

POST 1 MEETING: 8 January 2024

Attendees: Russ Kroshus, Janette Fetch, Wayne Maruska, John Griffin, Al Walker, Ed Stern, Bob Wefald, Dan Rustvang, and Bob Bird

Meeting Minutes: are posted on the website. www.americanlegionbismarck.org
Minutes were reviewed by Commander Kroshus. Motion to approve the minutes made by Bob Bird, second by Ed Stern. Minutes approved.

Financial Report:

\$64,502.00 available cash for office use, \$477,000 in bonds and CDs, \$617,364 Gaming Foundation funds to be used for donations, \$51,190 Gaming Post 1 Admin to be used for post expenses.
We have two Edward Jones CD's mature in 2024, that money will be re-invested.

Gaming Report:

Abused Adult Resource Center: \$500.00
ND American Legion Department Service Officer: \$3,000.00
ND American Legion Children and Youth Program: \$3,000.00
ND American Legion Boys State Program: \$5,000.00
ND American Legion Girls State Program: \$5,000.00
ND Legion Department Commanders Project: \$1,000.00
Total donations: \$17,500

Ed Stern made a motion to approve the gaming, second by Bob Wefald. Motion Approved.

BSC Foundation check presentation will be 10 January 2024 at 11:00 a.m., Foundation Office, 1255 Shafer Street.

SAL:

Winter Conference is coming up, and SAL is still taking renewals and new members.

Open Your Heart:

The Freedom Riders support the Open Your Heart Campaign and are a huge help with the food boxes in December.

Activities and Public Relations:

Due to the increase in COVID, we will not be visiting the nursing homes

Carson Wentz Discussion:

Carson Wentz from Bismarck played football for NDSU, No. 2 quarterback draft pick for the NFL, played for the Philadelphia Eagles, played for the Washington Commanders, and halfway through this season he was signed with the Los Angeles, Rams. He played American Legion Baseball for the Bismarck Governors in 2010, and they took second place in the state tournament. He played some American Legion Baseball in 2008-2009.

Did Carson Wentz attend Boys State? American Legion Department is looking into it.

If Carson attended Boys State and played Baseball for the American Legion, the American Legion would like to have him be the guest speaker at a future convention and hopefully donate to Boys State and Baseball programs for the American Legion.

Department Conferences/Conventions:

We have two more legionnaires that will be attending the Winter Conference. John Strand and Al Walker.

Oratorical:

No Report

Honor Guard:

Meetings are the fourth Tuesday of the month. We meet at the National Guard Raymond J. Bohn Armory. Next meeting is January 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Boys State:

Russ Kroshus is making contact with the local High Schools to revive interest for Boys State.

Do we still have the Troops to Teachers Program? Find out who these teachers are and work with them to become legionnaires and assist as the point of contact in the schools to find participants for Boys State.

For the Good of the Legion:

Mark Swartz will be the recipient of a Quilt from the Quilt of Valor Organization on January 24th, AMVETS, at 6:00 p.m.

Bob Bird:

Fanny Dunn Quain was the first President of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1 in 1920. She also became the first Auxiliary President of the Bismarck VFW in 1935. She was very well thought of in the community.

Meeting Adjourned.