

**Call to Order.** Junior Vice Commander Thom Straley called the meeting to order at 1900 hours on 19 September 2016.

**Opening Prayer.** Acting Chaplain Mike Tarby offered a prayer.

**Pledge of Allegiance.** Members recited the Pledge.

**Commander's Comments.** None

**Introduction of Guests:** Straley introduced two guests from the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), i.e., Lynn Emery, Piney Creek Chapter Regent; and Carrie Klein, Piney Creek Chapter Vice Regent. Emery and Klein presented DAR certificates to four members (Brushaber, Seals, Tarby, and Totten) of our Post 4266 who were Vietnam veterans and present for this meeting. The DAR officers left three more certificates for our Post's remaining Vietnam veterans who were not present.

**Officer Roll Call:** Acting Adjutant Keith Troutman visually noted the roll call.

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

Junior Vice Commander Straley determined there was a quorum present to include Former Post Commander Evan Totten and Comrade David Seal.

**Reading and Approval of the Minutes.** All members were e-mailed a copy of the August 2016 minutes. Totten and Denslow moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

**Quartermaster's Report.** Brushaber explained the August QM report with some details about receipts (none) and disbursements. He noted that the Post incurred no expenses for our August 13<sup>th</sup> social event at Elk Mountain Brewing since individual members absorbed the cost of food and picnic items for this activity.

QM's Report for August 2016 indicated

1. Beginning Bank Account Balance: \$18,541.41
2. Receipts: \$0
3. Disbursements: \$572.00
4. Ending Bank Account Balance: \$17,969.41
5. Ending Balance Breakout:

- General Fund: \$3,257.64
- Relief Fund: \$14,691.13
- Dues Reserve Fund: \$20.64

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

### **Committee Reports.**

**Membership.** Brushaber stated while National HQ reports our Post's membership stands at 67 members, a Post 4266 membership query indicates 77 members.

**Relief:** Brushaber advised there is nothing new to report.

**Buddy Poppy.** Totten advised that he reserved two locations for our fall fund-raising activities on 12 & 13 Nov 2016 from 0800-1600 hours, i.e., King Soopers at Castle Pines and Marketplace King Soopers on Cottonwood Drive in Parker. The Parker Task Force is also scheduled to be present, but its soliciting activities should not interfere with ours. Brushaber volunteered to set up at the Castle Pines store, and Totten volunteered to set up at the Parker store. Comments were made by several members about the importance of having enough volunteers at both locations on both Saturday and Sunday throughout our fund-raising weekend.

**Publicity.** Brushaber advised there is nothing new to report.

**Youth Activities.** Straley advised there is nothing new to report.

**Americanism:** Input is due to our Post NLT 1 Nov 2016 for Patriots' Pen and Voice of Democracy. Otherwise, there is nothing new to report.

**Ways and Means.** Brushaber advised there is nothing new to report.

**Community Activities.** Totten commented that individual community service hours need to be reported to Commander Trujillo, and our Post's total community service activities are an inspection item which is noted by our chain of command at District level and higher. Brushaber suggested placing a reminder for all members in our minutes and specifically directing our members to e-mail their volunteer service hours to Trujillo.

**Service.** Merenkov was not present, and members present had nothing new to report.

**Legislative.** Totten stated that Congress is putting legislative pressure on the VA to provide more timely medical care to all veterans and especially to those veterans on the VA's backlog list. The lead lobbyists in these efforts are the VFW and the American Legion.

**Remember our National Home for Children.** Chaplain Denslow offered a prayer.

**Unfinished Business.**

**Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CCH) Committee:** Tarby reported that personnel vacancies in the CCH organization appear to be causing a general slowdown in operations and activities. When the new-hires get trained, he expects the operations and activities to return to normal. Tarby stated he delivered seven boxes of goods, and the contents of these boxes are still being delivered to individual veterans. The committee has approximately \$320.00 remaining in its budget for this project.

**Poker Tournament:** Nothing new to report

**Charity Donation Committee:** Brushaber reported that the Post has received no new requests for charitable donations.

**Post's Urgent Requirement for a Permanent Adjutant:** Straley solicited the members present about filling our Post's vacant Adjutant slot, but there were no volunteers.

**Update on Offer for Retired Military Couple to be Caretakers:** Troutman advised that he prepared and distributed a summary of the requirement, provided by Bob & Marty Gathers at our August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, to the following individuals and organizations, i.e., American Legion Parker Post 1864; Denver Chapter of the Military Order of World Wars; Mile High Military Officers Association; Knights of Columbus Ave Maria Council; and Army and Marine Recruiting Offices in Parker. He further stated that he is waiting to receive a return phone call from the Northern Colorado Retiree Activity Office at Buckley AFB. Brushaber advised about a prospect by the name of Jeff Hawk, and he said upon receiving a copy of the Gathers' offer, he would disseminate to all Post 4266 members with e-mail.

**VFW Certificates for Retail Stores Assisting in our Post's 28 & 29 May 2016 Fund-raiser:** It was noted that these certificates still need to be presented. It was suggested that photos be taken at the presentations.

**New Business.**

**District 10 Meeting:** There were no Post 4266 members at this recent meeting.

**District 10 Inspection:** District 10 staff will inspect our Post on 17 Oct 2016 (Repeat).

**Flag Retirement Ceremony:** Totten advised that he will accept all flags which need to be retired.

**For the Good of the Order.** Members generally agreed that "Uniformity at events/fund raising" be deleted as a line in future Post 4266 agendas.

**Closing Ceremony.**

**Closing Prayer.** Acting Chaplain Tarby offered a prayer.

**Adjournment.** At 2010 hours, Junior Vice Commander Straley announced that this business session of VFW Post 4266 is closed and the next regular meeting will be on Monday, 17 Oct 2016 with the recommended uniform consisting of VFW polo shirt with VFW uniform caps.

Submitted by Keith Troutman  
Acting Adjutant of VFW Post 4266