



American Legion
Alpharetta Post 201, Inc.

PO Box 314
Alpharetta, GA 30009

MINUTES

General Meeting – April 21, 2015

A quorum being present the meeting was called to order at 8 PM in the main hall of Post 201 by Commander Bob Byrd and opened with appropriate ceremony and prayer. All officers and Executive Committee members were present. The colors were presented by the Knights Battalion of the Centennial High School Junior ROTC program. There were no guests.

The minutes of the April 14, 2015 Executive Committee meeting were approved as were the minutes of the March 2015 general meeting. The adjutant read a summary of a special Executive Committee meeting held before tonight's regular meeting to consider awarding Post 201 scholarships to worthy applicants from local high schools. The body approved awarding a \$1000 scholarship to each of four applicants; Lauren Fiorillo, Amy Ruiz, Courtney Poole, and Luke He.

Committee Reports

Food chair Winston Brunn thanked the Auxiliary for the hard work in preparing and serving tonight's pre-meeting meal.

Membership - Membership chair Adjutant Pete Esker reported that there have been 790 renewals to date (102% of goal). The names of nine candidates for Post membership – James McFalda, Robert Gaddy, Dan Roberts, Wallace McCullough, Byron Russell, John McQueary, Carlos Guerrero, Jeffrey Heal, and Mark Sharples – were presented and voted in unanimously.

A motion was then made, seconded and passed to deviate from the regular order of business for the purpose of nominations of Post officers. The commander turned the meeting over to the adjutant who conducted the nomination process. All fourteen (14) nominees listed on the sign-up sheet posted for the previous month indicated a willingness to serve if elected and all were told of their obligation to the Credentials Committee. The adjutant asked for nominations from the floor for each position in turn and there were none. The nominations were then closed. Those nominated for each position are:

Commander	Sr Vice Commander	Jr Vice Commander	Finance Officer
<i>Bob Byrd</i>	<i>Bob Shafer</i>	<i>Lisa Dernovich</i>	<i>Fred Swyters</i>
<i>Dennis Turner</i>		<i>Shannon Gott</i>	
<i>Chuck Lange</i>	Judge Advocate	Executive Committee (Two Vacancies)	
	<i>Charles Turner</i>	<i>Ed Holben</i>	<i>Mark Herak</i> <i>Bob Quinn</i>
		<i>Marty Farrell</i>	<i>John Forshee</i> <i>Jack Coram</i>



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After the nominations closed a motion was made, seconded and passed to resume the regular order of business.

Finance Report – *Finance Officer Swyters* reported the following account balances:
Baseball -\$39,728 Bingo-\$11,203 Post-\$8276 Walk of Memories-\$301 TOTAL- \$59,611

House Committee – *Chair Sr. Vice Shannon Gott* said they did not have a quorum but conducted a special meeting to work out details of improving and repairing the Post 201 lighted marquee sign. He estimates that it will cost about \$250 to repair.

Bingo – *Chair PPC Gerald Lynch* said that while he had no formal report “bingo was putting a few bucks in the bank”.

Baseball – *Fred Swyters* said that the season was off to a slow start due to the rainy weather.

Old Soldiers Day – *Jay Coleman* said that the OSD committee meets regularly at 7 PM on the 3rd Wednesday and they need help as the number of volunteers is low.

Junior ROTC- *Chaplain Martha Conway* gave background on the program which now has a new coordinator who has been invited to the Post. She says next year will be bigger.

Service Officer – *Service Officer Bob Shafer* said he was helping the widow of a Korean War vet get pointed in the right direction for benefits. Also he along with *ALA Past President Kim Oliver* and *Legionnaire Lisa Dernovich* are participating in a multi-county, multi-organization working group on homeless veterans.

Boys State – *Project Officer John Ross* said that there were 12 potential candidates. He said the banquet would be held here on May 20th. No further details were given.

SAL – *Commander Derek Garmon* said that membership now stood at 76%. He said their recent youth sports day/BBQ was a success with some 35 participants.

Old Business

None

New Business

Legionnaire Mike Giglio gave details of the newly started Veterans Visiting Veterans (V2V) program. He said it now included about 12 older, nursing home bound, alone veterans were on the visitation list and the visits were making a big difference in their health and happiness. *Commander Byrd* then formalized V2V as a Post program and appointed *Mike Giglio* chair.



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Correspondence

Adjutant Pete Esker said that we had received a donation of \$500 from UPS through the help of *Legionnaire Kevin Horgan*. A portion is to be used for *Steve Olesnevich's* "care package" program. He said that the Orkin Foundation donated \$20,000 to be used exclusively for the baseball program. Letters of thanks will be sent.

Good of the Legion

Members were reminded that voting for Post officers takes place at our May meeting and they should bring their membership card that night to receive a ballot.

Legionnaire Jim Squires asked for a moment of silence in honor of the recently deceased 92 y.o. Pete Wheeler, former head of Georgia Veterans Affairs, a staunch veterans advocate.

Commander Byrd gave some details of the upcoming Department convention in Dalton 26 – 28 June. Said we would reserve a block of rooms but delegates had to provide an application form and a deposit of \$100. He clarified the rules for expense reimbursement by the Post and said he will appoint delegates as necessary. He also told how interested RVN vets could get a "Certificate of Honor" from the state if they provide certain information and a DD-214.

Legionnaire Bob Quinn who was absent due to illness left info on the newly formed "Back Porch Volksmarchers Club" which will kick off May 6th.

It was announced that the City of Alpharetta's first Memorial Day celebration was going to be held that holiday morning and volunteers are needed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM with an appropriate prayer and honors to the National Colors.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete Esker, Adjutant