

Parker VFW Post 4266  
South Metro Fire Station #43  
The Pinery, Parker, Colorado 80134

## **Minutes for Meeting of August 18, 2014**

Prior to the VFW Post 4266 scheduled meeting, Douglas County Veterans Affairs Manager David Maxwell talked about a Candidates Forum to be held at the Miller Library in Castle Rock September 4, 2014 between 1800 and 2100 hours.

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1916 hrs. by Commander Evan Totten. Commander Totten presented one copy each of the ***VFW Service Officer Guide*** and ***Demeter's Manual of Parliamentary Law and Procedure*** to Post Service Officer Floyd Merenkov and Post Judge Advocate Ron Sorlien respectively. These guides are to be used to help each of these officers be more effective in performing their post duties.
- 2. Recitation of Section 230102 of the VFW Congressional Charter**
- 3. Opening Prayer** by Acting Chaplain Gerard Brushaber
- 4. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 5. Officer Roll Call:** Acting Adjutant Ron Sorlien called the Officer Roll Call. Officers present: Commander Totten, Judge Advocate Ron Sorlien, 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee Ron Henkel, Service Officer Floyd Merenkov. Officers not present, Senior Vice Commander Reuben Trujillo, Quartermaster Charles Padgett, Adjutant Daniel Tarwacki, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Trustee Donald Howell, 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Trustee Keith Troutman, Chaplain Edward Sainz. Junior Vice Commander and Surgeon positions have not yet been refilled. Quorum was declared by Commander Totten.
- 6. Introduction of New Members & Guests:** David Maxwell, Douglas County Veteran Affairs Manager; Dave Cook, District 10 Senior Vice Commander; Matthew Perry (new candidate for membership), David Perry and Jean Perry (possible transfer in).
- 7.** District 10 Senior Vice Commander Dave Cook recommended that the members vote on Matt Perry becoming a member of VFW Post 4266. Ron Henkel made a motion to approve membership in Post 4266 for Matt Perry. Gerard Brushaber seconded the motion. Motion passed by vote. Jean Perry, a WWII veteran, would like to transfer from a VFW member-at-large to become a member of Post 4266. Floyd Merenkov made a motion to table Jean's membership until appropriate documentation is received. Ron Henkel seconded the motion. Motion passed by vote.
- 8. Vote on Acceptance of New Members:** Candidate Matt Perry presented his membership application, DD-214, and annual membership dues check. Documents were reviewed and approved. Perry was voted in as a new member. He will be sworn in at September meeting.
- 9. Quartermaster:** Quartermaster not present, Commander Totten read report. The Quartermaster report states that there is \$1,171.38 in the General Fund, \$10,752.27 in the Relief Fund, and \$51.36 in the Dues Reserve Fund. Gerard Brushaber made a motion to

approve the Quartermaster's Report. Floyd Merenkov seconded the motion subject to audit. Motion passed.

- 10. Reading of the July 2014 Minutes:** Commander Totten stated the he had mailed the minutes to all members of record a week before the August meeting, and that he felt the minutes did not need to be read at the meeting. Ron Henkel made a motion to dispense with the reading of the July minutes. Floyd Merenkov seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- 11. Trustee Report –Second Trustee Henkel:** Gerard Brushaber made a motion to approve the Trustee Report. Floyd Merenkov seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- 12. Service Officer Report -Service Officer Floyd Merenkov:** Currently no comrade or family is in distress or need. Floyd reported on the Service Officers Training Course that he attended in Security, Colorado at Post #3917. Dave Stone talked about Parliamentary Law and Procedure, and that training can be provided by the District 10 Judge Advocate at a future post meeting. The second part of the Training was presented by State Service Officer Tony. This session focused on helping veterans and assisting members file claims and many other programs. Post service officers cannot be certified, so the actions they can take are mainly advisory.
- 13. Committee Reports:**
  - a. Adopt-a-Soldier:**

No new information to report.
  - b. Buddy Poppy Program:**

Reuben Trujillo was not present to give a report. Commander Totten advised that we will need to discuss at the next meeting which locations we want to work at on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of November. The Wal-Mart Manager has advised he would provide new flag hardware for the missing and damaged flag holders on the six parking lot light poles. Commander Totten will be getting Certificates of Recognition to hand deliver to all the store managers where we have had the Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Program.
  - c. Citizenship Education and Recognition:**

Don Howell was not present to give a report. District 10 Senior Vice Commander Dave Cook advised that the Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, National Scout, Teacher Recognition, Eagle Scout and Girl Scout Recognition Awards will be coming up quickly and these recognition projects need to be assigned soon.
  - d. Membership:** Chairman not present.

Post received notice from Bruce Nolan regarding 14 life-members that are out of the area and require proof of service for membership eligibility. To date, 8 members could be denied membership if they do not provide proof of service in the timeframe specified by Colorado Department.

Gerard Brushaber reported on flags. It was discussed that an inventory needs to be taken on the contents in the storage unit if no current inventory exists.

There was some discussion about signage, business cards, and how to make our post known in news articles and other media.
- 14. Remember our National Home for Children:** Prayer was read by Acting Chaplain Gerard Brushaber.

- 15. Old Business – Commander Totten:** Keith Troutman (committee chairman), Chuck Padgett, and Ron Henkel have drafted restructured Post 4266 By-Laws. The By-Laws will be sent out to all members, who then have 20 days to respond. A vote will be taken to approve the By-Laws at the September meeting. If approved, the By-Laws will be sent to National for Approval.

**Committee Assignments:**

- a. Evan Totten reviewed the Committee Assignments that need to be filled.
- b. Evan Totten read Chuck Padgett's letter of resignation as Quartermaster for Post 4266.
- c. District 10 Senior Vice Commander Dave Cook talked about filling the Quartermaster position quickly as that position is vital to the post.
- d. Gerard Brushaber was willing to take on the Quartermaster position for 90 days. Commander Evan Totten appointed Gerard Brushaber to the Quartermaster position and Gerard accepted. Brushaber then stated he would fill that role for the remainder of the current service year.
- e. Floyd Merkenkov advised he would be willing to take on the Junior Vice position. Ron Henkel made a motion to approve Floyd as Junior Vice. Gerard Brushaber seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**16. New Business:**

- a. There was discussion by Evan Totten that we need to get some more Malta Cross VFW membership pins. Gerard advised that he would check with Chuck Padgett on the current inventory.
- b. There was discussion about doing a fund-raiser for the General Fund on **POW/MIA Day**, September 19<sup>th</sup>. Chuck Padgett stated earlier that he had ordered 4" x 6" flags from VFW HQ.
- c. Inventory of miniature American flags was discussed and it was advised that the flags have been ordered.
- d. For the Good of the Order, Commander Totten installed new Junior Vice Commander Floyd Merenkov.
- e. Dave Cook addressed the post. On September 21<sup>st</sup> there will be a District 10 meeting at Post 322 in Englewood, CO starting at 1300.

**17. Closing Ceremonies:**

Closing Prayer by Acting Chaplain Gerard Brushaber.  
Meeting Closed at 21:18 by Commander Totten.

Submitted by:  
Ron Sorlien  
VFW Post 4266 Acting Adjutant

