



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO  
DISTRICT 10, POST 4266  
P.O. Box 4266, PARKER, CO

## Minutes for Meeting of November 17th, 2014

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1900 hrs by Commander Evan Totten.
2. **Officer of the day (*adjutant*) shall check Membership Cards:** Adjutant Checked cards of all present. All present were authorized to remain.
3. **Recitation of Section 230102 of the VFW Congressional Charter** - deferred
4. **Opening Prayer** by Chaplain Ed Sainz
5. **Pledge of Allegiance**
6. **Officer Roll Call:** Acting Adjutant Gerard Brushaber called the Officer Roll Call.

I.	<b>Commander</b>	<b>Evan L. Totten</b>	<b>Present</b>
II.	<b>Senior Vice Commander</b>	<b>Reuben Trujillo</b>	<b>Present</b>
III.	<b>Junior Vice Commander</b>	<b>Floyd Merenkov</b>	<b>Excused</b>
IV.	<b>Quartermaster</b>	<b>Gerard Brushaber</b>	<b>Present</b>
V.	<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>Edward Sainz</b>	<b>Present</b>
VI.	<b>Adjutant (acting)</b>	<b>Gerard Brushaber</b>	<b>Present</b>
VII.	<b>Judge Advocate</b>	<b>Ronald A. Sorlien</b>	<b>Excused</b>
VIII.	<b>Surgeon</b>		<b>Position Vacant</b>
IX.	<b>3 Year Trustee</b>	<b>Keith G. Troutman</b>	<b>Present</b>
X.	<b>2 Year Trustee</b>	<b>Roland R. Henkel</b>	<b>Present</b>
XI.	<b>1 Year Trustee</b>	<b>Donald D. Howell</b>	<b>Absent</b>
XII.	<b>Service Officer</b>	<b>Floyd Merenkov</b>	<b>Excused</b>

Quorum was declared by Commander Totten.
7. **Recognition of Guests and Dignitaries** District 10 Commander Warren Tellgren and District 10 Inspector Leroy Chavez. Chavez conducted the District 10 inspection of our post. The annual post inspection had begun at 1815 hrs. by Inspector Chavez, assisted by Quartermaster Brushaber.
8. **Approval of Minutes:** Commander Totten asked if everyone has read or received the minutes from the last meeting. Everyone acknowledged they had. Gerard Brushaber moved to approve October minutes prepared by Adjutant Gerard Brushaber. Ron Henkel seconded motion. Motion passed by vote.
9. **Quartermaster Monthly Report:** Quartermaster Gerard Brushaber read report. The Quartermaster report states that there was a starting Total Cash Balance of \$11,967.45 for the month. Total receipts: \$5.50; disbursements: \$100.63; ending total Cash Balance of \$11,872.32. **General Fund:** \$1,012.78; receipts of VFW National Continuous Member Payout: \$2.75; disbursements of \$89.85 of which \$29.85 was for the Post's website and \$60 was for the Post storage locker on Pony Express Drive. Ending cash balance: 925.68. **Post Relief Fund** began with \$10752.27; no receipts, disbursements of 10.78 for Buddy Poppy Certificate frames. Ending balance \$10,741.49. **Post Dues Reserve Fund** began with \$202.40; receipts of \$2.75 from VFW National, disbursements: none. Ending balance \$205.15. Note: the Storquest Pony Express storage locker fee is going up to \$66. Commander Totten requested a motion to approve the Quartermaster's Report which had already been audited by post trustees). Motion made by Ed Sainz. Reuben Trujillo



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO  
DISTRICT 10, POST 4266  
P.O. Box 4266, PARKER, CO**

seconded. Motion passed by vote. Quartermaster's report was accepted and presented with audit by trustees.

**10. Trustee Report –First Trustee Troutman:** Quartermaster October report was audited and no discrepancies and all funds were properly accounted for. Kudos to the Quartermaster.

**11. Service Officer Report - Service Officer Floyd Merenkov:** Nothing to report. Service Officer was excused and was not present.

