



George F. Johnson, American Legion Post 1700

305 Maple St., Endicott, NY 13760-4022

(607) 785-1700



Commander Joseph N. Irons called the regular meeting of George F. Johnson, American Legion Post 1700 to order @ 1900hrs, Tuesday March 1, 2011. Colors being in place, all members rendered a "Hand Salute". Barb Beebe for Chaplain Bob Hunt gave the "Opening Prayer". All members recited "The Pledge of Allegiance", followed by the members whom recited "The Preamble of the American Legion".

Roll Call: Commander Joseph N. Irons: present, 1st Vice Commander Ron Reece: present, 2nd Vice Commander Robert F. Wood: present, 3rd Vice Commander Deb Roehm: excused absent, Chaplain Bob Hunt: absent, Historian Ray Beebe: present, Treasurer Charlie Verno: present and Sgt-at-Arms Gary King: present. Past Post Commanders present: Ray Nabinger 1982-1984, Jim Davis 1990-1992, Phil Dillenbeck 2004-2006 and Barb Beebe 2006-2001. Past County Commanders present: Ray Nabinger 1984-1985, Barb Beebe 2004-2005, and Ray Beebe 2008-2010.

Reading of the Minutes: Motioned by Ray Nabinger to accept minutes as written, 2nd by Bob Haynes, all in favor, motion carried.

Membership/Treasurers Report: Charlie Verno reported that the Post paid membership for 2011 as of March 1, 2011 was 416. We are 22 members short of 438 for 94.9%. Post has a bank balance of \$2,231.55.

Motioned by Bob Haynes to accept treasurer's report, 2nd by Ray Beebe, all in favor, motion carried.

Back to God: Bob Hunt absent, Barb Beebe for Bob had nothing to report.

Committee Reports:

Americanism: Ray Beebe had nothing to report.

Baseball: Ray Beebe had nothing to report.

Historian: Ray Beebe had nothing to report.

Boys State: Ed Cunningham absent, nothing to report.

Honor Guard: Jim Davis reported there will be a bake sale at this coming Sunday Breakfast. Also there will be a parade committee meeting the middle of this month. Post 82 is currently the host Post, this fall Post 1700 will take over for the ceremony at the Veterans Memorial.

House: Bob Haynes had nothing to report.

Kitchen: Bob Haynes reported that the February 25th dinner that was cancelled will be rescheduled for April 29th. Also Johnny Stars will be playing tunes this Friday.

Junior Shooting: Rob Jensen absent, nothing to report.

Scholarships: Jim Davis

Oratorical: Barb Beebe stated that after the County Convention she will be contacting the County Commander asking for all new Post Commanders in Broome County for each Post's Oratorical chairman. Making sure that their Oratorical chairman is made accountable so the Oratorical competition will not be cancelled again.

Law & Order: Ray Beebe had nothing to report.

POW/MIA: Barb Beebe had nothing to report.

Old Business: Barb Beebe reported that Hands across the Borders will be the weekend of the 21st of May. There will be a Color Guard of five members; also the Commander and the Historian are included. An itinerary was also reported. Ray Nabinger stated the raffle tickets are selling slow but sure. He will be getting tickets to the Fife and Drum Corp at their next meeting. The Maloney Band has not responded to any requests to perform for us. He has contacted Mike Sullivan representing the Ladies from Hell to see if they are interested to perform for us at Alexandria Bay. Ray said he needs to get posters for advertizing but doesn't have the means to make them. Barb Beebe said that she has the software to make posters and invited Ray to get together with her with his ideas.

Gary King reported that he opened a General Fund Raiser account at M&T bank. Ray Nabinger, Debbie Roehm and Bob Wood are names on the account. When the raffle is over, the account can be taken over by other members for their fund raiser. A balance of \$300.00 must be in the account or there will be a monthly finance charge of \$7.00. Jim Davis said that all of our accounts are with M&T and we shouldn't be charge because of all the money we have with them. Gary said he will talk to them about that situation.

Election of Post Officers will consist of three months of nominations (February, March, April). All positions are asked three times each for nominations.

