before the meeting.
- **John Saunders** ok so we paid our taxes and we paid that out of savings?
- **Finance Officer Julia Sheets** I don't think she paid it out of savings I'm not sure how she paid it.
- **John Saunders** there's a drastic problem in savings that why I asked. If you can give me the amount of taxes. If that's the case, only question we have a large amount in our membership account. Why didn't we pay it out of that.
- **Finance Officer Julia Sheets** I don't know what she paid it out of or why she didn't pay it out of membership. I'll have to ask her that.
- **Chaplin Steven Sheets** Talking to Drew, we had four members pass away from our Post. I have some Christmas cards given to me by the Commander. I will be going to the Nursing Homes and pass them out to the Veterans. Saturday I'm giving some of them to our past Chaplin and he going to give them out at the Veterans Home in Radcliff.
- **First Vice Jeanine Morrison** Up on the screen there are some changes to be to the By-Laws, the committee has not met on any of these. I like to Postpone this to the next meeting.

- **John Saunders** I make a motion to postpone it until the committee meets. But I would like a suspense date tied to that motion of lets say February. That amplifying for the holidays to do this. We are already late on doing this. I'd rather do it do it right. Motion was seconded.
- **First Vice Larry Johnson** On discussion, you realize there is not a By-Law committee in place.
- **John Saunders** I understand that the Board is required to have a committee. And I thought your name was on it.
- **First Vice Larry Johnson** no we were voluntold about it. And I told them to take my name off of it..
- **John Saunders** I understand the Commander is required. You talk about it at the board. I don't think I seen any committee reports or anything. Second Vice met with the House Committee and these are the minutes, and they go on file with the Adjutant.
- **First Vice Jeannine Morrison** OK we have a motion and it is second, all in Favor 33 members all apposed 0 Motion was passed. Would anyone like to volunteer to be on the By-Laws Committee?.
- **Volunteers for By-Laws Committee** Steve, Jim Sylvester, Drew
- **First Vice Jeannine Morrison** Any new business?
- **John Crowe** I didn't want to go to that Legion be the One. I know a guy he killed himself. The more I thought about that at the meeting, the more depressed I got. But When I walk around out there in the street, Walmart or somewhere. I have these coins for Vietnam Vets. When I see a Vietnam veteran I hand him this coin. And he thanks me. Then he talks to me, that's a great way to get that man to talk to you. So if you can find something you can hand that veteran to thank him. He'll talk to you.
- **Post Adjutant Drew Chitty** When you guys, the ones that run the committees take your minutes please send me a copy so I may file them. Remember they are a legal document that needs to be filed. Thank you
- **John Saunders** Ah I know you hate me ha ha. I want to talk about several things. So the end of December is the end of the gaming quarter. We have a high dollar amount in the gaming account which we need to close out this month. So question to the board how are we going to move it spend it by the end of the month. My first concern is we have to have a finance committee. They need to meet. This body needs to do a budget which is long overdue, a budget for the year. So we need a finance committee five standing members for that it's overdue. We got a large number in membership that I thought we would have paid taxes out of. But we didn't looks like we pulled it out of savings. There's a large number in gaming so that concerns me. It also concerns me we gave away \$7,600. And I might be off a dollar all these entities out there that are sending us thank you notes. That is transparent to the rest of the community. We need to do photos, there needs to be articles. There needs to be Facebook post. Because we're giving away money. And if they don't want that they don't need our money. That's how we get recognition in this organization. Since I'm on the floor and I'm not going to give it up yet. The public has the

same privileges in this building as it's members. Like coming to a dance is public, and it's the same price if you were a member. Now if the door card means that much, because it's not security. It's ownership, accountability, I am a member. But events it doesn't matter. I think that's wrong, it's wrong. Because there are public, that come in this building that are eligible to become members that are smart enough to let that lapse because they can. That's wrong. So charge them more and us less. That's just my take on that. My next concern is we gotta have a budget. Because Tanya is doing a great job. She did the thanksgiving, she's gonna do a movie night for kids. We've done trunk or treat. House committee meets and we have all the events. Need to go back and tell finance and the Board, these people need to have a budget. And this body after the board approves it, approves that. We shouldn't be doing Thanksgiving at a loss without a budget. And I think it was a great event. But she should be given a budget. Movie night should have a budget. This is how we do business and keep our head above water. Because it looks to me we're making money, and we're making more money and we're spending it just as fast as we make it. We need to slow that down. There are processes and committees in place or there should be place to make that happen. we need to put these committees back together. One of the things I think it's lacking are duties and responsibilities need to be in there. So if you decide you want to be the Commander next year don't have a little blur. Jeannine jumped into it as no clue what the first vice. But if we get up with Joe, myself, and whoever has been a first vice. And put all these idea's. because you've done a great job sending out those letters out. We've been doing that historically. But that should have been in the description. During these milestones this is the way you do letters. As a matter of fact this needs to be a whole branch committee that you have all pass commanders sit with the commanders and explain commander duties and old first vice sit and explain first vice duties. And we're gonna have next month believe it or not we are going to have nominations on who's going to replace them in June. Its coming. And a lot of people have no clue until you sit in that seat. Oh my God I didn't know. Robbie's slapping himself in the face because he didn't know all the crap he had to put up with. I'm sure each one of you are doing the same. So that's my take on that.

- **First Vice Jeannine Morrison** like with the bikers you have a binder so when you step down it goes to the next person. With the list of our responsibilities. Maybe we need to do something like that. For a legion committee. That's got time lines and things to do.
- **Legion Member** Like what John talked about earlier but i never had the coins to pass out. But when I see veterans. The first thing is a thank them for there service. Particularly the Vietnam vets because they didn't get what they should have gotten when they first came home. I tell them welcome home. We always do a little bit of talking and a little bit joking. What I'm saying is just acknowledge these guys, men and women. It means so much to them.
- **Joe Garrett** Of all the things we heard here tonight understand, what I think about this Post. This is the best Post in the State, with all our awards we still get it done here. I'm proud to be a member of this Post and I know you folks are too.
- **Sargent at Arms Mike Kabel** On December 16th we'll be putting reefs out at the veterans cemetery if you like to help out. They have boxes and Boxes of them. Show up before 9:00 because it gets packed up fast. Be there early or you won't be able to get in.

- **Tom Folsom** I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you that came out to Be the One Thank you.
- **First Vice Jeannine Morrison** Closed the meeting at 1953hrs. closed meeting using the proper closing procedures.

Attest: **Drew Chitty Post Adjutant** **Clarence Robinson Post Commander**