**12. Committee Reports:**

**a. Membership:**

Gerard Brushaber No changes to membership occurred this month. Total of 74 members; 61 Life Members, 6 continuous, 6 unpaid annuals, 1 new in September. No new contacts. Some applications were distributed at the Veterans Day Buddy Poppy event but none returned so far. Cmdr. Totten mentioned that a District 10 Per Capita dues are due in February at \$0.50 per member in good standing as of July 1. District 10 meeting discussed that membership is falling. Dept. and District are looking for Post membership to have 100% plus 1 for calendar year 2014. One non-CO Post had 500% membership. Commander Tellgren related that in CO Dept. the Blackhawk post was 124% and in 2<sup>nd</sup> place at National level and would never catch the 500%. Cmdr. Totten mentioned that District wants 100% for all posts by the 20<sup>th</sup> of December. There are also efforts to contact Life members to get back involved in the Post and for donations. It was noted that to get to 100% we would need to get 11 new members. Gerard Brushaber noted that at least 8 to 10 members were removed from the roles due to ineligibility. Cmdr. Tellgren noted he will check with Dept. to maybe get special dispensation because of the special inquiry that decreased our membership drastically. Cmdr. Tellgren noted that we should really push to renew any continuous members that are expiring on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Reuben Trujillo was curious about how some of these Posts get over 100%. Reuben also mentioned there are a lot of Air Force personnel at Buckley AFB and at Fort Carson who could be recruited. Cmdr. Tellgren noted that there are Dept. and Dist. Membership resources personnel that could help. Reuben also noted that he is going to a Fort Carson Job Fair and could talk to people about the VFW. Cmdr. Tellgren noted that even if a recruit would rather be an at-Large member, the recruiting Post would still be credited for the member. Cmdr. Totten noted that our post has a few Life members who do not reside in our state and would never be expected to attend a meeting.

**b. Post Relief Fund Expenditures:**

1. At request by Cmdr. Totten, a retired Army Master Sergeant enroute to Fort Hood, TX from Fort Riley, KS was given \$200.00 by QM Gerard Brushaber, to be reimbursed from Post 4266 Relief Fund if so voted by membership. If not approved by post, Totten would reimburse. Motion to reimburse QM Brushaber out of Post relief fund by Keith Troutman, seconded by Ron Henkel. Motion passed by Vote.
2. Voice Of Democracy Scholarship winner (only one candidate) Samantha Morgans to receive a \$500 scholarship out of the post relief fund. So moved by Keith Troutman, Seconded by Ron Henkel. Motion carried by Vote. Check to be presented at date to be determined.



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO  
DISTRICT 10, POST 4266  
P.O. Box 4266, PARKER, CO**

3. QM received a Letter to the Post for a plea for donations to VFW National Home Emergency Fund. This is in addition to an annual request from Eaton Rapids. Motion by Gerard Brushaber to donate \$200 to VFW National Home Emergency Fund and another \$200 for the normal yearly fund donation. Seconded by Ron Henkel, Motion carried by Vote.
4. Voice of Democracy banquet donation of \$100 requested by District. Motion made by Gerard Brushaber to send \$100 to District 10 VOD Chairman. Seconded by Ron Henkel. Motion carried by Vote.
5. District 10 meeting requested a \$100 donation to National Military Services specifically for a VFW Riders Motorcycle Ride to Washington D.C. Cmdr. Tellgren explained. Motion made by Gerard Brushaber to expend \$100 to National Military Services for the VFW Riders. Seconded by Ron Henkel, Motion carried by Vote. Payment to be sent to Department.

**c. Buddy Poppy Program:**

Cmdr. Totten mentioned that Dept. is requesting all posts to buy Buddy Poppies for the Year. Cmdr. Tellgren said that our post had already bought our quota of Poppies (6,000) earlier in the year. QM Brushaber noted that the number of Buddy Poppies given out is not known at this time but a count will be made the week after this meeting.

Amendment to Minutes: The subsequent inventory revealed: 3,377 Buddy Poppies given out at Veterans Day event and 8,193 still in wrapped boxes, plus remainder left in inventory. 1,028 flags were given out. Flags left in inventory: 482 (excluding the 288 POW/MIA flags bought).

Reuben Trujillo reported that the Buddy Poppy drive garnered \$2,195.00 for the Relief Fund. 1<sup>st</sup> shift received \$438.18; 2<sup>nd</sup> shift \$629.56; 3<sup>rd</sup> shift \$647.81; 4<sup>th</sup> Shift \$477.00. Reuben mentioned that he gave out 200 Poppies to the Lincoln Meadows retirement home. Long discussion by all parties about giving out Buddy Poppies and Post events and Locations. Cmdr. Tellgren mentioned that Don McNeely can help with printing advertising posterboards.

**d. Publicity:**

- I. **Website:** Gerard Brushaber reported that the website has been updated with new information. More discussion on everyone updating the event signup is not advised.
- II. **Business Cards and Signage** Cmdr. Totten would like officers to have named business cards as a recruiting tool.
- III. **Parker Days Booth** Ron Sorlien was not present but Cmdr. Totten stated that Ron has placed our post on a waiting list for a VFW booth, and that he is still pursuing the issue with the Parker Days committee; but no commitment yet.

