



S.A.L. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMARY – June 7, 2017

The monthly Executive Committee meeting of the Sons of the American Legion Squadron #347 was held Wednesday, June 7, 2017, in the Post #347 Conference Room. There being a quorum of 10 present, the meeting was properly called to order by Commander Gary Bishop at 5:30 PM. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Asst Chaplain Ben Kisielica, and the Pledge of Allegiance. 8 Officers present were: Gary Bishop, Danny Adams, Bill Gray, Doug White, Mike Shebel, Cory Meloni, Richard Duncan, and Butch Stroud. Asst Chaplain Ben Kisielica, and VA&R Chairman Gary Blanchard also attended; as well as officer-elects Paul Pitts and David Booth. Absent were George Worton, Deano Mosingo, and Jack Dirga,

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business:

Commander Gary Bishop gave an update on membership. At this time, with the final transmittal delivered for the 2016-2017 year, the Squadron is at 588 paid members, or 112.2% membership compared to last year. This number includes 108 new and transfer members.

Cmdr Bishop noted that Harry Hodge, one of our dedicated kitchen volunteers, has taken ill and is recovering. Our prayers for a speedy recovery go out Harry and his family.

Cmdr Bishop relayed that the Budget Committee met on May 31st and worked on a 2017-2018 plan. Finance Officer Danny Adams is still working on some final items for the plan. Once finalized, the proposed plan will be presented to the new Officers in July, and be voted upon. The final approved budget will serve as a guide and framework to measure our financial activity during the fiscal year.

Cmdr Bishop discussed that there are several donation checks still not yet delivered. They will be delivered during June as follows:

- Combat Veterans to Careers donation – Accepted by David Booth during tonight's meeting.
- Veteran's Urn Project - Accepted by Doug White during tonight's meeting.
- St. Theresa's Food Pantry – Will be delivered by Gerry Beauchamp.
- USA Cares – Will be delivered by Gerry Beauchamp.
- Lady Lake Little League - Will be delivered by Gary Bishop or Bill Walsh.
- Lady Lake Soccer - Will be delivered by Gary Bishop or Bill Walsh.
- Special Olympics – Will be accepted by officials from Special Olympics of Sumter, Lake, and Marion counties during the June General Membership meeting on 6/21.

Cmdr Bishop discussed that during the September 2016 Executive Cmte and General Membership meetings a motion was adopted to purchase 75 membership pins and 25 5-year pins to be awarded to members during planned initiation ceremony. Cmdr Bishop wanted to let the Committee know we are going to purchase these pins during June, and an initiation ceremony will be planned and implemented during the 2017-2018 year. He also suggested we purchase some additional of SAL Handbooks to refresh our supply.

Cmdr Bishop discussed the list of events for the 2017-2018 year are all on Monday evenings. Meal options (hamburgers and chips, at least) are available for each event if the organizer wants to include that for additional fundraising. The Crab Race dates are: 9/25/17, 1/15/18, and 3/12/18. The Halloween Dance is on 10/30/17. The Valentine's Dance is on 2/12/18. These events are also listed on our website calendar <[http://florida-
legion.com/sons_calendar/](http://florida-legion.com/sons_calendar/)>.



Cmdr Bishop discussed the Post Golf Tournament being held on Friday, Sept 29, 2017. It will be held at Mallory Country Club and tentative fee is \$90/person. Gary will be collecting a list of Sons' attendees in the upcoming months.

Cmdr Bishop 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 $588/10 = 58$ or 59 voting delegates for a total cost of ~\$294. We also get a free charter delegate vote for Tom Soeder, who is a Detachment officer. Gary wants a list of Squadron members who are planning to attend, please contact him if you are. Danny Adams motioned to approve up to \$300 to pay for our delegate votes; seconded by Bill Gray. Motion was Approved.

Squadron Officer Installation is on July 8th and Commander-Elect George Worton wants a list of members and guests who are planning to attend. Please email George at dixiesystemsgeorge@gmail.com.

Adjutant Doug White read recent correspondence:

- The Post sent a letter to Gary Bishop which formally appointed him as Commander for the remaining portion of the 2016-2017 year.
- Received a thank you note from recent scholarship winner Christina Nappi.

Cmdr Bishop discussed a possible dinner to recognize Sons' volunteers. He will ask Post Cmdr if they can provide a meal and at what cost. There are also options to cater a meal. Danny Adams motioned to approve up to \$500 for a volunteer appreciation dinner to be held during the 2017-2018 year; seconded by Mike Shebel. Motion was Approved.

1st Vice Commander-Elect Paul Pitts discussed a possible donation be included in the 2017-2018 budget for "Operation Homebound". This is a privately run Meals-on-Wheels program in Lady Lake that uses the kitchen facility of the Northlake Presbyterian Church, but is not affiliated with the church. More can be found about Operation Homebound at their website <https://operationhomebound.wordpress.com/>. Paul said that it is a worthy cause, providing delivered meals to ~150 people per day at a minimal cost (\$5/meal this year; possibly increasing to \$6 next year). Paul will ask one of the group's volunteers, who is also a Post member, to provide input to the Budget Cmte for their consideration.

Adjutant White requested that all incoming Officers pay their 2018 renewal fee in the first transmittal that will be sent into the Detachment on July 3rd. All Officers present submitted their renewal fee to him tonight. This is a great symbol of the new Officers' commitment to the Squadron and to a healthy dues renewal cycle in the upcoming fiscal year. We will try a different method of renewal notification this year, using email for our initial notice, instead of postal mail (except for those without email, of course). We have working email addresses for 526 of our 588 members. Anyone who renews by September will reduce our expenses for mailing. In September/October we'll postal mail a notice to anyone who has not yet renewed.

There being no further business, the Chaplain said a closing prayer, the flag was saluted, and the meeting was adjourned by the Commander at 6:14 PM.

Yours in God and Country,
Doug White
Adjutant