



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

Minutes for Meeting of May 18th, 2015

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 Floyd Merenkov Checked cards of all present. All present were authorized to remain.
3. **Recitation of Section 230102 of the VFW Congressional Charter**
4. **Opening Prayer** by Chaplin Ed Sainz
5. **Pledge of Allegiance**
6. **Officer Roll Call:** Adjutant Floyd Merenkov 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	Floyd Merenkov	Present
VII. Judge Advocate		Vacant
VIII. Surgeon	Gerard Brushaber	Present
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, 10 members present.
7. **Recognition of Guests and Dignitaries.** District 10, Sr. Vice Commander & Commander Elect Dave Cook and his wife Kira Cook, District 10 Ladies Auxiliary President elect.
8. **Election of 2015/2016 Post Officers:**
 - a. Election was held out of the normal meeting order of business to accommodate early departure of District 10 Sr. Vice Commander Cook and his wife.
 - b. **Election results:**
 - i. **Elected officers:** Commander-elect Evan Totten; Sr. Vice Commander-elect Reuben Trujillo; Jr. Vice Commander-elect Floyd Merenkov; Quartermaster-elect Gerard Brushaber; Chaplain-elect Edward Sainz; 3 Year Trustee-elect Ron Howell; 2 Year Trustee-elect Keith Troutman; 1 Year Trustee-elect Roland Henkel; Surgeon-elect John Denslow
 - ii. **Appointed officers:** Adjutant Floyd Merenkov; Judge Advocate Peter Solano.
9. **1928 Hrs. Swearing in of 2015/2016 Post Officers by District 10 Sr. Vice Commander Dave Cook.**
10. Sr. Vice Commander Dave Cook addressed the Post about membership and recruiting, stating we should strive for 100% membership by the end of June in order for District 10 Commander Tellgren to earn his "triple crown" before stepping down as commander.
11. **Approval of Minutes:** Commander Totten asked if everyone has read or received the minutes from the April 2015 meeting that were sent out via e-mail. A motion was made to amend the minutes statement of disbursements from \$1,031.70 to \$923.20. A motion,



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including the amendment, to approve the April 2015 minutes was made by Keith Troutman and seconded by Reuben Trujillo. Motion approving the minutes as amended passed by voice vote.

- 12. Quartermaster Monthly Report:** Quartermaster Gerard Brushaber read report.
 - a. See attached April Quartermasters report for details.
 - b. A motion to accept the April 2015 QM report was made by Keith Troutman and seconded by Reuben Trujillo. Motion passed by voice vote. Quartermaster's report for April 2015 was accepted.
- 13. Trustee Report –3rd Trustee Troutman: All Post funds have been properly accounted for.**
- 14. Service Officer Report - Service Officer Floyd Merenkov:** Service officer advised he had nothing new to report at this time.
- 15. Committee Reports:**
 - a. Membership – Gerard Brushaber:**
 - i. The Post has a total of 68 members: 60 Life Members, 6 annual members, 2 new members and 5 unpaid annual members. The Post stands at 80% for membership. Gerard reported 7 membership applications were passed out at our recent Armed Forces Days event. Three Post members transferred out of our post this past month.
 - ii. Parker Days June 12 thru 14 for membership drive and fund raiser for our post general fund. Calendar and schedule to be published when information is received from Parker Chamber of Commerce.
 - b. Buddy Poppy Program:**

Poppy Chairman Reuben Trujillo reports the Post will conduct our Memorial Day Buddy Poppy event May 23 & 24, 2015. May 23rd at the Parker Jordan Road King Soopers and May 24th at the Castle Pines King Scoopers. Times 0800 hrs. thru 1600 hrs. Sign up roster to be sent out via e-mail.
 - c. Publicity:**
 - i. **Parker Days Booth.** The Post has signed up for the June 12 thru 14, 2015 Parker Days Event and has paid to reserve booth location 9 on Mainstreet across from O'Brien Park. Sign up roster to be sent out via e-mail
 - d. Youth Activities –** Nothing new to report at this time.
 - e. House – Chairman Brushaber**

