



## **S.A.L. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY – May 3, 2017**

The monthly Executive Committee meeting of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron #347 was held Wednesday, May 3, 2017, in the Post #347 Conference Room. There being a quorum of 10 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 Asst Chaplain Ben Kisielica, and the Pledge of Allegiance. Officers present were: Gary Bishop, George Worton, Danny Adams, Bill Gray, Doug White, Mike Shebel, Cory Meloni, Richard Duncan, and Butch Stroud. Legion Liaison Len Biederman, Asst Chaplain Ben Kisielica, and VA&R Chairman Gary Blanchard also attended. Absent were Deano Mosingo and Jack Dirga,

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 580 paid members, or 110.7% membership compared to last year. This number includes 103 new and transfer members. There are currently 89 non-renewers from both 2016 and 2015.

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

- He submitted and reviewed the April monthly profit & loss statement. Checking acct balance on 4/30/17 was \$19,797 and Cash on-hand was \$1,000.
- Several large donation checks were cut in April, which is skewing some monthly numbers. Immediate Past Cmdr Butch Stroud stated he thought we should not record donation checks as part of the monthly profit/loss statement since they are not related to a particular month's expenses. Len Biederman responded that he thought the Post recorded donations as part of the monthly profit/loss statement. Danny Adams strongly disagreed with Butch's position and stated it was proper accounting practice to include donations in a monthly profit/loss statement.
- Len Biederman noted that the Post cuts its Boys State check in December for the following year. He suggested we might consider in the future also making this donation in December, but it was not a requirement of the Post.

Acting Commander Bishop discussed his donation plan for May-June:

- \$8,000 for Scholarships; \$1,000 for Combat Veterans to Careers; \$750 for Village View Pantry; \$750 for St Theresa's Pantry; \$500 for Veteran's Urns; \$500 for USA Cares; \$250 for Lady Lake Little League; and \$250 for Lady Lake Soccer. A total of \$12,000.
- Danny Adams motioned to approve these donations as described; seconded by George Worton. Discussion ensued: 1) Danny Adams says the treasury has sufficient funds to cover these donations and leave at least \$3,000 for carry-over to 2017-2018 year; 2) The \$3,000 carry-over amount was discussed, but then tabled until the June meeting. The motion was Approved.

Budget Cmte Chairman George Worton says there will be a meeting of the Committee on 5/31/17 at 9 AM in the conference room to begin the process of creating a 2017-2018 budget. The Adjutant will send out an email inviting committee members.

Scholarship Cmte Chairman Bill Gray says the evaluation and interview process is proceeding on schedule.

Special Olympics Cmte Chairman Cory Meloni says that owl sales have stalled and recommends reducing the price to \$10 for the ~20 owls remaining. There was general



agreement that reducing the price was not a good idea, and may create problems with people who already purchased them at \$20. Acting Cmdr Bishop said he is willing to personally purchase all remaining owls at \$10 each and donate them to local causes such as the police. A motion was made by Butch Stroud to allow Gary Bishop to purchase all remaining owls for \$10 each; seconded by Mike Shebel. Motion was Approved. A discussion about the Special Olympic commemorative pins concluded that we will return all remaining pins (~84) at the Convention to Bernie Wildrick and include a check for the ones sold. Acting Cmdr Bishop called Ronda Coleman at the Lake/Sumter Special Olympics office and she said they will accept our donation at our June Membership meeting and make sure it is used to support activities in Lake & Sumter Counties.

Acting Cmdr Bishop noted that he and the Adjutant have completed the annual reports for the Detachment. Adjutant Doug White says that an additional 1,100 community service hours were submitted by membership in response to the blast email sent last week.

Crab Race Chairman Gary Blanchard is still looking for a copy of the contract signed for the March race that we subsequently postponed. When the contract is found we will owe the race operator a cancellation fee of \$250, according to Mr. Blanchard.

Richard Duncan motioned to approve our Convention delegation vote for George Steger for the Detachment office of Sgt-at-Arms; seconded by Butch Stroud. George spoke at our April General Membership meeting requesting our support. Motion was Approved unanimously.

Richard Duncan motioned to approve our Convention delegation vote for Tim Chancellor for the Eastern Area Commander; seconded by Butch Stroud. George spoke at our April General Membership meeting requesting our support. Motion was Approved with one nay.

Butch Stroud and Richard Duncan discussed how we register voting delegates at the Convention. The Squadron has to pay \$5 for every 10 members to register a voting delegate. Therefore, we qualify for  $580/10 = 58$  voting delegates for a total cost of \$290. We also get a few free delegate votes: For our charter; for Tom Soeder who is a Detachment officer; and for Richard Duncan who is a District officer.

Acting Cmdr Bishop noted that the plaque display area in the hall has been re-painted and surrounded by an outline frame for each Post family member. Adjutant White will be re-hanging our plaques this Friday afternoon.

Danny Adams spoke about the new policy started in April to control complimentary drinks for volunteers. During April volunteers were issued 2 free drink tickets per night. Sons volunteers redeemed 106 free drinks during our 8 dinner nights in April at a total cost to the bar of \$251.50. It was concluded that the ticket process is a good one and we support it moving forward.

Butch Stroud asked about how the money is distributed for the Thursday night 50/50 raffle and if we pay for part of the entertainment cost (trivia operator). In the past (prior to July 2016) the Sons paid for half of the entertainment and received a portion of the 50/50 proceeds. This practice was ended last year. Should we discuss resuming the practice? Acting Cmdr Bishop says he will approach the Post and lounge leadership regarding this and also to communicate what the Sons has contributed to the overall value of the Post over time.

There being no further business, the Chaplain said a closing prayer, the flag was saluted, and the meeting was adjourned by the Commander at 6:30 PM.

Yours in God and Country,  
Doug White  
Adjutant