



Frederick. O Blankenship Post 117  
413 South Main Street  
Butler, PA 16001

## HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING

Adopted: 14 March 2022

23 March 2023

A Meeting was held on 23 March 2023 to conduct Regularly Scheduled Business

Committee	David McLaughlin, Chairman -P	Bill McCoy, Secretary, P
as indicated:	Dean Noechel, Treasurer -P	Dave Orth, P
	Ron Fondark, P	Joe Hoover, Excused
	Mark Schuler, Excused	

Guests:	Roleen Bookhamer (Finance officer)	Linda Meinert
	Amy Doty	Bob Fornadley
	Jack Kuhns, Jr.	

Dave McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 1800 hrs., and noted that enough members for a quorum were present.

The minutes from the 23 February 2023 meeting were submitted and read. Motion to accept by Dean Noechel; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Hoover, and approved by all members.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- LED Sign update – Dave McLaughlin stated that the sign is working at 50% power; Dean Noechel stated that a new electrical circuit will be installed. The sign has two distinct circuits to operate it to full functionality.
  - Dean stated sign programming is updated from home, but doesn't actually change the sign until he connects his laptop at the Post via Wi-Fi.
  - Joe Hoover volunteered to keep the "Smart Sign" in the Canteen updated, and Dean will show him how it's done.
- New pizza oven plug was not done due to other issues; it will be replaced ASAP.
- The new faucets for the lady's room were installed by Mark Schuler.
- Cochran parking lot update: Dave McLaughlin stated that there still has been no response to Attorney Pater's inquiry about obtaining the sign. Dave said he will send Cochran a follow-up letter.
- Upcoming events –
  - 1 Apr: Center Stage band, 8-11 PM (kitchen open 3-10 PM)
  - 12 Apr: Regular membership meeting, 7 PM.
  - 22 Apr: Tom Panei (acoustic) 8-11 PM (kitchen open 3-10 PM)
  - 5 May: Luncheon at the Post for renaming the Post Office)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **DJ Equipment:** Dave discussed the idea for purchasing DJ equipment for the Post to handle DJ events and save the expense of hiring DJ's.
  - One proposal submitted for a full system ROI (\$2,115) in ten events. A monthly subscription to Google Play is \$10 and provides thousands of songs in every genre, and eliminates any risk of copyright infringement.
  - Mark Schuler stated that the audio system currently installed in the Post, with some modifications, would avoid the need to purchase a system. A discussion ensued and the consensus is that the current system is more than adequate with only a partial purchase of the proposed system's components (mixing board, wires and 2 mics).
  - Bob Fornadley asked if the system would supplant the karaoke nights. A short discussion ensued and karaoke will continue, as is. As an aside, Bob Fornadley suggested that an "Oldies Nite" would probably be a popular DJ event and there was general agreement.
 

Dave asked for a motion to implement the proposal to purchase the limited equipment to be used with the current audio system. Motion by Joe Hoover; second by Bill McCoy. Motion carried with none opposed.
- **NRA Gun Safety Course:** On 13 May, Mike Pater (NRA Instructor) will present a Basic Handgun Safety Course, at the Post. The course will include laser handguns and targets. The course will start at 11 AM and will include lunch provided by the Post. A fee of \$20 per attendee was agreed to.
 

Dave asked for a motion to approve the course & luncheon. Motion by Joe Hoover; second by Dean Noechel. Motion carried with none opposed.
- **July 22, New Officer Installation:** Beginning this year, installation of officers will be at Post 117; not Post 778 as in the past. Dean Noechel noted that is consistent with our current By-Laws. Dave McLaughlin provided the sequence, i.e.:
  - 5-6:00 PM, social hour.
  - 6:00 PM, dinner
  - 7:00 PM, installation
  - 8:00 PM, entertainment

Dean also noted that the new Commander picks the meal. Further, the installation of the Auxiliary and SAL officers should be at the same proceeding. He also advised that there is a short version, and long version to install officers with the long including each officer taking their Oath. The issue will be presented to the next Executive Board, and Membership meetings for approval.
- **Event Guest Procedures:** There have been some concerns about the process of signing in guests during special events, i.e., bands, trivia, bingo, etc. Roleen Bookhamer stated that in the past, the Post used to sign-in guests, particularly to events open to the general public. The issue remains that non-members can still NOT purchase alcohol in the Canteen (bar). For special events however, alcohol can be served in the Social Room at the bar there while complying with all LCB rules/regulations. Ultimately, it was decided that all guests should be signed-in, *by a member* and not the "Post." The House By-Laws will be amended accordingly, and to allow members signing in to "transfer" the sign-in to another member if the original member signing in guests leaves. This will not apply to non-event member sign-ins at the Canteen.
 

Motion by Dean Noechel; second by Joe Hoover. Motion carried with none opposed.  
[Dave McLaughlin will revise By-Laws to present to E-Board.]

- **Kitchen/Canteen:** Dave McLaughlin solicited ideas for the kitchen and canteen.
  - Bob Fornadley opined that recipes and food preparation needs to be standardized. He noted that members, including himself, decide whether to eat at the Post depending upon who the cook is because of the difference in food prep and end-quality.
  - Amy Doty has been working on consistency of both prep and quality with the cooks; Roleen Bookhamer stated that attempts to hire a new cook have been unsuccessful due to the current issues of people not wanting to work. She has advertised for a cook both in the local paper and online including Facebook and the Post's new website with only a single response.
  - There are currently two cooks; the goal is to have three cooks all trained to prep food the same way.
- **Maintenance (furnace status):** Mark Schuler reported there is no change in regard to the order status for the new furnace.

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Jack Kuhns advised the committee that there is another acoustic music group that is available, typically on Sundays.

Bob Fornadley stated that he and several other members would like to see a **popcorn machine** in the canteen. He stated that in other clubs, popcorn is a popular item. It was also noted that salted popcorn typically increases revenue from increased consumption of both alcohol and non-alcohol drinks. The issue has been discussed in the past, but with no movement.

Bill McCoy motioned to purchase a machine (like those available at Sam's Club); seconded by Joe Hoover. Motion carried with none opposed.

There was also some discussion about how Bingo is being run and the effectiveness of the Post officer charged with overseeing Bingo. That is an issue for the Executive Committee to address.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Attendees not actual Committee members were thanked and asked to depart.

- There was an incident with a guest named, **REDACTED**, who is reportedly a member of another Post who was shut-off for obvious intoxication according to **Redacted** (bartender). **REDACTED** was in the company of **Redacted**, a member and the only one **REDACTED** comes with. According to the bartender, **REDACTED**, "almost always gets shut-off," and is typically, "mean about it." According to the Incident Report, **REDACTED** became verbally abusive and complained that, "Everytime [sic] she's in, she gets shut-off," and that the bartender was just being a [expletive]. Ultimately, according to the Incident Report, **REDACTED** began screaming obscenities and directing obscene gestures at the reporting bartender. She reportedly continued her tirade, even as her companion, **Redacted** guided her from the Canteen and outside.

After discussion, the committee's consensus was to permanently bar **REDACTED** since she is not a Post 117 member. Bill McCoy, Post Judge Advocate, will write a letter advising her he is permanently barred from all Post property.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2100 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

//s//

William R. McCoy, Jr.

Secretary