Fire Station 43 Lease has been reserved for the Post for 2015 for the third Monday of each month for 2015; no other information to report.
 - f. Americanism: Citizenship Education and Recognition: Don Howell**

Nothing new to report at this time.
 - g. Ways and Means**
 - i. Gerard Brushhaber reports that the Post raised \$888.90 at our Armed Forces Day event, and he thanked all who participated in a very successful fund raiser.
 - ii. Gerard also reports the purchase of Post 4266 Business cards which have Post contact and meeting information. New business cards were distributed to the membership.
 - h. Community Activities – Cmdr. Totten**



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- i. All members need to document Post community service activity so that Commander Totten can file reports with District 10.
 - ii. This past month Post members have participated in a Flag retirement ceremony, visited State Veterans Home, and volunteered for Meals on Wheels.
- i. Legislative – Commander Totten:**
- i. The new Denver VA Hospital is in serious financial trouble, and unless funding is found quickly the construction will come to a halt, leaving the project far from completion. Congressman Mike Coffman and Senator Cory Gardner are fighting hard to obtain additional funding which must come from a variety of sources.
 - ii. Totten has written letters to both Coffman and Gardner urging prompt action to help save the hospital project and to find the funds to help the many veterans who depend on the Denver VAMC for medical care.
 - iii. The original cost estimate was around \$650M to build the new hospital. Costs have now escalated to more than \$1.73B!
 - iv. Our VFW Commander in Chief has met with Congress and has pushed very hard for this funding debacle to be satisfactorily resolved to take care, as promised, of our veterans.
- 16. Ladies Auxiliary:** Post 4266 has no Ladies Auxiliary. Commander Totten stated that nothing new can be reported at this time. This item will henceforth be removed from our agenda
- 17. Remember our National Home for Children-** Prayer was read by Chaplain Sainz for the National Home for children in Eaton Rapids, MI.
- 18. Old Business – Commander Totten:**
- a. Parker Days June 12 thru 14. Need to complete watch schedule. Jeep display not allowed by Parker Chamber of Commerce or Town of Parker.
 - b. VFW State convention June 17 thru 21, 2015 Ft. Logan Post 9644. Need to determine who will attend to represent our post. Totten will be there for part of event only.
 - c. New Denver VA Hospital over run costs is currently up to 1.73 Billion Dollars, three times the original projected cost. Receiving much Congressional attention in attempt to raise money for cost escalation.
- 19. New Business – Commander Totten:**
- a. Post 2015/2016 officers-elect to take their new positions on June 20th after the State Convention.
 - b. A motion was made by Gerard Brushaber to donate \$100 to the District 10 Service Officer Gold Golf Tournament; seconded by Reuben Trujillo, motion passed by voice vote.
 - c. Post will also donate money to the Veterans Suicide Hot line.
- 20. Upcoming events for June 2015:**
- a. June 12th thru 14th, Parker Days VFW Booth, State Convention June 17th thru 21st, Ft. Logan Post 9644.
 - b. Buddy Poppy funds drive May 23 Parker Jordan Road King Soopers; May 24 Castle Pines King Soopers. 0800 hrs. to 1600 hrs.



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21. Gerard Brushaber to post flags at the Parker Cemetery along the fence (39 of them) for Memorial Day weekend. Fly over May 25th at Ft. Logan National Cemetery.
22. **Good of the Order – Cmdr. Totten**
The next Post meeting: will be **Monday, 15 June 1900 hrs.** Uniform of the day for Post Officers & members, **uniform polo shirts and official cap.**
23. **Closing Ceremonies:** Closing Prayer by Chaplain Ed Sainz
24. Meeting Closed by Commander Totten at 2045 hrs.

Submitted by:

Floyd R. Merenkov
Adjutant
Parker VFW Post 4266