



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

Minutes for Meeting of August 17, 2015

1. **Introduction:** N/A
2. **Message from District 10 Commander:** N/A
3. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1907 hrs. by Commander Evan Totten.
4. **Officer of the day (*Adjutant*) shall check Membership Cards:** Adjutant Pete Solano checked cards of all present. All present were authorized to remain.
5. **Recitation of Section 230102 of the VFW Congressional Charter** read by Commander Totten
6. **Opening Prayer** by Chaplain (acting) Milton Scherotter
7. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Commander Totten
8. **Officer Roll Call:** Adjutant Pete Solano called the Officer Roll Call.

• Commander	Evan L. Totten	Present
• Senior Vice Commander	Reuben Trujillo	Present
• Junior Vice Commander	Floyd Merenkov	Absent - excused
• Quartermaster	Gerard Brushaber	Present
• Chaplain	Edward Sainz	Absent
• Adjutant	Pete Solano	Present
• Judge Advocate	Pete Solano	Present
• Surgeon	Gerard Brushaber	Present
• 3 Year Trustee	Keith G. Troutman	Absent - excused
• 2 Year Trustee	Roland R. Henkel	Absent - excused
• 1 Year Trustee	Vacant	Vacant
• Service Officer	Floyd Merenkov	Absent - excused

Quorum was declared by Commander Totten; 7 members present.

LtCol John Lane (USAF), veteran of WWII, Korea and Viet Nam (VFW Life Member transfer) welcomed to the post by Commander Totten. Also present were applicants David Seal and Milton Scherotter.

9. **Reading of last meeting minutes:** Meeting minutes sent out to all members via email by Commander Totten on 8/14/2015. Milton Scherotter makes motion to accept meeting minutes from July, Gerard Brushaber seconds motion. Vote on the motion to accept minutes carried by members.
10. **Membership Applications:** Gerard Brushaber moved to accept LtCol John Lane's transfer into Post 4266; Milton Scherotter seconded. Gerard Brushaber moved to accept David Seal to post membership. Milton Scherotter seconded. Vote on both motion by members carried.
11. **Quartermaster Monthly Report:** Quartermaster Gerard Brushaber read report.
 - a. July Quartermaster report was available at the August meeting.
 - b. Chairman Brushaber delivered summary report to all members via email prior to meeting and made available a hard copy at this meeting.



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12. Trustee Report : No trustee members present to make report

13. Committee Reports:

- a. **Membership – Gerard Brushaber:** No new membership applications. 1 July transfer (Milt Scherotter). 2 new transfers (Seal and Lane) for August. Membership total is 71.
- b. **Buddy Poppy – Gerard Brushaber:** Reports post has 144 round top American Flags and POW flags for future events. Commander Totten recommended ordering more POW flags for September events. Brushaber reports 6000 buddy poppy for distribution at events. Veterans Day operations are proposed to be King Soopers (KS) on Jordan and Lincoln Roads in Parker and at Castle Pines. Senior Vice Commander will request availability for KS in Parker. Request for KS in Castle Pines will be made by Junior Vice Commander Merenkov. Dates will be 7 and 8 November.
- c. **Publicity:** Nothing to report
- d. **Youth Activities –** Contact was made by Peter Solano with Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Douglas County School District to get submissions by 1 November 2015 for VFW Americanism awards contests.
- e. **Ways and Means –** New donate button added to post website. New website will add updated content to drive web traffic.

14. Remember our National Home for Children- Prayer was read by acting Chaplain Scherotter for the National Home for children in Eaton Rapids, MI.

15. Old Business – Commander Totten:

- a. KS Castle Pines manager received VFW Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of post presented by Floyd Merenkov for support of post operations.
- b. Certificate of Appreciation presented to Steve Cooke of Garlic Knot for food donation to first annual Warrior Cup Poker Tournament.

16. New Business – Commander Totten:

- a. Post Inspection on September 21, 2015. District Commander and Inspector will be present. Commander Totten will create Community Service report prior to inspection.

17. Good of the Order – Cmdr. Totten

- a. **Review of National Convention.** Commander Totten reports 2 main focal points: 1. Make more accessible of the Choice Program to veterans. 2. Recruiting difficulty in growing and maintaining membership. Convention video presentation by Denver Post 1 was discussed illustrating innovative approaches used at their post. Commander Totten is seeking new ways to bring in new members into Post 4266. Breaking the stereotype of the VFW to a new perspective that is inclusive, active and welcoming. One constraint of our post, according to Commander Totten is the limitation of Parker Post not having its own facility. A post facility will open opportunities to be more inclusive and relevant going forward. Capitalizing on technology to increase our reach to attract and retain members (utilizing web site, facebook, twitter, instagram etc...) Needs to be a one-stop shop for veteran information, benefits and news.
- b. **Workshop:** Commander Totten organized working groups to generate ideas to drive memberships and activities to grow Parker post. 2 working groups convened. Ideas and thoughts will be forwarded to the Commander for consideration. Commander Totten stated that there would be an informal workshop to be held within



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approximately two weeks to continue discussing ideas to increase and retain membership, particularly of younger generation veterans (Afghanistan, Iraq, Kosovo, etc.) Totten to arrange.

- c. Event for POW/MIA Remembrance Day:** POW/MIA Day is celebrated on the third Friday of September each year, this year being 18 September. As approved by vote in 2014, the members present again discussed holding this year's event at Cabellas in Lone Tree. In September 2014 there was not sufficient time to arrange the event, and it was cancelled. Reuben Trujillo made a motion authorizing the quartermaster to purchase one outdoor POW/MIA flag (3'x5' size); Pete Solano seconded the motion. The vote on the motion by members carried. Cmdr. Totten checked the current (2015-2016) VFW Store catalog and found the price to be \$29.95 plus shipping. Flag will be used to fly at events at Walmart and/or Cabellas during post events at those locations. Reuben Trujillo made a motion to purchase additional miniature (4"x6") POW/MIA stick flags for distribution at events; Pete Solano seconded the motion. Milton Scherotter made motion to also purchase a new supply of miniature (4"x6") ball top American stick flags. Rueben Trujillo seconded the motion. Members voted on both motions and both motions were carried. Quartermaster to take action to purchase flags using Post Relief Fund.
- d.** Quartermaster Brushaber proposed that Post 4266 make a donation to Rocky Mountain Flights to support their services. After discussion, Milton Scherotter made motion to donate \$200 to Rocky Mountain Flights; seconded by Rueben Trujillo. Vote carried with one dissenting vote. Relief Fund to be used. Quartermaster action.

The next Post meeting: will be **Monday, 21 September 1900 hrs.** That will be the same night as the District 10 Post Inspection. The inspection will commence at 1800 hrs. and conclude before the regular meeting.

- 18. Closing Ceremonies:** Closing Prayer by Chaplain (acting) Milton Scherotter
19. Meeting Closed by Commander Totten at 2101 hrs.

Submitted by:

Peter R. Solano
Adjutant
Parker VFW Post 4266