



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

Minutes for Meeting of October 20th, 2014

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1900 hrs. By Commander Evan Totten.
2. **Recitation of Section 230102 of the VFW Congressional Charter**
3. **Opening Prayer** by Chaplain Ed Sainz
4. **Pledge of Allegiance**
5. **Officer Roll Call:** Acting Adjutant Gerard Brushaber called the Officer Roll Call.

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

Quorum was declared by Commander Totten.

6. **Officer of the day shall check Membership Cards:** Commander Totten asked that the normal procedure be preempted for this meeting.
7. **Recognition of Guests and Dignitaries** Paul Morgan - Director of WWIN (Wounded Warriors Impacting Neighbors) spoke for about 15 minutes, including questions. Next The Commander noted and introduced Terry Barnett a long time Post 4266 member and close friend.
8. **Approval of Minutes:** Commander Totten asked if everyone has read or received the minutes from the last meeting. Everyone acknowledged they had. Floyd Merenkov moved to approve September minutes prepared in fine fashion by Acting Adjutant Reuben Trujillo. Ed Sainz seconds motion. Motion passed by vote.
9. **Membership:** Gerard Brushaber – Membership reported: Total of 74 members recognized by National. 5 annuals unpaid, 6 members both annual and Life are out of State but not transferred. All unpaid have been emailed, called (no answers) and mailed. 1 annual chose to pay. The documents of the membership are being investigated and we have 80 percent of hardcopy documents; we are readying for the upcoming inspection.
10. **Quartermaster Monthly Report:** Quartermaster Gerard Brushaber read report. The Quartermaster report states that there is \$1,033.63 in the General Fund, \$10,752.27 in the Relief Fund, and \$2.25 in the Dues Reserve Fund. For a Cash balance of \$11,818.65. Receipts for the period: \$400.30. Disbursements were a total of \$251.50 for the period. Ending Cash balance for this period is \$11,967.45. National and Department dues started



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with \$30.50 with no receipts and 1 disbursement of \$30.50, leaving a zero balance. Post General Fund started with \$1,033.63, receipts of \$200.15; disbursements of \$221.00 for ending balance of \$1,012.78. Post Relief Fund: no receipts nor disbursements starting and ending with \$10,752.27. Post Dues Reserve Fund started with \$2.25, receipts of \$200.15, and no disbursements. Ending balance \$202.40. Commander Totten requested a motion to approve the Quartermaster's Report. Motion made by Floyd Merenkov. Keith Troutman seconded. Motion passed by vote. Quartermaster's report was accepted and presented with audit by trustees. Trustees and Quartermaster met on Oct 18th to review and sign the QM Monthly Report and the Trustees Report.

11. Trustee Report –First Trustee Troutman: Quartermaster Sept report and Quarterly Trustees' Report were audited on Saturday. All funds were properly accounted for.

12. Service Officer Report - Service Officer Floyd Merenkov: Nothing to report. Service Officer training completed in August. Commander Totten mentioned that this is a good time for anyone to report whether they know of a member or family in distress. None spoke up.

13. Committee Reports:

a. Adopt-a-Soldier:

No new information to report. No member in charge.

b. Buddy Poppy Program:

Reuben Trujillo reported only 2 people have volunteered. We still have the King Soopers in Castle Pines, and the Parker Walmart. It's difficult to respond to the Excel sheet. Reuben asked if it's possible to put it on the website and have members update at their leisure. Gerard Brushaber said he'd check with the webmaster if it's possible. Because of timeliness this would be used at the next Poppy drive. In the meantime Reuben will update the list if people call him. Commander asked what the setup at the locations. Reuben stated that we normally just get the supplies from the storage. Collecting the money Reuben would mark the bags individually and go around and collect from each site marking them. Commander Totten mentioned that the bylaws state the Quartermaster is the only person to receive count and bank monies. King Soopers time slot is from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Commander Totten stated Walmart is better to start at 8:00am. Commander Totten would like hot coffee and maybe Donuts provided.

Floyd volunteered to bring a large Coffee server to the King Soopers location. Walmart may need their flag brackets updated. It was stated that Walmart should update their brackets. Our post will put in the flags after that. Floyd asked if we have given proper Recognition to all the stores used last Memorial Day. Commander Totten stated that we have Buddy Poppy recognition sheets. Reuben recommended and motioned to buy frames to fit the Recognition Certificates on a one-time basis. Keith Troutman seconded the motion. Motion passed by vote. Quartermaster volunteered to buy the frames.

c. Citizenship Education and Recognition:

Don Howell had sent a letter stating that his work with Home Land Security will not allow him to be the chairman. Commander Totten advised that the committee



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assignments have been changed by the latest National bylaws: Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teacher of the Year Recognition, Eagle Scout and Girl Scout Recognition Awards will be coming up in November and that action needs to be taken very soon if we are to submit candidates for this year.