<u>Office of Position</u>	<u>Nominator</u>	<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Accept/Decline Nomination</u>
Commander	Bob Hunt	Joe Irons	Accepted - Feb
1 st Vice Cmdr	Barb Beebe	Bob Wood	Accepted - Feb
1 st Vice Cmdr	Ray Nabinger	Debbie Roehm	Declined - Feb
1 st Vice Cmdr	Gary King	Ron Reece	Declined - Mar
2 nd Vice Cmdr	Ray Nabinger	Debbie Roehm	Declined - Feb
2 nd Vice Cmdr	Debbie Roehm	Bob Haynes	Declined - Feb
2 nd Vice Cmdr	Gary King	Ron Reece	Accepted - Mar
3 rd Vice Cmdr	Joe Irons	Debbie Roehm	Accepted - Feb
Historian	Barb Beebe	Ray Beebe	Accepted - Feb
Treasurer	Phil Dillenbeck	Gary King	Declined - Feb

Treasurer	Ray Nabinger	Bob Wood	Declined - Feb
Treasurer	Gary King	Charlie Verno	Accepted - Mar
Chaplain	Ray Beebe	Barb Beebe	Accepted - Feb
Chaplain	Ray Nabinger	Bob Hunt	Accepted - Feb
Sgt at Arms	Bob Haynes	Gary King	Accepted - Feb
Sgt at Arms	Phil Dillenbeck	Rob Jensen	Accepted - Feb

Nominations are closed, to continue next month under old business.

Gary King stated that the By-Laws dealing with membership are not specific and was changed from 1st Vice Commander to the Treasurer. Article 7 section 1 states Post Commander upon taking command shall appoint an Adjutant, and the following committees, membership, house finance, legal, publicity, service visiting, Americanism, athletic. Such standing committees shall consist of such members and chairman thereof as such is designated by the Post Commander. The By-Laws were not changed to specify who the membership chairman is. It's up to the Post Commander to do so. Therefore the By-Laws need not to be changed. Gary is helping Ron Reece contacting members to renew their membership.

New Business:

Correspondence:

For the Good of the Legion: Barb Beebe reported that Ray, herself and Bob Lloyd were at the hanger in Horseheads to welcome home the soldiers coming back from Afghanistan. She also reported that someone called the Post to have the hall for a welcome home part at no charge. They were informed from someone at the Post that it couldn't be done for free. She said that she tried to contact the possible families that might have called for the hall but had no results. She also suggested that the Post should give the hall for free if they bring in their own food. Gary King stated that the Board of Directors has addressed the problem before and have no problem giving the hall for \$25.00 for utility use for returning soldiers. Apparently there was a Lt Colonel promoted to Colonel with a General in town wanted to use the hall for a twenty minute ceremony. Someone call the Post requesting the use of the hall but was informed that it would cost \$250.00. The person who was giving out that information was unknown. Bob Haynes and Diane O'Brien are the only people authorized to make reservations for the hall. Neither one of them received that request from them. Bob Haynes said the hall would have been available after 5:00 the day in question and would have not been charged for the short ceremony.

Ray Nabinger asked if there still is a policy of the Post to pay for the first year's membership of returning soldiers. Charlie Verno said that anyone whose still in service can request membership here and the membership dues for the first year would be paid for by the Post. Gary King questioned how the Post can contact these soldiers returning home to inform them that they can join the American Legion. Joe Irons said that privacy laws restrict that information. Charlie Verno suggested the membership packet that Gary King created have the information added. Ray Nabinger asked about giving that information to the support group that meets once a month that Barb & Ray Beebe go to. Ray Nabinger motioned that the

hall rental contract be modified to reflect use of returning soldiers for \$25.00, \$50.00 for the kitchen with a \$50.00 cleaning retainer that could be reimbursed.

Gary King stated that all members including Auxiliary and Sons total about 650 members. There is about 50 or less members an involved to promote and attend events at the Post. There was New Year's Eve Party, Daytona 500 Party, Super Bowl Party, Pitch Tournaments, Sadie Hawkins Day Party which everyone had a good time together. From a Post perspective we should have a Social Coordinator that has some recognition from the Post to keep these events going. There is an Auxiliary member that would be willing to do the work for the Post. Charlie Verno asked that isn't there an Activities Chairman already for this? Bob Wood said that it would be the 2nd Vice Commander, himself. Joe Irons said that any Post Committee must have a Legion Member chairman. Bob Haynes suggested having Pat VanWezenbeeck as his right hand person for events. Bob Wood agreed to make her co-chair of the Activities Committee. Charlie Verno also suggested that a SAL member should be on the committee, and then everyone would be involved with events.

Barb Beebe reported that Hill Days will be 15-16th of March to see Senator Libous and Donna Lupardo to discuss what resolutions the Legion wants to be acted on. Barb & Ray Beebe are attending and are asking for anyone else to attend the sessions with them.

Gary King reported there will be a Post Spring Cleaning on Saturday May 14th, lunch will be provided for the workers.

Joe Irons reported that the next Post meeting will be on April 5th, County Legion meeting will be April 10th.

Ray Nabinger motioned to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Bob Haynes. Barb Beebe for Chaplain Bob Hunt gave the "Closing Prayer, Commander Irons gave his "Closing Remarks". Meeting adjourned by Commander Irons at 2010 hrs.

For God and Country.

Robert F. Wood

Robert F. Wood. Adjutant