



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

## HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING

Adopted: 14 March 2022

22 February 2024

A Meeting was held on 22 February 2024 to conduct Regularly Scheduled Business

Committee as indicated:	Dean Noechel, Chairman -P Dave Orth, P Gordon Kennedy, P	Bill McCoy, Secretary, P Bob Scarmack, P Joe Hoover, P
Guests:	Amy Doty (Kitchen/Bar Manager) Dave McLaughlin (Post Commander)	Mark Schuler (Maintenance)

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

The minutes from the January 2024 meeting were emailed to committee members and accepted in lieu of reading. They are also posted on the Post's website, [www.butlerpost117.org](http://www.butlerpost117.org) on the House Committee page.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- **Cleaning Contract/Employees:** Two persons have expressed interest in the new position. Bill *Schiebel and his wife, Pam Schiebel, and their daughter would work as their backup/fill-in. Interested also is a current employee (Brian Hollefreund) of Christy Janitorial whose contract is not being extended or renewed.*
- **The lower door access** is still being considered for being secured at 1800 hrs, daily. Both the Butler City Fire Department and Code Enforcement were consulted. Code Enforcement visited and noted that the stairwell doors must have their stops removed – both doors are fire rated doors and must be closed at all times to avoid a chimney effect in the event of a fire. Otherwise, if the appropriate signage designating the type of egress, the entry exit scheme can be modified. It was decided that the stairwell will remain as an emergency egress point; but the entrance door will be secured after hours with panic hardware to ensure egress. Mark Schuler will change the tumbler in the defective lock to ensure that it functions as needed.
- **The “Bag Lady Sue” show 6 April 2024** is still scheduled and there have been eighteen VIP tickets purchased to date. Tickets are still available both online and at the Canteen’s bar.
- **Post Painting and Renovation Project:** At the last membership meeting, members approved \$7,500 Dollars to renovate/paint the entire upper level, and replace the ceiling tiles. Emergency exit lights and signs all need replaced (upgraded to LED lights). The general plan is to complete the project in stages:
  - Stage 1:** Social Hall – will be completed over three days, a Sunday, Monday & Tuesday.
  - Stage 2:** Hall and entry.
  - Stage 3:** Canteen – will be completed overnight starting at 2100 hrs until completed.
 Ten (10), 8 foot new tables are needed for the Social Hall to replace/augment the current number, some of which are damaged. Motion to purchase made by Joe Hoover; second by Gordon Kennedy. Motion Carried.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- **Landscape Project** on the side of the building needs done to include new mulch, weed killer and the decorative rock needs repositioned. The estimated cost is \$500 Dollar. Motion to complete by Joe Hoover; second by Bob Scarmack. Motion Carried.
- **Fire Fighter – Kitchen:** With the installation of the new stove/oven unit, the positioning of the fire suppression nozzles need to be adjusted. The cost quote by Fire Fighter is for \$1,060 Dollars and is a mandatory fire safety and insurance issue. Most of the cost is labor and can be scheduled for completion on 4 March 2024. Motion to complete by Gordon Kennedy; second by Joe Hoover. Motion carried.

- **Handicapped parking, front lot:** Dean Noechel noted that there are only two handicapped parking spots in the front lot and recommended adding two more immediately adjacent to both existing spots. Bob Scarmack noted that one of the Post's biggest limitations is a lack of parking. Dean stated that we are still attempting to negotiate with the former owner of Butler County Ford for the lot adjacent to Post's north boundary and currently leased by Cochran Ford. In the meantime, there numerous senior and/or handicapped members who could benefit from the parking (78% +/- of the Post membership are Vietnam Veterans and several Korean Veterans). The one handicapped spot at the lower entry will be kept as well. Motion by Bob Scarmack to add two spaces as above; second by Joe Hoover. Motion carried.
- **Curb painting:** Dean noted that the curbs had not been painted when the parking lots were sealed and spaces painted. Mark Schuler was directed to have that done in conjunction with the added handicapped spaces.
- **Flag Poles for Main Street:** There will now be four flags posted on the General Butler Bridge, and four flags, per block, on each side all the way to Penn Street. We will need a count of the number of poles; but 50 new U.S. Flags are being ordered (from the Flag Account), and we have 24 on hand.

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- Bill McCoy advised members, particularly Amy Doty (Kitchen/Bar Manager) that the Legion Riders "might" have a fund-raising ride in the near future and may consider hosting (at a price) a breakfast. This would be part of their reorganization efforts incidental to the Executive Board suspending their Charter.
- Dave McLaughlin brought up a suggestion of Dave Orth's for a "Ride Home" program another private club in Butler is reportedly using. Reportedly, for a modest fee, the flyer advertises that patrons would be driven home. The fee increases by miles driven. A flyer was given to Bill McCoy who, as Judge Advocate, will evaluate the program to ensure the provider has appropriate insurance and would indemnify the Post from any incidental claim in the event of an accident or other mishap.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Attendees not actual Committee members were thanked and asked to depart; but Amy Doty was to remain for employee discussions.

- Amy Doty informed the committee that the new cook is doing an outstanding job. She also noted that another cook is performing above what was expected.
- There were no issues involving patrons requiring any disciplinary action.
- REDACTED

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1930 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

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William R. McCoy, Jr.  
Secretary

#### Addendum

##### RE: Old Business:

- No correspondence has been received, incidental to Bob Fornadley's request, that Rikki Woodling be permitted to submit an apology for her actions leading to her being barred from Post property.

##### RE New Business (1 March 2024):

- Incidental to the Post renovation (see Old Business, above), Dean Noechel contacted all House Committee members and recommended the purchase of three new 65-inch TV's (TCL brand) at \$368 each; total \$1104, for the Social Hall. (Old, mismatched TV's will be sold).
  - A vote by text response was conducted after a motion by Bill McCoy; second by Joe Hoover.
  - Motion carried by unanimous response.
- Dean Noechel advised Bill McCoy to amend the House Rules, codifying the long-standing practice of standing and facing the American Flag, anytime/every time the National Anthem sounds or is played on any of the TV's.