



S.A.L. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY – April 5, 2017

The monthly Executive Committee meeting of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 347 was held Wednesday, April 5, 2017, in the Post 347 Conference Room. There being a quorum of 11 present, the meeting was properly called to order by Acting Commander Gary Bishop at 5:30 PM. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Chaplain Jack Dirga, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers present were: Gary Bishop, George Worton, Deano Mosingo, Danny Adams, Jack Dirga, Bill Gray, Doug White, Mike Shebel, Cory Meloni, Richard Duncan, and Butch Stroud. Our VA&R Chairman Gary Blanchard, Legion Liaison Len Biederman, Asst Adjutant Bob O'Neal, Asst Chaplain Ben Kisielica, and Angelo Speziak also attended.

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

Acting Commander Gary Bishop gave an update on membership. At this time, with the latest transmittal, the Squadron is at 578 paid members, or 110.3% membership compared to last year. This number includes 99 new and transfer members. There are currently 90 non-renewers from both 2016 and 2015.

Acting Commander asked Butch Stroud, the chairman of the Nominating Committee, for an update. Butch says candidates have been nominated for all elected positions except for 2nd Vice and Historian. There are 4 candidates for the 2 open Member-at-Large positions. Nominations will close at the end of the April Membership meeting on 4/19. Elections will occur during the May Membership meeting on 5/17. It was clarified by the Judge Advocate that if there are open positions, they can be appointed by the Commander.

Acting Commander asked Bill Gray, Scholarship Committee Chairman, for an update. Bill said that applications from both Lake Weir HS and Belleview HS were picked up on 4/17 and are currently being evaluated. Each school will receive (1) \$2,000, (1) \$1,000, and (2) \$500 scholarships. Committee members include: George Worton, Jack Dirga, and Charlie McGlone,

The Adjutant summarized recent correspondence, including: Thank you note from Glenn Nielson for the commemorative hat presented to him on March 15th, and he included a \$50 donation to the Squadron; Thank you letter from the Orlando VA Hospital for the gifts donated last Christmas; Thank you note from Habitat for Humanity for our \$2,500 donation; two thank you notes from Boy Scout Troop 244 for our donations of \$500 and \$750; Thank you note from Jean Suelter of the 40&8 group for our recent hole sponsorship at their golf tourney; Thank you note from St. Theresa's Catholic Church for our donation of \$750; Thank you note from Operation Shoebox for our donation of \$2,000; Thank you note from VA Healthcare System for our donation of donuts at the Villages VA Clinic; A request for future donations to support Meals-on-Wheels run by the North Lake Presbyterian Church.

Finance Officer Danny Adams submitted his report and a few items of interest:

- He submitted and reviewed the March monthly profit & loss statement. Total income was \$4,227; Cost of Goods Sold (all food) was \$3,001; Net Profit was \$408.
- Discussion ensued regarding possible ways to reduce Cost of Goods Sold (food costs). Angelo presented his analysis of the Italian Special costs, which showed we earn roughly \$6 profit on the \$8 special. George Worton agreed to do a similar analysis of other food items such as fried foods, burgers, and pizza.
- Danny introduced a new process, including a form, to submit for expenses prior to incurring them.



- Danny discussed the current Chart of Accounts we use, which is rather lengthy. He said he is going to greatly reduce the number of line items to more closely match the CofA used by the Post.

Angelo discussed the poor quality of kitchen appliances that is dragging down meal quality, in particular, the warmer and the ovens. George Worton noted that the Post is replacing the warmer and also some of the fryers. Len Biederman suggested a group of kitchen users from the Sons, the Auxiliary, and the Post get together to create a unified request to the Post house committee for kitchen improvements, such as replacing the ovens.

Acting Commander Bishop noted that from mid-April to mid-May the Adjutant, Finance Officer and himself will be creating the various yearly reports required by the Detachment.

Acting Commander Bishop discussed our donation plan for April-June:

- \$11,000 has been donated so far this fiscal year, and there is approximately \$22,000 in the bank.
- Gary proposed a \$19,000 giving plan for April-June, leaving over \$3,000 for next year's roll-over.
- Gary discussed the Special Olympics pins we have on consignment from the Detachment. We originally received 100 pins and have sold only 14 so far. The Adjutant will mention the pins and the owls in the next membership email blast next week.

Jack Dirga motioned to approve an endorsement letter for Richard Duncan for the office of Commander for District 6, and seconded by Bill Gray. Discussion included: 1) Richard originally had an endorsement letter approved for the 1st Vice Commander position, but is now changing his nomination to Commander; 2) It was deemed only an Executive Cmte vote was needed to modify the previous endorsement. Motion was Approved.

Richard Duncan motioned to approve an endorsement letter for George Worton for the office of 1st Vice Commander for District 6, and seconded by Jack Dirga. Motion was Approved. This letter will have to be approved at the Membership meeting before being transmitted to the Detachment.

George Worton proposed we have a budget plan for the 2017-2018 year by the end of June 2017. Finance Officer Danny Adams strongly agreed and also proposed we include a contingency fund of several thousand dollars to account for unforeseen emergencies. It was agreed to create a committee to include George Worton, Danny Adams, Gary Bishop, Mike Shebel, and Doug White that would create a proposed budget of income, expenses, and donations by the end of June which would then come up for review and approval in July.

George Worton discussed he will need a volunteer to run the kitchen on Thursday, April 20th as he will be away for a few days. He will also need volunteers to help setup and breakdown the tables and chairs on April 21st and April 22nd before and after the Detachment Homecoming event. Adjutant will include these requests in the next membership email blast.

Danny Adams noted that he will be away for the week of April 16th and any expense reimbursement requests get to him before then.

There being no further business, the Chaplain said a closing prayer, the flag was saluted, and the meeting was adjourned by the Commander at 7:15 PM.

Yours in God and Country,
Doug White
Adjutant