



American Legion
Alpharetta Post 201, Inc.

PO Box 314
Alpharetta, GA 30009

MINUTES
Executive Committee Meeting
May 12, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by committee chair *Past Commander Marty Farrell*. All Post officers and committee members were present. Guests included Legionnaires *Lisa Dernovish* and *Bob Quinn*. SAL Squadron 201 Commander *Derek Garmon* was also present.

Chairman Farrell asked if there were any guest presentations. There were three:

Lisa Dernovish – Gave an overview of a recent donation by her employer Honeybaked Hams in which Honeybaked will allow Post 201 to use its corporate discount (50%) for up to five fund raising events per year. The company received assurances that the program will be closely monitored. Ms Dernovish will be in charge of the program.

Derek Harmon – Gave details of the SAL's donation of \$250 to the recently-held Drake Walk.

Bob Quinn – Said that he was donating a commercial grade swing set to the Post for use by children of the Post. He also said the Volksmarch program started Wed. May 6th and will continue to grow. He is working with local businessman Carl Black (a strong Legion supporter) to get signs along the route.

The Adjutant gave a brief synopsis of *Legionnaire Ed Holben's* efforts at revitalizing the Post's Scouting program. He's had meetings with district BSA senior leadership and is exploring the details of bringing in the Venture Crew program for older Scouts. He will be canvassing our membership to find volunteers for the other two local (Post 201) leadership positions – adult advisor and crew leader.

Reports

House Committee – *SVC Shannon Gott* reported that the committee was still working the issue of the sprinkler system at the Walk of Memories.

He said that bingo players and dancers were smoking right outside the exit doors and not using the deck facilities. The committee is arranging for another set of steps up to the deck to be built to make deck usage easier.

The Post 201 marquee sign needs new letters to complete the refurbishment – he is obtaining them.

PC Byrd – The commander said that the Boys State banquet would be held at 7 PM, May 20th and he is working with the SAL and ALA on arrangements



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He also gave a further update on "Roy Bingo", a form of 50/50 brought up at a meeting in January. He has a meeting with the Sheriff's Dept. on May 19th on the proprieties of the endeavor. He was given a demo on how the game works and will closely coordinate with the bingo committee on arrangements and changes in procedures.

Baseball – *Chair Fred Swyters* said that the parking lot is overcrowded and filled to capacity due to baseball's popularity. Signs and traffic control are needed and he asked the House Committee to take on the project. House Committee chair *SrVC Gott* motioned for \$150 for signage and supplies – motion passed unanimously.

Neighbor's Request for Zoning Support – Mr. Jim Koza, who live on Old Milton Pkwy. just up from us asked for the Post's support for his request for "Special Use" zoning so that his property can be used for volleyball leagues and training. He sent photos and a detailed explanation of planned use. After some discussion and the conclusion that his project would not have any negative impact on us it was voted to support him. The Adjutant will sign the support form and return it to Mr. Koza.

Finance Officer Fred Swyters – gave details about weekend playoffs which were very well attended – some 600 to 800 people. He said the concession stand grossed about \$3600. The last tournament will be the weekend of 16-17 May. There was some discussion about members being able to watch the games and also about game admission charges going to the high schools but parking fees, if any, go to us. He said the next delivery of supplies will be a big one and he needs volunteer help at the stand.

Executive Committee Member Bob Shafer –talked about the first Wed. night movie night – "Blazing Saddles" – it seemed enjoyable and will continue. The next feature is "Some Like It Hot". He, Lisa Dernovish and ALA past president Kim Oliver have been attending meetings about an expanding program to help homeless veterans. He says they have determined that the program is too costly for us to participate in. He asked for authority to pay for one week's stay in an extended stay motel (\$165) should a homeless vet make his need known to the Service Officer. A motion was made and seconded to provide him with the \$165 authority. During discussion it was brought up that funds should come from outside sources and there seemed to be many sources of aid. Jay Coleman offered to fund it personally if need be. The motion passed to give the Service Officer the requested authority on a one-time basis.

Executive Committeeman Jay Coleman – Reiterated that our operating funds were dwindling rapidly and that we needed to cut costs and find new sources of revenue. This lead to Bob Shafer asked about our funding of delegates to the Dept. convention. The Finance Officer said



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that funding delegates rooms and expenses would be more than \$6000. A spirited discussion ensued and a motion was made to not pay for delegates' rooms. After further discussion the motion was withdrawn. A new motion was made and seconded that no per diem be paid. Motion passed unanimously.

Boys State – A discussion was held about the number of boys the Post would fund – it now stands at ten. Since we have more than ten applicants and the statewide program is short of applicants a motion was made to increase it by two, making it 12. The motion passed.

Judge Advocate Charles Turner – gave some background on the wooden steps attached to the side of the Walk of Memories Sherman tank. They are not used for their original purpose and are falling into disrepair and look bad. Motion made and passed to remove them in the interest of safety and appearance.

As chair of the Election/Credentials committee he said that he had reviewed all the nominees for election and all were eligible except one – Jack Coram was dropped as ineligible.

- All DD-214's have been secured in the safe.
- The Adjutant has been tasked with preparing and printing a ballot and with verifying voter membership and assisting with the ballot tally. Fred Swyters and Bob Shafer can help with counting as they are uncontested.
- Each candidate should be given two minutes to speak if they so desire.
- Candidates may have an observer watch the count but no candidate can watch the count. All ballots will be secured and sealed by the Adjutant and held in the safe for thirty days.

The committee gave birthday best wishes to Herb Roderick and the chair said that Alpharetta still needs about \$36-K for its Veterans Memorial at the new City Hall. We will help publicize.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pete Esker', written over a horizontal line.

Pete Esker, Adjutant