



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN
WARS
PARKER VFW POST 4266
P.O. Box 4266**

Minutes for Meeting of 15 August 2016

Call to Order. Commander Reuben Trujillo called the meeting to order at 1900 hours on 15 August 2016.

Opening Prayer. Acting Chaplain Floyd Merenkov offered a prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance. Members recited the Pledge.

Commander's Comments: Trujillo opened the meeting and provided a brief educational comment that the American flags which fly at American Embassies throughout the world are actually flying on American soil from each Ambassador's home state.

Officer Roll Call: Acting Adjutant Keith Troutman called the roll.

Commander	Reuben Trujillo	Present
Senior Vice Commander	Fred Faery	Present
Junior Vice Commander	Thom Straley	Present
Quartermaster	Gerard Brushaber	Present
Chaplain	John Denslow	Absent
Adjutant	Pete Solano	Absent
Judge Advocate	Gerard Brushaber	Present
Surgeon	John Denslow	Absent
3-Year Trustee	Roland Henkel	Present
2-Year Trustee	Mike Tarby	Absent
1-Year Trustee	Keith Troutman	Present
Service Officer	Floyd Merenkov	Present

Commander Trujillo determined there was a quorum present to include Former Post Commander Evan Totten.

Recognition of Guests. During committee reports, two unexpected guests entered the meeting room and asked Commander Trujillo if they could interrupt our meeting and ask our Post for some assistance. Bob and Marty Gathers live in Franktown in a 14,000 square feet home on 45 acres of land to include a 2 ½ acre lake stocked with fish. This older couple is looking for a retired military couple (with some monthly income) to live rent free on their property in a separate, 2,000 square feet, caretaker home with a lower floor and a large adjoining garage. In exchange for the use of the caretaker home, which includes all utilities, and the property for fishing, hunting, and recreation, the couple would be responsible for maintaining both homes and property which includes approximately 2 ½ acres of grass with some small flower gardens. After a brief exchange, Merenkov and Troutman agreed to assist the Gathers in publicizing their needs with other government and volunteer organizations.

Reading of the Minutes. All members were e-mailed a copy of the July 2016 minutes. With a minor amendment pertaining to paragraph 10 which now reads “**Trustee Review of June Quartermaster Report and Quarterly Report of Audit** – Troutman. Reports reviewed and approved by three Trustees and signed by two Trustees present.” Totten and Straley moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Quartermaster’s Report. Prior to providing the QM report, Brushaber showed all members the three new streamers which are now attached to the Post’s flag. The three streamers indicate American military action pertaining to the Global War on Terrorism (which includes Operation Desert Storm), Iraq, and Afghanistan. Then, he explained the July QM report with some details about receipts and disbursements.

Report for July 2016 indicated

1. Beginning Bank Account Balance: \$18,888.64
2. Receipts: \$740.45
3. Disbursements: \$1,087.68
4. Ending Bank Account Balance: \$18,541.41
5. Ending Balance Breakout:
 - General Fund: \$3,329.64
 - Relief Fund: \$15,191.13
 - Dues Reserve Fund: \$20.64

QM noted that he received approval from all three Trustees and certification signatures from two Trustees present, i.e., Henkel and Troutman for his monthly QM Report for 1-31 July 2016. Merenkov and Totten moved and seconded that his report be accepted. Motion passed.

Committee Reports.

Membership. Brushaber stated that our Post’s membership stands at 76 members with two members having unpaid dues, 12 annual members, and 62 life members. He noted that Mathew Perry has not paid his dues for almost two years.

Relief: Brushaber advised there is nothing new to report.

Buddy Poppy. Trujillo asked about the status of VFW certificates for the managers of both King Soopers and the real estate company who made our recent fund-raiser a success. Totten advised that he will try to have the certificates printed by the end of this week but he will definitely have them completed NLT Monday, 22 Aug 2016. It was reported there are presently 10,000 buddy poppies on hand.

Publicity. Brushaber advised there is nothing new to report.