Samantha Morgan, a senior student at Chaparral High School in Parker, accompanied by her mother, presented her reasons to prepare for the Voice of Democracy essay contest and would be worthy of the scholarship and other awards if chosen. She stated her desire to relate her family Veterans stories to today's generation of young adults. Commander Totten will be her point of contact for submittal of her essay.

Deadline for submittal to Post 4266 is 1 November. Deadline for submittal to District 10 of Post 4266 winning contestant is 15 November.

- d. Community Service/Flags:** A girl and her father donated games for us to distribute to Veterans groups. It was suggested by Keith Troutman to give these games to the State Veterans Home in Aurora. They were given a Parker post card. Commander Totten wants to get a casket size flag (9'5" x 5') to be used to demonstrate correct flag folding. Gerard Brushaber made a motion to research if Floyd's donated flag would do or buy one for less than \$100. Second by Reuben. Motion passed by vote. Commander Totten has a wish for a color guard for our post.
- e. VFW Communications and Public Affairs:** Ron Sorlien is looking into getting on the waiting list for a booth at the Parker Day's event for 2015 which may occur in November.
- f. Website:** Gerard Brushaber reported that nothing new has occurred. There is a push to get pictures for recognizing our Post member events; and possibly pictures of current Officers.
- 14. Ladies Auxiliary:** Post 4266 has no Ladies Auxiliary. Commander Totten stated that nothing can be done at this time.
- 15. Remember our National Home for Children:** Prayer was read by Chaplain Ed Sainz.
- 16. Old Business – Commander Totten:** Cross of Malta pins count is 10 in inventory. The By-Laws were restructured and are ready for post vote. The only comments submitted were from Comrades Henkel and Troutman. Comrade Troutman stated that there was one further change to the by-laws that Commander Totten had proposed but, because of timing, it was thought that no changes can be made without a full 20 day review. If Commander Totten could remove the proposed amendment then that set of Bylaws could be approved, signed and sent to National and Department. Motion to approve the bylaws was made by Ron Henkel and seconded by Gerard Brushaber. Gerard Brushaber made a comment that the National bylaws may have changed our bylaws membership dues and is researching. New post by-laws were approved by vote of the members present. Commander Totten stated that he would affix required signatures (commander and adjutant) and convey three copies of the approved document to Department Headquarters for comment, and for forwarding to VFW National HQ for approval.
- 17. Open positions:**

 - a. Surgeon is open but no one is able to accept it.



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- b. New committee assignments will be made in accordance with the new post and national by-laws.
- c. Gerard Brushaber mentioned that Matthew Perry may not be able to help with the upcoming Post Inspection. He volunteered to accept an appointment as post adjutant. Commander Totten accepted and appointed on a permanent basis Gerard Brushaber to be the Adjutant.
- d. **Activities Chairmen:** Commander Totten volunteered. Future meeting presentations should be useful and only one presentation at a meeting.

18. Upcoming Events:

- i. VA/VFW Partnership Clothing Drive for Homeless Veterans : ASAP till 1 November. Emphasis on weekend of 25-26 October.
 - a. 24th Annual Homeless Standdown 2014: Thursday, 6 November, 0800-1430 hrs., at Colorado National Guard Armory, 5275 Franklin Street, Denver, CO 80216-6224 (see notice)
 - b. Posts attending bring colors to post (not present). Bring own stand unless prior notification given to District 10.
- ii. Annual Veterans Day Commemoration at Fort Logan National Cemetery on **11 November, 1100 hrs.** Posts bring their colors. Arrive and assemble by 1045 hrs.
- iii. Annual Veterans Day Community Tribute Service, Providence Presbyterian Church, 18632 Pony Express Drive, Parker (across from U.S. Post Office); **11 November, 1900 hrs.** Keynote speaker: VFW Post 4266 Commander Evan Totten. All veterans and families are welcome.
- iv. **Post Inspection - 17 November.** Focus of the meeting will be District 10 Inspection but will start at 6:30 and should be finished by 7:00pm start of regular monthly meeting.

19. The next meeting will be Monday, 17 November, at 1900 hrs. Dress Code will be **Black and Whites** (for the annual post inspection). The Post Inspection takes place at 6:15 or 6:30 p.m. before the monthly meeting.

20. Special Presentations: Floyd Merenkov was presented with Past Commander's hat with the posts gratitude for stepping into a time when the post needed help.

21. Special Election: Gerard Brushaber noted that his Quartermaster position was a 60-day Pro-tempore. Floyd Merenkov nominated, Ed Sainz seconded. Nominations closed. All voted to elect Gerard H Brushaber as Quartermaster.

22. Closing Ceremonies:

Closing Prayer by Chaplain Ed Sainz

Meeting Closed by Commander Totten at 2050 hrs.

Submitted by:

Gerard H. Brushaber

VFW Post 4266 Adjutant