

DRAFT

Minutes of VFW Post 4051
Meeting of 7 August 2021

The meeting was called to order at American Legion Post 209 and opened by Commander Bob Green at 0900 on 7 August 2021

The opening prayer was given by Chaplain Joel Nadel.

A salute to the colors and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Membership cards were verified by Officer of the Day Jerry Cupp

Recognition of past Department, District and Post officers was given by Commander Green.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS ORGANIZATION: The Purpose of this Corporation shall be fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States from all enemies.

Roll was taken with Sr. Vice Commander George Hammar; Buddy Poppies Jim Griffith; Club Manager Rick Archuleta; and Webmaster Bill Thomas excused. Pikes Peak Council representative Paul Bailey and Games Manager Jerry Walter were absent. All other officers were present.

A motion was made by Chris Linski and seconded not to read the minutes of the previous month. The motion passed.

One Life Member transfer member was approved for membership, Brian Edwards.

The Quartermaster's Report was given and is subject to audit.

Reading of Bills: No non-routine bills were presented.

A motion was made and seconded to put off committee reports until after new business and the vote on purchase of the new Post home. The motion passed.

New Building Proposal:

Duane made a motion to pay \$800,000 for the building at 1808 North Academy, Colorado Springs Colorado. The motion was seconded.

Chris Linski reminded the members assembled that a two thirds majority was needed to purchase the building. He quoted rules from the National By-laws section 709.

Mention was made that Hammer Construction estimated \$800,000 in renovation costs to include installation of an elevator. There will be a fixed contract for everything that needs to be renovated item by item.

Information on the building:

Standalone building of 9,000 square feet. Two stories, 18 parking places. Our realtor, Kyle, will find out if parking in other areas of the complex can be shared because 18 spots is not sufficient for our needs. If not, the sale will be nullified.

A city permit will be needed to proceed with renovation
The building needs to be made ADA accessible
The bathrooms need total renovation
An elevator is needed
Other renovations may be needed to get the Certificate of Occupancy from the city
Hammer Construction will need to be sure everything is up to code
Hoping to close on 18 August with current owner vacating by 20 September.
Once the current owner vacates it will take six to eight months to complete renovations.
The current occupant will hold insurance until he vacates.
Need to verify that there is no asbestos in the building before closing
The kitchen will be a "church kitchen".
Plans for an outside area
Suggestion to have an elevator maintenance contract. Art Kimbrell mentioned that at Legion Post 209 the elevator has not been down in nine years.
Flooring will be laminate but dance floor quality
David Anthony suggested other contractors who might be able to perform the work at less cost.
The members were reminded that today's vote was for purchase of the building only
The auxiliary will be involved with the kitchen design. Art Kimbrell will also be on that specific committee. Used kitchen equipment could be purchased to keep the cost down.

A vote was taken, and the results were 25 for; 5 opposed; and one abstention. As this was over a two thirds majority the motion passed.

Reports of Committees:

Chaplain's Report: Joel Nadel reported three members deceased – Michael Kelly, Roger Berg, and Marvin Flinn. Joel and Barbara attended the 23 July dedication of the Briargate Post Office building name change to Chaplain Dale A. Goetz who was killed in Afghanistan.

Staff Judge Advocate: Chris Linski noted by-law changes approved at the National Convention.

Surgeon Report/Comrade in Distress: No report.

Americanism: No report

Buddy Poppies: No report

Community Service: No report

Entertainment: No Report

Membership: No report

Legislative Report: DJ Alberts reported on Action Corps and encouraged members to read this weekly report on legislation and recovery of MIA remains. Reading this news brief weekly also counts as community service.

Public Affairs: No report

VOD/Patriots Pen: Chris Linski reminded members of the deadlines for submission for entries which is 31 October to the Post.

JROTC/ROTC: No report

Scouting: No report

Teacher of the Year: Chris Linski reminded members present of the 31 October deadline for entries to the Post.

Public Servant/Safety: No report

Honor Guard: No report

Webmaster: No report

Adopt a Unit: Paperwork will be submitted to make the 2-77FA an official Adopt a Unit with National VFW. Also we will try to add a Space Force unit if we are allowed to sponsor two units at the same time.

Bingo: Bingo is doing well. But they need another caller and more to help with pull tabs.

Pikes Peak Veterans Council: No report

Crawford House: No report

House Committee: No report

Trustees: No report

National Home: No report

National Home Prayer: Not given

Correspondence: None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business:

Additional new business

Chris Linski made a motion to donate \$500 to Honor Bell for activities and seconded. The motion passed.

Good of the Order

There will be a special ceremony at Evergreen cemetery for a "Never Forget Garden" on 14 August.

John Mazzella wonders where we will get younger members for our Post. Emphasis needs to be on service to the community and not drinking at the bar. We also need emphasis on serving veterans in our community. Letting veterans know about VFW lobbying for veteran specific bills in Congress and in the statehouse is important. We also need a way to help with efforts to cut back on veteran suicide by supporting legislation in Congress and at the statehouse.

Schriever and Peterson are officially the Schriever/Peterson Garrison.

Chris mentioned that better communication to Post members is needed. This might be a good time to consider an on-line newsletter.

Paige mentioned the upcoming veteran food distribution at Mt Carmel on 12 August.

Paige mentioned that Mt Carmel helps veterans plan for burial at National cemeteries

Art Kimbrel mentioned that at American Legion Post 209 members get a better rate on rental of the Post. This does help with getting new members.

Chris mentioned sponsorships and the need to let people know we exist. Membership drives at community events are important. Work needs to be done to get veteran service organizations permission to hold membership drives on military installations.

Barbara mentioned that once we move into the new building we need a large sign on the outside of the building.

Martha Lovell mentioned Healing Waters and Honor Flight of Southern Colorado and spoke on both programs. She said that a membership table could be set up at a Healing Waters event and that Honor Flight needs women veterans to participate more. Bill Vanaman mentioned that the profit he makes from the sale of wooden toys goes to Honor Flight of Southern Colorado.

Closing prayer Given by Chaplain Joel Nadel

Flag salute: Given by members present

The meeting was closed at 1035. Next Post meeting, 3 September at 0900 at American Legion Post 209.

Respectfully submitted

Barbara Green
Adjutant

Bob Green
Commander