



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
PARKER VFW POST 4266
P.O. Box 4266
PARKER, CO 80134

Minutes for Meeting of 18 July 2016

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1900 hrs. by Commander Reuben Trujillo.
2. **Opening Prayer** by Acting Chaplain Michael Tarby
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – led by Commander Trujillo
4. **Commander Open** - Trujillo
5. **Introduction of Guests and Dignitaries**
6. **Recitation of Section 230102 of VFW Congressional Charter** – dispensed with
7. **Officer Roll Call:** Acting Adjutant John Denslow called the Officer Roll:

a. Commander	Reuben Trujillo	Present
b. Senior Vice Commander	Fred Faery	Absent
c. Junior Vice Commander	Thom Straley	Absent
d. Quartermaster	Gerard Brushaber	Present
e. Chaplain	Mike Tarby (acting)	Present
f. Adjutant	Peter Solano	Absent
g. Judge Advocate	Peter Solano	Absent
h. Surgeon	John Denslow	Present
i. 3 Year Trustee	Mike Tarby	Present
j. 2 Year Trustee	Keith Troutman	Present
k. 1 Year Trustee	Roland R. Henkel	Absent
l. Service Officer	Floyd Merenkov	Absent

Quorum was declared by Commander Trujillo; members present: Trujillo, Brushaber, Tarby, Troutman, Denslow, Naples

8. **Reading of the minutes** – Commander Trujillo asked if everyone has read or received the minutes from the June 2016 meeting. A motion to accept the June 2016 minutes was made (Troutman) and seconded (Tarby); June 2016 minutes approved by voice vote.
9. **Introduction and identification of new recruits, transfers, and candidates** – Membership Chairman Brushaber. No new members MTD July. Cmdr Trujillo encouraged recruitment; speak with neighbors and coworkers.
10. **Trustee Review of February Quartermaster Report** – Troutman
Report reviewed by two trustees and approved.
11. **Quartermaster Report** – Brushaber
Report for month of June 2016 read.
Beginning bank account balance: \$12,952.72
Receipts: \$6,341.16
Disbursements: \$405.24
Closing Balance (total): \$18,888.64
General Fund: \$3,208.34
Relief Fund: \$15,191.13
Dues Fund: \$199.17

No new bills presented for vote.

Motion to approve QM Report: Troutman. Second: Tarby. QM Report approved by unanimous vote.

12. Committee Reports

a. **Membership** – Brushaber

Facebook is working well as a publicity tool for the post.

b. **Relief** – Brushaber

No activity to report.

c. **Buddy Poppy** – Trujillo

We may need to order more Buddy Poppies to replenish our on-hand inventory.

d. **Publicity** – Brushaber

The Post 4266 website and Facebook mentioned again as good publicity tools.

e. **Youth** – Straley

Although Jr Vice Cmdr Straley was not present, Cmdr Trujillo and QM Brushaber spoke about an inquiry from Our Lady of Lareto school (in Aurora) regarding our ability/willingness to work with them to sponsor an annual veterans' assembly.

f. **Americanism** – Trujillo

(as a continuation of Youth, above) – QM Brushaber will follow up with Our Lady of Lareto regarding their request and to ensure that they are aware of what Patriots Pen is actually all about. Mr Naples shared that he has followed up with Douglas County Schools and is waiting for information about their participation in various Americanism activities with the VFW [Post 4266]. Cmdr Trujillo spoke about YouTube as a great resource to learn more about Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen, especially for those youth and schools who may be interested in participating.

g. **Ways and Means** – All

QM Brushaber passed along from Mr Floyd Merenkov that the upcoming Douglas County Gun Show has been cancelled. This was to serve as a recruitment and fund-raising event for Post 4266. The Post should now consider Cabela's and/or King Soopers as the sites for upcoming recruitment and fund-raising. The proposed dates (Brushaber) are Sunday 09/11 (Patriots Day) and Sunday 09/18 (POW/MIA Day).

