



S.A.L. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY – March 7, 2018

The monthly Executive Committee meeting of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron #347 was held Wednesday, March 7, 2018, in the Post #347 Conference Room. There being a quorum of 11 present, the meeting was properly called to order by Commander George Worton at 5:30 PM. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Chaplain Jack Dirga, and the Pledge of Allegiance. 11 Officers present were: Cmdr George Worton, Paul Pitts, David Booth, Gary Blanchard, Danny Adams, Jack Dirga, Cory Meloni, Doug White, Mike Shebel, Mel Cirullo, and David Callies. Also in attendance were: Post liaison Len Biederman, District 6 Commander Richard Duncan, and Asst Adjutant Bob O'Neal. Absent was: Gary Bishop.

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

Cmdr Worton discussed the need for additional fundraising due mostly to losses from kitchen closure during the hurricane and the loss of the NFL Sunday meal. It's important that we find a replacement activity for the canceled March crab race. We have reserved the hall for April 27 for this additional event. Ideas include: 1) A casino night; 2) A poker party night; or 3) An early Cinco-de-Mayo party. Danny felt a poker night in April would not be well attended due to several other high-profile poker fundraisers occurring in the area during April; better to wait until the end of May for that. Dave Booth felt a casino night would draw a different type of person compared to a poker night, so that could be OK for April. Dave is researching casino night operators to get prices and availability.

said the Lake Weir HS JROTC ball is being held the evening of March 24th. The Sons are providing two entrees for the event, pasta w/meat sauce and chicken cordon bleu. The food will be cooked in the Post kitchen and transported to the High School. If anyone wishes to volunteer for this event please contact George at 410-382-0473.

Cmdr Worton wants to hold a new-member initiation during the April 18th General Membership meeting. We will have the Lake Weir HS JROTC present colors and perform the saber arch for the initiates to walk underneath as they enter the hall. The Adjutant will send out electronic invitations to all 2016/2017/2018 new members.

Cmdr Worton noted that Bernie Harchar has had very good success in recruiting kitchen volunteers. They have performed well. If anyone is interested in volunteering once or twice per month, contact Bernie at 440-724-2137.

Cmdr Worton said there are still several officer positions needing someone to be nominated for the 2018-2019 year. If you want to nominate someone, or even yourself, fill out and sign the Officer Nomination form and submit it to one of the Officers or into the SAL mailbox in the front office. **A copy of the form is attached to these minutes for anyone's use.**

Finance Officer Adams gave a brief finance report:

- February 2018 Net Income was \$4,390. COGS was down to 44%, but this may have been an anomaly. The COGS Cmte continues to work on this issue to get continuous improvement.
- The bank accounts as of 3/6/18 totaled \$22,253.
- During April some of our high priority donations will be delivered, including \$3,005 for Special Olympics and \$500 for Boys State. Danny will set aside \$8,000 for our scholarships that get paid later in the fiscal year.
- Danny motioned to create and sell a lottery board during March and April with a budget of \$200; seconded by Jack Dirga. Dave Booth said he has some Texas Roadhouse gift cards from the CVC that he can donate to the lottery board. It was also suggested that we might put \$20-50 cash on the board to guarantee a payout. Gary Blanchard suggested we post a photo of the board at the Texas Roadhouse restaurant to show them how they are helping us raise money for Veterans causes. The motion was Approved.

Judge Advocate Mike Shebel discussed the update to the By-Laws and Standing Rules. He had sent out a rough draft to all Exec Cmte members last week. He reviewed all of the proposed changes and



everyone's comments and suggestions. He noted that if we just amend the documents they don't have to go through any Post or Detachment approval processes. In any case, he will seek concurrence from the Post's Judge Advocate once he has a final draft available.

Mike Shebel motioned to allow Officer election voting to occur during the day of the May General Membership meeting, from 1 PM through 3 PM; seconded by Danny Adams. Allowing daytime voting should increase participation. Len Biederman suggested we ask the Post's Honor Guard to monitor vote collection during the day and during the evening meeting; they do this for the Legion and it works out well, adding some assurance to the process of card checking and vote tallying.

Mike Shebel motioned to make the annual dues amount for members who are US Active Duty Military be \$0.00; seconded by Danny Adams. The motion was Approved. Mike will add this to the standing rules.

Cmdr Worton gave the membership report. Currently we have processed renewals/new/transfers for a total of 611 members, or 103.9% of our Detachment goal. We will continue to accept new/transfer applications through the April General Membership meeting. After that we will defer applications to July. There are ~64 members who have not renewed from 2016-2017 (about 10%), leaving an open question as to why? We called each of these non-renewers and most did not answer the phone. The Adjutant will do a survey of non-renewers later in the fiscal year to see if there are any common reasons for this.

The Adjutant read an email from the Detachment requesting Squadrons to buy an ad in their annual conference booklet. An ad will cost ~\$50. Paul Pitts motioned to create and purchase and add for up to \$50 for this year's booklet; seconded by Jack Dirga. Some felt that an ad is a bad investment and does not bring in any new members. Others noted it may attract some dual members to apply, and now the dues are \$12 for duals and actually produce a few dollars profit for us. Others noted that we are the second largest Squadron in the State and it is expected that we buy an ad in the booklet. The motion was Approved.

There being no further business, the Chaplain said a closing prayer, the flag was saluted, and the meeting was adjourned by the Commander at 7:06 PM.

Yours in God and Country,
Doug White
Adjutant

Officer Nomination Form

2018/2019 Ballot

The Sons of the American Legion

Squadron #347, Lady Lake, FL

I, _____, nominate the following individual, _____, for the position of _____.

Signed: _____

Member #: _____; Date: _____

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I, _____, accept and consent to the nomination as stated above.

Signed: _____

Member #: _____; Date: _____