

## **American Legion Post# 243 Meeting Minutes 05/12/2009**

Attendance: 30 Members John Wilde, Don Guse, Mark Degner, John Grothe, Larry Behr, Gene Ramsey, Gene Blindauer, Mel Lulow, Bill Kamin, Lloyd, Sargent, Richard Merz, William Balke, Ken Wickland, Harlan Harris, Gordy Dreifuert, Mike Mueller, Claude Kent, George Degen, Norm Halloran, Joseph Benauer, Ed Schroeder, Flare Fredricksen, Jim Riesenberg, George Helpap Rueben Rabe, Willard Schram, Bill Smith, David Niedfeldt and Konrad Kaczowski

The meeting opened at 1900 hrs with prayer led by Flare Fredricksen, the Commander led the membership with the pledge to the Flag and preamble of the American Legion constitution. The Commander and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Gene Ramsey did the missing chair ceremony in remembrance of POW's and MIA's.

Guest: William Balke introduced Richard Merz USAF

Oratorical: No Report

Badger Boys State: No Report

Membership: Commander Niedfeldt received a personalized picture from National Commander Dave Rehbein and a certificate for reaching 100% in membership. Our Numbers are at 158.

Service Officer: No Report

Junior Shooting: Students are taking a written exam this evening.

New Business:

Milwaukee County will be honoring Veterans at the County Zoo on July 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be free admission however you need to obtain a wrist band from our County Service Officer no later than June 19<sup>th</sup> at the courthouse .

The Plymouth Fire dept. is requesting a donation to buy fire safety books for grade school students in the Plymouth School District. Lloyd Sargent made a motion to sponsor 50 students at a cost of \$65.00 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Mueller, motion passed on a voice vote.

A letter was read asking for a donation of \$10.00 to place a rose at the Vietnam Veterans Wall in Washington DC on Fathers Day. The County Vietnam Veterans pre-selected names and we were given Loren Ertel and John Gannon was given to the VFW Post. Don Guse made a motion to donate the \$10 seconded by Mark Degner motion carried by voice vote.

John Grothe made a motion that the Post continue to pay for picture frames of the continued service awards given at Past Commanders dinner. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Behr and motion carried by voice vote.

Gene Blindauer advised the membership that the vacant apartment needed some substantial improvements and that the cost would be just over \$3,000. Mark Degner made a motion to table this item until the Executive Committee had a chance to review this matter, motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gene Ramsey, motion carried by voice vote.

Election:

The nominating committee advised that Bill Balke was interested in being nominated for Post Commander. Commander Niedfeldt stated he was also interested in continuing as Commander. After announcing 3 times the nominations Larry Behr made a motion to accept Bill Balke and Dave Niedfeldt as nominees as Commander and Gene Blindauer 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, motion was carried by voice vote. Ballots were passed out and George Degen announced the results Bill Balke 13 votes and Dave Niedfeldt 12 votes. The Post new Commander will be William Balke. Konrad Kaczkowski made a motion to destroy the votes 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gene Ramsey, motion carried by voice votes.

Mark Degner was nominated to be 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander. There was a call three times for another nomination and there was none. John Grothe made a motion to accept the nomination of Mark Degner as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander by unanimous vote, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gene Ramsey. Motion carried by voice vote.

Jeff Ladwig was nominated to be nominated to be 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander. There was a call three times for another nomination and there was none. Gene Blindauer made a motion to accept the nomination of Jeff Ladwig as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander by unanimous vote, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Degen. Motion carried by voice vote.

Meeting concluded at 20:20 Hrs with prayer led by Flare Fredricksen and Taps played by Joe Benauer.

Respectfully Submitted

Konrad Kaczkowski  
Post Adjutant