Cmdr Trujillo mentioned that during a recent visit with District, many other posts have cantinas which help drive fund-raising activities and opportunities (like breakfasts and dances). Without such a resource or location, Post 4266 has to be creative. An idea mentioned by Cmdr Trujillo was a raffle, perhaps with a firearm as the drawing grand prize. All present agreed that this was worth exploring and that Mr Merenkov would be the best fit to research and coordinate should the Post decide to hold such an event as a fund-raiser.

h. **Community Activities** – Trujillo

QM Brushaber will contact Carrie Klein (Daughters of the American Revolution) regarding recognition for Vietnam veterans.

i. **Service Officer** – Merenkov not present

No new updates.

j. **Legislative** – Totten not present

No new updates.

13. Prayer for the National Home for Children

Acting Chaplain Michael Tarby offered a prayer.

14. Unfinished Business

a. Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Committee – Trujillo

Mr Tarby provided an update. He has been in contact with Megan, Nicole, and Petra at CCH weekly via e-mail. Response from CCH has been spotty. 5 “care” boxes from Post 4266 have been delivered, which is good – but Mr Tarby would like to be present (or have a Post 4266 CCH Committee member present) when the “care” boxes are delivered. This would allow us to maintain better communication and assess needs and response to the Post’s CCH efforts. Mr Tarby is readying 7 more “care” boxes by next month. Sr Vice Cmdr Faery has supplied the food for all of the care boxes thus far.

Cmdr Trujillo proposed that perhaps someone from the Veterans Administration could be a guest speaker for CCH (homeless veterans). There was also general group discussion about the possibility of arranging some type of holiday event for CCH.

Mr Tarby also updated that \$393 of the original \$800 set aside for CCH care boxes has been spent. Of this amount spent, the majority of the expense is the [file] boxes themselves. The boxes themselves also serve as useful recovery tools for the homeless vets, so it was mentioned that getting good boxes is important.

b. Poker Tournament Fund Drive (for General Fund) – Solano not present.

Discussion deferred.

c. Fund and Membership Drive at Gun Show – Merenkov

No further discussion at this time due to show cancellation.

15. New Business – Members

a. Post Social Gathering – All

It was brought forth by Cmdr Trujillo and discussed by Post members present that a social gathering should be considered in the near future. Proposed dates included 08/13 or 08/20. Elk Mountain (site of a previous Post social gathering) was mentioned as a potential location. QM Brushaber will contact Elk Mountain and coordinate. Invitations and information will be passed along via e-mail once arrangements become clear.

b. Staying in Contact with Post Adjutant Solano and Update on Sr Vice Cmdr Faery – All
Cmdr Trujillo proposed that we (Post 4266) send a care package to Adjutant Peter Solano, who is currently working in the Middle East and will be out of the country for a couple more months. QM Brushaber will contact Mr Solano’s wife to help determine what Mr Solano might most appreciate. All Post members present were in general agreement about this proposal.

Sr Vice Cmdr Faery will undergo hip surgery on 07/19. Several Post members mentioned that they will contact him and check on his recovery and progress after the surgery.

c. Community Support Recognition – Brushaber

QM Brushaber stated that certificates of recognition for supporters in the community (such as the manager of King Soopers in Castle Pines) ready. Other certificates (donor awards) are still being prepared.

d. Charitable Donations – Brushaber

QM Brushaber proposed the following donations on behalf of Post 4266:

- \$200 to VFW National Home for Children (motion Brushaber; 2nd Tarby; unanimous vote in favor)
- \$100 to each – World War II, Korean, and Vietnam War Foundations - \$300 total (motion Brushaber; 2nd Tarby; clarification question by Troutman; unanimous vote in favor)
- \$100 to Patriots Paws (motion Brushaber; no 2nd; motion did not pass) – there were some questions about this group’s management and [lack of] local area impact
- \$100 to USO (motion Brushaber; 2nd Tarby; clarification of \$100 amount by Denslow; unanimous vote in favor)
- \$100 to Veterans Community Living Center at Fitzsimons (motion Brushaber; 2nd Tarby; unanimous vote in favor)

16. Good of the Order – Commander Trujillo

a. Modify our website

17. Closing Ceremonies

- a. Salute the flag: Cmdr Trujillo
- b. Closing Prayer: Chaplain Tarby
- c. Meeting Closed by Commander Trujillo at 2030 hrs.

Submitted by: John Denslow
Acting Adjutant
VFW Post 4266