

Eddie Roberts VFW Post 6291	
Minutes for:	8 Jan 09
Meeting Called to Order:	1902 hrs
Members / Visitors in Attendance:	19

Officers Present						
X	Commander:	David Foley		X	Senior Vice-Cmdr:	Larry Stone
X	Adjutant:	Loretta Woods 227.5198		X	Quarter Master:	Kristine E Warren 293.9193
X	Service Officer:	Tom Atherton			Chaplin:	Belinda Johnson 761.3270
X	Web Manager:	Terence Little				

REPORTS

Adjutant Report for:		December 08			
Loretta read the minutes from last months' meeting.					
Tom made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections.					
Second:	Bob	For: All	Against: None	Accepted: Yes	

QM Report for:		December 08			
Cash Balance Last Report:		\$ 21508.91			
Receipts for this period:		\$ 2039.00			
Disbursements for this period:		\$ 3178.91			
Balance for this period:		\$ 20369.00			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The balance includes \$457 in checking, \$550 in the Poppy fund, \$6000 in the building fund (in an 8-month CD), and \$7609.10 in the Memorial fund. ➤ Receipts include a deposit of \$39 for annual dues, and an increase of \$2000 toward the building fund. ➤ Disbursements included \$333.93 for the Post Christmas Party, \$64.98 for Utilities, and \$780 for hardship aid. The hardship aid is same amount previously reported in the December's minutes. 					
Tom made a motion to accept the QM report as read.					
Second:	David F.	For: All	Against: None	Accepted: Yes	

Service Officer Report	
Tom Atherton will attend the Service School in Louisville this Saturday 10Jan. The forms have	

changed and Tom will be learning about the new changes and updates.

Shredding Medical Records: A recent article reports that medical documents from four VA hospitals are being shredded at the multiple records centers. Of interest to our members are those who use the Marion VA, which send their records to St Louis and reported in this article as one of the culprits.

Two periodicals that provide excellent news for veterans:

- VanGuard: <http://www1.va.gov/opa/feature/vanguard/>
- The Veteran Tribune Newspaper: http://veterantribune.org/Home_Page.html

Death Benefit Compensation: Congress has authorized surviving spouses to keep compensation that was paid out covering the month of the service member's death. However, some compensation is erroneously reclaimed and not reissued if the spouses don't know to ask.

PTSD: New changes mandate that members departing the service with PTSD related disability receive a minimum 50% disability rating.

DOD is fighting funding for numerous medical issues.

Outsourcing: Problems regarding adequate service and reimbursement continue.

Seniors Service: Increasing reports that seniors scheduled appointments are being repeatedly bumped behind younger veterans. Some veterans report waiting 3-5 hours after their scheduled appointments.

Recommendations:

- Patient Advocacy Representative: Immediately see the Patient Advocacy Representative at the Hospital and report any unjust service or inadequate treatment you encounter. Advocating on behalf of veterans is their sole job.
- Change is only possible through documentation. We have to show that this is an ongoing and increasing problem rather than an atypical incident. Report your experiences to Tom. We will compile records and submit complaints periodically to show a pattern of negligence.
- David Foley also recommends sending a letter from the Post to Representative Whitfield in response to particularly egregious incidents--he has provided a rapid and positive response in the past.

Larry made a motion to accept the SO information as reported.

Second:	Kristine	For: All	Against: None	Accepted: Yes
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OLD BUSSINESS:

Gold Star Plates: Process is ongoing to obtain a Gold Star plate for Mrs. Cletus Colson and Mrs. James.

Correct meeting time & date on Web Page: Terrance Little corrected the dates and times on our webpage.

Purchase of Flatbed Trailer: Tabled till February's meeting

Motion

Dave H. made a motion to table the discussion on the purchase of the trailer till February's meeting.

Second:	Bob	For: All	Against: None	Carried: Yes
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NEW BUSINESS:

Correction from December's Minutes: The DAV does have a van for this region of Kentucky. It leaves each weekday from Murray en route to the Nashville VA Hospital. There are three different pick-up points in Murray.

Seats are first-come first-serve. Just as soon as your appointment is scheduled, call Dave Duty (below) to reserve your seat. Dave will arrange the pick-up location and time of departure. Spouses may only accompany the veteran if needed as an aid.

The POC and driver is Dave Duty, 753.2544 at the American Legion.

In Honor of 3 WWII Veterans: JH Churchill Funeral Home reported that they have buried 3 WWII veterans in the preceding month. We received a memorial of \$355 from Cletus Colson.

New Activity on The Veterans Park Memorial:

- Flagpoles being erected in next few weeks at NeedLine and Veterans' Memorial.
- We will be researching ideas for memorial benches and brick pathway.
- Monthly we will submit pictures and articles chronicling our progress to the paper

Project Chairs Needed:

- Organize Rummage Sale (7 or 14 May)
- Organize Memorial Day Events: Poppy donations at Wal-Mart and possibly set-up luminaries in the Park.

Motion

James made a motion to table further discussion and planning of these events till February's meeting

Second:	Flenoy	For: All	Against: None	Carried: Yes
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New Activity in Building/Property Search:

- The discussion began regarding an @ 40'x80'building for sale behind the old tire company, however the access and parking was deemed inadequate for our needs
- Discussion continued around the need to expand and involve the greater community in our search for a piece of property
- Once real estate is either donated or purchased, the post would qualify for grants to erect a

building.

- Discussion also emphasized the benefit of obtaining a location outside the city limits to minimize our tax liability.

Motion				
Bob made a motion to draft a classified ad with Dean and present it at the next meeting.				
Second:	Dave H.	For: All	Against: None	Carried: Yes

Benefit for Building or Memorial Funds:

- David F. has been working with a contact trying to get Hank Williams Jr. to donate his talents for a benefit concert, but appears to have hit a stalemate
- David asked if the members wanted him continue searching for another celebrity or to abandon this idea completely

Motion				
Terry made a motion that David make one more attempt to try to find another celebrity before abandoning the benefit concert fundraiser.				
Second:		For: All	Against: None	Carried: Yes

Dates To Remember:

- David Foley representing the Post will present a Fire Safety Class at 1000 on 10 Feb, at Weeks Center, for the senior citizens.
- Planning for Memorial Day celebration and other Post events will begin in earnest during our February meeting

Prayers & Concerns:

- Harold Pond is still in MCCH Hospital.M
- David Foley also met and visited Mr. Duffy, a Korean Vet, in MCCH

Welcome to Visitors & New Members:

- Howard Duncan; one of our lifetime members just returned from Iraq
- Jerry Church: AF veteran of Desert Storm
- David Reed: Army veteran

Tom moved to accept the new business.

Second:	David F.	For: All	Against: None	Accepted: Yes
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Meeting Adjourned: 2007 hours

Minutes of this meeting respectfully submitted by Loretta Woods, phone: 227.5198.
