

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO
DISTRICT 10, POST 4266
P.O. Box 4266, PARKER, CO 80134

Minutes for Meeting of September 15, 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 Reuben Trujillo called the Officer Roll Call.

I. Commander	Evan L. Totten	Present
II. Senior Vice Commander	Reuben Trujillo	Present
III. Junior Vice Commander	Floyd Merenkov	Not Present
IV. Quartermaster	Gerard Brushaber	Present
V. Chaplain	Edward Sainz	Present
VI. Adjutant		Position Open
VII. Judge Advocate	Ronald A. Sorlien	Not Present
VIII. Surgeon		Position Open
IX. 3 Year Trustee	Keith G. Troutman	Present
X. 2 Year Trustee	Roland R. Henkel	Present
XI. 1 Year Trustee	Donald D. Howell	Not Present
XII. Service Officer	Floyd Merenkov	Not Present

Quorum was declared by Commander Totten.

6. **Officer of the day shall check Membership Cards:** Commander Totten asked the members present to show their VFW membership cards. All present produced their membership cards.
7. **Approval of Minutes:** Commander Totten asked if everyone has read or received the minutes from the last meeting. Everyone acknowledged they had. Ed Sainz moved to approve September Minutes. Gerard Brushaber seconds motion. Motion passed by vote.
8. **New Members sworn in:** Matthew Perry was voted in as a new member in August. Commander Totten swore in Matthew Perry into the post.
9. **Quartermaster:** 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. Receipts for the period \$35.00. Disbursements were a total of 140.00 for the period. Cash balance for this period is \$11,818.65. Commander Totten

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requested a motion to approve the Quartermaster's Report. Motion made. Ed Sainz seconded the motion. Motion passed. Quartermaster's report as accepted presented.

10. Trustee Report –First Trustee Troutman: Nothing to report from the Trustees.

Quartermaster report covered what was needed. Commander Totten brought up that there may be an issue with the debit card. There is only one debit card and it is maintained by the Quartermaster. Totten indicated that the post only needs one debit card and that it should be in the possession of the quartermaster.

11. Service Officer Report -Service Officer Floyd Merenkov: The Service Officer is not present. Commander Totten asked if anyone knew of a service member or family that is in need. No one knew of a member or family in distress. Commander Totten did mention an army widow in Highlands Ranch who had requested assistance in moving. She is approximately 78 years old. Her husband served in Vietnam and, while flying an Army helicopter, was shot down. To date he has never been recovered. There were members of the American Legion and Knights of Columbus along with Commander Totten to assist her in her move. Commander Totten mentioned to the Post 4266 members that if any comrade helps/volunteers, it needs to be reported to the post in order to be recognized by District.

12. Committee Reports:

a. Adopt-a-Soldier:

No new information to report. No member in charge.

b. Buddy Poppy Program:

Reuben Trujillo reported that a schedule will be sent out once we finalize our locations. Chairman Trujillo suggested that we keep the locations from the past i.e. the King Soopers on Jordan Road, King Soopers in Castle Pines, and the Parker Walmart. The only issue is we may not have the manpower to man all three locations at the same time for the weekend. Comrade Troutman motioned that we go full force at the three locations either on the 8th or the 9th. It was also suggested by Chairman Trujillo we do one location for a day and another location for the second day. Commander Totten recommended that Chairman Trujillo send out a letter to all members asking for registered Post 4266 members for assistance. Certificates of Recognition to hand deliver to all the store managers where we have had the Memorial Day Buddy Poppy Program still need to be prepared and given. Commander Totten asked that Cabela's not be one of the locations for the Veterans Day Poppy event this year. Ed Sainz recommended that we do Cabela's for the post fund raising on POW/MIA Day. It will be for the coming weekend. Ed will make contact with the Cabela's management to

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see if they will allow us to be there in such short notice. A motion was made by Keith Troutman that we man all three sites (previously mentioned) if possible. Motion second by Ron Hinkle. Motion passed by vote.

