

Minutes of VFW Post 4051  
Meeting of 3 September 2021

The meeting was called to order at American Legion Post 209 and opened by Commander Bob Green at 0900 on 3 September 2021

Membership cards were verified by Officer of the Day Jerry Cupp

A salute to the Colors was given

The opening prayer was given by Chaplain Joel Nadel

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by members present

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 excused. All other elected Post officers were present.

Minutes from the August meeting were read.

**The Quartermaster's Report** was given and is subject to audit. Eric Veed made a motion to get a bingo debit card to be able to pay the quarterly bingo charges to the Secretary of State electronically. Second by Duane Knutson. This card will also be used to hopefully pay bingo supply bills. The motion passed.

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

**Reports of Committees:**

**Chaplain's Report:** Joel Nadel reported eight members deceased J. E. Buchs; Howard Casey; Spencer Holland; Robert McLean; Merle Newberg; William Pool; Robert Sanchez; and Lyle Thompson

**Staff Judge Advocate:** Chris Linski. No report

**Surgeon Report/Comrade in Distress:** Duane Knutson mentioned an article in the recent VFW magazine on page 10. Chris Linski had a conversation with the National Surgeon General who encouraged members to reach out to National Guard members with buddy checks before their next drill weekend.

**Americanism:** Commander Green mentioned that this position is currently vacant. He said that members could get with local JROTC detachments to speak on their war experiences to the classes.

**Buddy Poppies:** Jim Griffith asked the members for potential dates to have a poppy drive at Big R on Powers. Dates decided on are 11, 13 and 14 November.

**Community Service:** Barbara Green. No report

**Entertainment:** John Mazzella No Report

**Membership:** David Anthony wants members to give the Post a “5 Star Google Rating”. He hopes to have two new members shortly. Barbara Green also has two potential new members.

**Legislative Report:** DJ Alberts reported that there isn’t much going on right now. Commander Green mentioned the MOAA comment that Congress is considering lowering COLA for military retirees. Please contact your senators and representative to oppose this idea.

**Public Affairs:** Chris Linski No report.

**VOD/Patriots Pen:** Barbara Green No report

**JROTC/ROTC:** Joel Nadel No report

**Scouting:** Ron Marshall. Be looking for nominees. There is a lot of paperwork involved.

**Teacher of the Year:** Barbara Green. No report

**Public Servant/Safety:** Ron Reneker. Sources of nominees were mentioned. This is a state award only not a National award

**Honor Guard:** Vacant.

**Webmaster:** Chris Linski. Post news will be posted on the website and on Facebook.

**Adopt a Unit:** Commander Green reported that 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 as a second Adopt a Unit.

**Bingo:** Al Hitchens reported that temporary help will be needed in the coming months to cover for vacations. Permanent help is always appreciated also.

**Pikes Peak Veterans Council:** Paul Bailey No report

**Crawford House:** Barbara Green. No report

**House Committee:** Rick Archuleta. No report

**Trustees:** Chris Linski. Bills will be reviewed.

**National Home:** Chris Linski No report

**National Home Prayer:** Given by Chaplain Joel Nadel

**Correspondence:** None

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business:**

Two committees have been formed with the following as members

Remodel committee: David Anthony chair; Dick Gandolf; Duane Knutson; Rick Archuleta; Art Kimbrel; Carol Knutson, Rita Christensen as voting members and Mile Walker, Eric Veed and Bob Green as advisors with no vote.

Grand Opening Committee: Chris Linski Chair, Joel Nadel and Bill Thomas.

Eric Veed made a motion that the members approve 50k for permits, drawings and all engineering requirements for the remodel of the new Post home. Hammer construction will be the lead contractor. Second. Under discussion the remodel committee will have the responsibility of contract review and can make changes to the contract not to exceed 800k. Motion passed. Monthly reports will be given by this committee. If necessary, emails and other means of communication will be used. There may be sub-contractors involved in the renovation. Comment was made that an ADA elevator will cost 200k. The motion passed.

Barbara Green made a motion to spend from the bingo account up to \$850 for Post Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen and Teacher of the Year cash awards. Chris Linski second. Under discussion it was noted that we probably will have no teacher awards which would make the total cost \$550 or less. The motion passed.

Barbara Green made a motion to spend from the bingo account \$350 to sponsor the District 5 1<sup>st</sup> place Voice of Democracy cash award for 2022-2023. Chris Linski second. The motion passed.

Eric Veed made a motion to spend up to \$350 from the bingo account on Voice of Democracy, Patriot Pen and Teacher of the year District 5 awards. Joel Nadel second. This money would be used to cover unsponsored awards for 2021-2022. The motion passed.

Barbara Green made a motion to spend up to \$300 from Veteran Relief funds to purchase U S flag pins. Joel second. These pins are to be given to veterans in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and skilled nursing facilities for Veterans Day. The motion passed.

Barbara Green made a motion to spend \$1,000 from the bingo account to help with a shortfall in the state Scout of the Year program awards. Eric Veed second. The motion passed.

Barbara Green made a motion to spend \$500 from the Post account to help pay for a plaque to be installed at the Pikes Peak National Cemetery honoring the individuals who spent 30 plus years to bring the cemetery to Colorado Springs. Chris Linski second. The motion passed.

Chris Linski made a motion to donate \$500 from veterans relief funds to the Department Foundation. Second by Eric Veed. This fund helps VFW members in need. The motion passed.

Joel Nadel made a motion to spend \$1,000 from Veterans Relief funds to sponsor two \$500 ROTC cash awards. The motion passed. A comment was made that there will be a November poppy drive before this money is spent.

Eric Veed mentioned that we need to have internet put into the new building sooner rather than later. He suggested Comcast/Xfinity. This will cost \$4,000 to put in as connections will need to be run from a local gas station to our building. Internet is also needed for the ATM machine. Installation will take approximately 120 days. This money will come from the renovation budget. Duane Knutson mentioned a possible cyber café in the future. Utilities will be started in our name on 20 September.

#### **Good of the Order:**

Jim Griffith spoke on the upcoming El Paso County Homeless Veteran Stand down. It will be held outside at 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist church on 21 September. There will be 70 tables this year.

Chris Linski mentioned that there has not been a decision on a visit to the Pueblo VA nursing home; either in person or drive by.

Chris Linski mentioned that a quarterly Post newsletter may be started soon.

Barbara Green spoke on a potential partnership with Crossroads Ministries USA. This group supports elderly in nursing homes, assisted living facilities and skilled nursing facilities. If you are interested in joining this group please let Barbara know.

D J Alberts urged members to support Air Force in football when they play Navy.

**Closing prayer** Given by Chaplain Joel Nadel

**Flag salute:** Given by members present

The meeting was closed at 1030. Next Post meeting, 2 October at 0900 at American Legion Post 209.

Respectfully submitted

Barbara Green  
Adjutant

Bob Green  
Commander