**e. Youth Activities – Vacant.**

**f. House – Chairman Brushaber**

- I. Fire Station 43 Lease. In process
- II. Key Card Access - Working acceptably
- III. Other (e.g. VFW flags movement in our meeting room)



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO  
DISTRICT 10, POST 4266  
P.O. Box 4266, PARKER, CO**

- IV. Use of Walls for VFW pictures or Posters – Not Allowed by Lease
  - g. Americanism: Citizenship Education and Recognition.**
    - I. **Voice of Democracy** – Post will create \$500 scholarship for Samantha Morgans. Post voted to approve \$100.00 donation to District 10 VOD banquet (see above Post Expenditures).
    - II. **National Scout of the Year Scholarship and National Awards** No action taken
    - III. **Teacher of the Year Recognition Award** No action taken
    - IV. **Scout of the Year Recognition Award** No action taken
    - V. **Girl Scout Recognition Award** No action taken
    - VI. **Community Service Award (for Post)** No action taken
  - h. Ways and Means**
    - I. Campaigns for General Fund (not Buddy Poppy): Discussion on separating fundraising for General Fund away from Buddy Poppy (Relief Fund). Also Pearl Harbor Recognition Day coming up in Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, but timing is too close to properly administer. Look for more days such as July 4<sup>th</sup>; maybe even picnics.
    - II. POW/MIA Recognition Day in September – fund raiser for General Fund
    - III. Pearl Harbor Day (distribute miniature flags) fund raiser for General Fund
    - IV. Other events needed to raise funds and to recruit new members
  - i. Community Activities – Cmdr Totten** – need to document Post community service activity and submit reports:
    - I. Presentation to Judge Hilbert Schauer – Motion to transfer monies spent on the Judge's gifts and nametag, medal and plaque of 108.65 back to General fund from Post relief fund by Gerard Brushaber and seconded by Keith Troutman, Motion Carried by Vote.
    - II. Flag folding demo & presentation at Life Care Center of Stonegate; need a better flag which Cmdr Tellgren said to get it from him. (Totten has since obtained)
    - III. Flags setup at Parker Cemetery for Veterans Day Weekend
    - IV. Cmdr Totten keynote Speaker at Providence Presbyterian Veterans Day
    - V. Post delivered board games to Colorado State Community Veterans Home
    - VI. Attendance at Veterans Day Event at Post 9644 in Englewood (3 members)
    - VII. Couple of members attended elementary school events for Veterans Day
- 13. Ladies Auxiliary:** Post 4266 has no Ladies Auxiliary. Commander Totten stated that nothing can reported at this time.
- 14. Remember our National Home for Children- Chaplain Sainz** Prayer was read by Chaplain Ed Sainz for the National Home for children in Eaton Rapids, MI.
- 15. Old Business – Commander Totten**
- a. New Fundraisers to replenish the General Fund. Many discussed separating fundraising for General fund away from Buddy Poppy. Also Pearl Harbor day coming up in Dec 7<sup>th</sup> may be too close to properly administer. Look for more days such as July 4<sup>th</sup>; maybe even picnics.



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO  
DISTRICT 10, POST 4266  
P.O. Box 4266, PARKER, CO**

- b. Updated VFW post 4266 By-laws - **Chairman Troutman** By-laws are in process and have been forwarded to Dept and National.
- c. Committee assignments will be made in accordance with the new post and national by-laws. Patriots Pen, VOD, Teacher of the Year, Scout of the Year, Community Service Award and are in need of sub-committee chairmen.
- d. Officer position vacancies to be filled – Surgeon
- e. Installation of Gerard H, Brushaber as Quartermaster

**16. The Good of the Order – Cmdr Totten**

District 10 Inspector Chavez reported that our VFW Post 4266 passed its inspection, and that our records are very well in order. The post thanked both Cmdr. Tellgren and Chavez for their presence, inspection, and constructive information. Quartermaster Brushaber was commended by Cmdr. Totten for his superb preparation for the inspection.

**17. The next meeting** will be Monday, 15 December, at 1900 hrs. Uniform of the day will be **uniform polo shirts and official cap**

**18. Closing Ceremonies:**

**Closing Prayer by Chaplain Ed Sainz**

**Meeting Closed by Commander Totten at 2120 hrs.**

Submitted by:

Gerard H. Brushaber

VFW Post 4266 Adjutant