Motion to use Cabela's for the post General Fund drive (if possible) by Ed Sainz. Reuben Trujillo second the motion. Motion passed by vote.

c. Citizenship Education and Recognition:

Don Howell was not present to give a report. Commander Totten advised that the 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.

d. Membership: Chairman Brushaber reported that he will use June's report from National. There were 71 Life/3 New/4 Reinstate/7 Continuous for a total of 85. For August there were 72 Life/1 New/14 Continuous. For a total of 87. There were a few members from Parker that were past due on their 2014 dues. Comrade Brushaber sent them letters.

e. Community Service/Flags: POW/MIA flags are in. \$250.00 was authorized for the POW/MIA flags and the same amount was authorized for the American flags. These are items that will be given out to the public during our September POW/MIA event (if it can be organized in time).

f. VFW Communications and Public Affairs: No changes to the website. For any events we have, photos that are taken need to be sent to Comrade Brushaber so they may be posted onto our website. Business cards with the new format are available to order individually; cost is \$27 for 250 cards – minimum order from National. Business cards are good to have during our events and give out to possible new members so they can have a point of contact. Signage: we need to get signs placed at our events to let the public know who we are. Placing signs on tripods was discussed. Comrade Trujillo was concerned about any adverse weather and how the tripods would hold up at the events during that type of weather. Is there any newspaper advertisement? There is no information as to where we stand on this item. Right now the issue may be the cost to place an ad in the paper. Ron Sorlien is looking into getting on the waiting list for a booth at the Parker Day event for 2015.

13. Ladies Auxiliary: Commander Totten expressed interest in having a ladies auxiliary for the post. This will be tabled for future discussion. Commander Totten asked how we felt about having a Ladies Auxiliary. All members present felt it would be a good idea. There

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were questions regarding how to start such a post and who can join – veterans only or veterans' spouses. (Female veterans would join the VFW, not the Auxiliary.) Commander Totten said he will research this and try to let everyone know at the next meeting.

- 14. Remember our National Home for Children:** Prayer was read by Chaplain Ed Sainz.
- 15. Old Business – Commander Totten:** The By-Laws were restructured by Comrade Troutman, Comrade Henkel and Comrade Padgett. They came up with a very good revised edition. If approved, the By-Laws will be sent to National for Approval. By-laws were sent out to the Post members for review and comment prior to the August monthly meeting. The only comments submitted were from Comrades Henkel and Troutman. Commander Totten opened the floor for any further discussion of the revised by-laws. Comrade Troutman stated that there was one further change to the by-laws that he was proposing, and it was a very small but necessary. The change regarding Article IV, Section 4, was presented to the members present. The change is accordance of the National By-Laws. There was discussion as to some changes that needed to be incorporated. It is suggested that we defer the bylaws for one more month so that we can incorporate the changes, and this would be draft # 3 of the post by-laws. Comrade Troutman moved that we make the changes in draft 2 for the two changes in Article 4 section 2 and section 4 and incorporate draft 3. Second to the motion by Ron Henkel. Motion passed by vote.

Committee Assignments:

- a. Commander Totten reviewed the Committee Assignments that need to be filled.
- b. Commander Totten stated that the Adjutant still needs to be filled. Commander Totten asked Matthew Perry if he would be interested in the position. He told Matthew to think about it and let him know.
- c. Commander Totten stated that we need to fill the Activity Chairman/Service Officer position. No volunteers.
- d. Commander Totten stated that the Surgeon Officer position remains unfilled.

16. New Business:

- a. There was discussion by Totten that we need to get some more Malta Cross VFW membership pins. The quartermaster advised that he would check, but he believes that we do not need to order any more pins yet. He wants to check what we have on hand before making any new orders.
- b. New member Matthew Perry accepted the appointment as the new adjutant.

17. The next meeting will be on Monday, 20 October, at 1900 hrs.

18. Closing Ceremonies:

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Closing Prayer by Chaplain Ed Sainz
Meeting Closed at 21:18 by Commander Totten.

Submitted by:
Reuben Trujillo
VFW Post 4266 Acting Adjutant