

**American Legion
Jeremy E. Ray Post 324
Jersey Village, TX
September 10th, 2023
Regular Meeting – Minutes**

Commander Stefanie Otto called the meeting to order at 1600 hours. There were 8 officers present:

Commander Stefanie Otto
1st Vice Commander David Pyke
2nd Vice Commander Open
Service Officer – Bill Brown
Adjutant Terry Coon
Finance Officer Michael LaRose
Sgt-at-Arms Wayne Huebner
Chaplin Richard Ater
Judge Advocate Trey Pryor Absent
Historian Robert Howard

And 16 other members and 7 visitors for a total of 25 present. A quorum was met, and the meeting continued.

Speaker from Boys State: Jackson Fonville -Bridgeland High, Rob Tysdal – Cypress High and Noah Patterson – Tomball spoke about their experience at Boys State in Austin in July. In summary they expressed great appreciation for the Post in sponsoring his attendance. Each one spoke about their roles and the benefit they received in working with a group, speaking, and running for the office they intended to fill. They spoke of the various legislation they passed and were very pleased with the results including the measure to put a What-a-Burger on the moon.

Minutes:

Commander Stefanie Otto requested a motion to forgo reading the minutes from the last meeting by distribution of minutes via email to all members. Bill Brown motioned to accept the minutes and it was seconded by David Pyke. Motion was then passed by membership.

Finance Report:

Finance Officer: Michael LaRose reported that the available funds of Post 324 were \$8,955.64 as of 09/10/2023 (not including the \$500.00 set aside for Veterans in need and \$57.00 restricted funds for Women's Auxiliary.) Motion to accept finance report pending further audit was made by Jimmy Baughman and seconded by Donna McCarty. The motion passed by membership.

Committees

1st Vice: Division quarterly meeting will be sponsored by Tomball Post 127 on Saturday October 21st, 2023. There will not be a program to advertise in but our Post will pay for each one of our members (\$20.00) that attend.

2nd Vice: (none)

Chaplin: Chaplin Ater spent time at the hospital with the family of Joseph Richard Hammon to prey. Joseph did not recover and so Commander, Stefanie Otto and Chaplin Richard Ater attended the memorial to present a Bible to the family on behalf of the Post. Joseph was a former undercover Police Officer, and the memorial was well attended by many agencies.

Jimmy Baughman added that \$25.00 has been sent to the Sigmund Fund as is customary for our post to do. Since 2006 our post has lost 24 members.

Service Officer: Bill Brown reported that he has been receiving 1 to 2 phone calls per week regarding VA assistance. Changes were made for those who served in the middle east can apply up to the end of September. This is a similar program to the PAC act.

Sgt of Arms: Nothing to report.

Historian: Nothing to report

Judge Adjutant: N/A

New Members: None attending today.

Old Business:

1. Stocking Stuffer items are being collected if you wish to donate. The stockings are small so small items that are not candy are welcome. However, sugar free candy is fine.
2. Any of these charities you can pick what you want to participate in and you are not obligated to participate.
3. Books for Veterans can be brought to the post. Feel free to go through them if you wish to enjoy them first. War books are included.

New Business:

1. Curtis Haverty will be driving the truck for the Veteran's Day Parade. Question on throwing candy during the parade: Commander will call and check.
2. D.E.C. meeting this quarter is at the Tomball Post 127 at the VFW on Alice Road. This will be on Saturday October 21st from 8am to 4pm. Our post will pay the \$20.00 per attendee.
3. Boy Scout charter is up for renewal. Bill Brown motioned to accept the charter to renew. Jerry Roberts seconded. Discussion brought a question from Curtis Haverty about the cost. Wayne Huebner motioned to amend the motion with a continuous renewal (year after year) with Donna McCarty seconding. Discussion from Bill Brown to not accept the continuance motion but keep it 1 year. This he submitted due to the possibility of scouting behavior that could arise beyond our control. The original motion was voted on unamended and passed by members of the post.
4. There is a Junior Shooting competition and volunteers are needed to watch the event and each session per the rules.
5. The annual Oratorical competition is coming up and we need someone to lead the event. Wayne Huebner will advise. We can choose a place for the event or at the Post. A date needs to be determined as well and must take place before the district event on January 6th. Jimmy Baughman has agreed to lead. The commander is reaching out to the school debate teachers. Donna McCarty added that she has the list for the advisors.
6. Our next bus trip is October 7th to Rosenberg. Trey Prior needs to be notified 1 week before to get a good count. There is no charge for the ride but admissions to museums will be paid for by the participants. Bus leaves from St. Agnes Episcopal church on Saturday morning 9am.
7. An email was sent out with information on Habitat for Humanity. You can sign up individually or as a group. Note that one date has passed.
8. Membership needs to be met 100% by December 31st for 2024. Please do pay your renewal as soon as you can.
9. Tomorrow is September 11th please participate in any local event and decorate your home.

10. Coming up is the Salute the Heroes event at the Brook Home and Gift on September 11th.
Information was sent via email.

Good of the Legion:

1. Wayne Huebner stated that he has more PAC and VA information on the back table for taking.
2. Commander has Tee Shirts available for purchase for \$8 to \$13 according to sleeve and size. This does not include shipping which will be determined at the time of purchase.
3. VA hearing doctor has seen 10 new Veterans after the presentation to our post.

Adjourn:

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1652 hours. Our next scheduled meeting will be on Sunday, October 8th at 1600 hours (4pm) at VFW 8905, HWY 290 next to Carl's BBQ.

Respectfully Submitted:
Terry Coon, Adjutant