Youth Activities. Straley discussed our Post’s continued support of two programs, i.e., Patriots’ Pen and Voice of Democracy. He advised that he has initially coordinated with Our Lady of Loretto Catholic School in Foxfield, CO about the school’s students participating in both VFW programs. He will follow up and report again at our September meeting.

Americanism: The idea of Post 4266 organizing a fund-raising activity for our general fund on Patriot Day on 11 Sep 2016 and/or POW/MIA Day on 16 Sep 2016 was briefly discussed. No motions were provided to support either activity.

Ways and Means. After some discussion, Merenkov moved and Faery seconded that Post 4266 conduct its fall buddy poppy fund-raiser on Saturday & Sunday, 12 & 13 November 2016 at both King Soopers at Castle Pines and City Market on Cottonwood Drive. The motion passed. Trujillo then talked about the idea of the Post holding a raffle for fund raising purposes. He noted that John Denslow did some research into this matter and subsequently sent out an e-mail to several officers about the state's regulations (40 pages of gaming rules) which will need to be followed in order to sponsor such an activity. There is a \$100.00 license as well as other fees and training requirements associated with this action. Faery voiced his concern about raffling any firearm. Merenkov advised that VFW state and district organizations in Colorado have conducted firearms raffles in the past. Trujillo directed that Denslow's e-mail be distributed to all Post 4266's members and this subject will be discussed further at another meeting.

Community Activities. As the result of an inquiry from the Daughters of the American Revolution, Brushaber researched our members' DD Form 214s and provided the names of those members who served in Vietnam to the organization in order for it to prepare certificates of recognition.

Service. Merenkov advised that the VFW State Service Officer's position may soon be vacant. This is a paid position. Totten asked about what could be done to help an Air Force veteran in Parker who recently became homeless. Merenkov advised for the veteran to contact the Douglas County Office of Veteran Affairs.

Legislative. Totten advised there is nothing new to report.

Remember our National Home for Children. Acting Chaplain Merenkov offered a prayer.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

District 10 Inspection: District 10 staff will inspect our Post on 17 Oct 2016.

Charitable Donation: Brushaber advised that the World War II Memorial Foundation no longer accepts donations so the Post's \$100.00 donation, which was approved on 18 Jul 2016, cannot be sent. Since \$100.00 donations were already sent to both the Korean War and Vietnam War Memorial Foundations, he recommended that a \$100.00 donation be approved and sent to the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Fund. With a motion to this effect from Brushaber and a second from Totten, the motion passed.

Establishment of New Committee: Trujillo advised that he is forming a new committee called the Charity Donation Committee. The missions of the committee are to not only vet charitable organizations, but also to collect recommendations from solicitors and members and present for a members' vote a comprehensive proposal for charitable contributions to include a \$ amount for each organization recommended. Trujillo asked for volunteers and then appointed Straley as Chairman and Merenkov, Totten, and Brushaber as members of the newly formed Charity Donation Committee.

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CCH) Committee: Since Pete Solano's job will preclude him from continuing at the Chairman of the Post's CCH Committee, the committee's principle POCs will now be Mike Tarby and Fred Faery. Some discussion ensued about obtaining a speaker for a CCH meeting.

For the Good of the Order. Trujillo advised that the non-availability of Pete Solano creates a large void in the Post's officer staff. He asked if there were any volunteers to fill the important position of Adjutant. There were none. Merenkov took the opportunity to thank Trujillo for performing his cooking responsibilities in such an outstanding manner on Saturday, 13 Aug 2016, at our Post's get-together at Elk Mountain Brewing. The consensus of the members present was for his "reward" Reuben should assume the same chef responsibility for our next Post 4266 social gathering. It was noted that Commander Trujillo readily agreed.

Closing Ceremony:

Closing Prayer. Acting Chaplain Merenkov offered a prayer.

Adjournment. At 2045 hours, Commander Trujillo announced that this business session of VFW Post 4266 is closed and the next regular meeting will be on Monday, 19 Sep 2016 with the recommended uniform consisting of casual attire with VFW uniform caps.

Submitted by Keith Troutman
Acting Adjutant of VFW Post 4266