

AMERICAN LEGION Loyd Spetz Post No. 1
POST MEETING MINUTES
May 8, 2023

Guests: Sara Blazek -Survivor Outreach Services and Kristi Fetsch – Volunteer for Survivor Outreach Services

Sara Blazek is the Survivor Outreach Services for the state serving all families of the fallen of the state, all branches, all services, all manners of death, all conflicts.

Remembrance Weekend – is a healing network for families of the fallen through the connections families have made with each other. It is a NG event, but all branches all entities are invited.

Kristi Fetsch – input a gaming request for a donation of \$1,200.00. This request would cover flowers (remembrance of their service member), butterflies release (part of the closing ceremony representing the symbol of change, transformation and beauty) and music (release tension).

Event: August 4-5-6 2023 at the Ramada.

SAL: Dan asked about needs of children, Sara will get Mandy's contact information. Operation Alf (comfort puppies).

Mamie: We cannot pay vendors so we cannot pay for this request. Why can't we send it through the NDNG Foundation? We cannot get the money out of the foundation. In memo: restricted to Remembrance Weekend, the foundation should not be able to use that money for anything else.

Options: Gaming pay the SAL? SAL pay the vendors?

Options: Pay the Patriot Guard and have the Patriot Guard pay the vendors.

Motion was made to approve the \$1200 request providing they find a way to process the check and pay the vendors, motion was second by Al Walker. Motion Carried.

Minutes of previous meeting read

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Report: No Report

GAMING REPORT:

Approved: Nightlife bus driver for Memorial Day - \$100

All Veteran Honor Guard chicken dinner -\$65 needs to be increased to \$130.00. *Motion was made by Bob Bird to up the request to \$130 second by Ed Stern. Motion Carried.*

Legacy girls swim and dive team requested \$1000 – we approved \$400

World classroom trip to Washington D.C. \$2,699 we approved \$500

National Emergency Fund – approved \$4,000

Send It Softball requested \$1500.00 we approved \$500

Emblem Sales check to re-issue – next check return receipt requested.

Motion was made to approve the gaming amounts made by Larry Herman second by Al Walker. Motion Carried

Dennis Beck did resign and we are looking for another gaming committee member. Ed Stern is helping intern due to Russ Kroshus traveling so much the next couple months. What do we do on

gaming committee? Go through requests and approve or disapprove and bring to regular post meeting. Once approved, checks are written.

Non gaming license motion was made to go ahead with the non gaming license, motion was second by Al Walker. Motion Carried

Gaming sites: We have lost Rusty's and Jacks, they are going with a different non-profit. On the Run is still up in the air – contract still needs to be signed. Legislation grandfathered On the Run locations in. Grandfathered in means they need to keep their non-profit or they are done. If Post 1 decides not to continue with On the Run, they are done forever.

Veteran Service Officer: Legislative updates are posted on website

Baseball Raffle: will continue like last year. Tickets will come to the office and tickets mailed out. Stubs will be dropped off at Parks and Rec for drawing. You can also come to the office and pick up your ticket.

Boys State: 11-16 June in Wahpeton. Three individuals we will be sponsoring \$300 plus \$65.00 for the bus for each. Total of 365.00 per individual. This can be paid for out of gaming funds. *Motion was made to Al Walker pay the sponsor fee of \$300 and bus fare of \$65.00 for each individual, motion was second by Vern Fetch. Motion Carried.*

Oratorical: Nothing to Report

ND Western Honor Flight: Vern was on the recent honor flight on 1May2023. We toured all the memorials, Attended the changing of the guard – that was precise. If you get the chance to be on an honor flight, you should do it.

Membership Goal: 610

As of 28Apr23 Post 1 was at 89.51%

District 5: 92.36%

Nation: as of 7May2023, ND is 6 out of 55 at 92.70%. Last year ND was in 37th and we have moved up to 6th.

Convention in Bismarck – 22-25Jun2023. Hosted by Post 126-Hazelton. Bismarck Hotel and Conference Center. Banquet tickets were handed out – make payment directly to Department HQ. We pay for 12-14 delegates - \$25.00 per delegate – check sent to Department HQ by Post 1. Took a poll of who plans on attending convention.

SAL: still taking renewals and new members. Starting a project “Operation Alf” providing puppies to kids whose parents are deployed and kids in need. Squadron helping out with Remembrance Weekend. This may be a great time to get the comfort puppies to kids at this event. SAL possibly doing a BBQ at the convention.

Poppy Day: 27 May 2023 at all Dans Supermarkets between 10:00-1:00 p.m. Who would like to help with poppy day. Mamie will hand out a sign up sheet.

Memorial Day: Posted Memorial Day information will be in Newsletter, on website and facebook. If anyone wants to take flyers and hang up around town. Buses will be available at Bank of ND and Dans Supermarket in Mandan. Memorial Day will be live streamed.

Golf: 19 August 2023. Registration will be online. Start at 1:00, 4-person scramble, \$100 per person or \$400 per team. Location: Prairie West.

Picnic: 17 September 2023. Jaycee Park. Russ Kroshus reserved the outside and inside shelters. Any ideas for catering: Laughing Sun, Big Boy, Famous Daves, Dicky's.

All Veterans Honor Guard: Some of the Honor Guards are having difficulty getting enough people to fall out for funerals and posting colors. VFW 1326, DAV and American Legion. All entities wear their own uniforms and your hat to your veteran organization. There is a meeting on 17May2023 from 6:30 – 7:30. If you want to be part of the Honor Guard, please attend the menu.

Officers: Wayne Maruska is interested in Second Vice. Mamie was thinking switching Larry and Wayne. Larry was asked if he wanted to be First Vice and he declined.

New Business:

Auxiliary President, Bonnie Banks, have stepped down.

New Auxiliary President is Latoya Carpenter (Mamie and Arnie's daughter). We had a reorganization meeting on Friday.

Next Auxiliary Meeting: 3June2023, at 2:00 p.m. at the AMVETS (downstairs).

The Post 1 should pay for coffee and cookies for this meeting. *Al Walker made a motion to pay for coffee and cookies for the Auxiliary Meeting on 3Jun2023. Motion was seconded by Larry Herman. Motion carried.*

Facebook: we will be adding the Auxiliary to our facebook page.

If anyone knows anyone who want to be involved with the Auxiliary – let them know we are looking for members.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION:

Military Funeral Honors Coin – The Heritage Center has some coins through the VA. One coin is given to the fallen veteran. Families can buy extra MFH Coins.

The meeting adjourned.