



**MINUTES OF THE
QUEENS COUNTY COMMITTEE, Inc.
Little Neck/Douglaston Post 103
COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETING
October 22, 2008**

Meeting was opened by Commander Michael Honan at 8:00 PM, with the salute of colors, opening prayers by our Chaplain, the Pledge of Allegiance and the POW / MIA Ceremony. Adjutant Louis Rodriguez was excused; VC Paul J. Schottenhamel was requested to take the minutes. Roll Call was held and showed VC Norbert Chwat, Adjutant Louis A. Rodriguez, and Historian Joseph Biasi as excused absences.

The County also recognized the presence of PDC/PCC James Casey PD/VC Harvey Moder, PD/10C Joe Thomassen, PCCs Vincent Calimano, Harry Jahnke, John Severa, Daniel O'Sullivan, Tom Winberry, and Dave Patterson

A motion by John Allison, seconded by Rev. Philip Sica, to suspend our normal business to accept a report by Jean Ross was unanimously accepted. She reported on the holiday parties at St. Albans schedules on December 2nd, 3rd, and 5th. The American Legion is sponsoring to one on December 5th. Volunteers and requested to arrive at 1 PM that day to help setup the room. She also praised PCC Thomas Winberry for his efforts to establish a non-alcoholic pub for the residents.

A motion to resume normal business was made and accepted.

Treasurer PTDC Denis McEneaney that the previous balance was \$2,610.36, income was \$7,851.00, and expenditures were \$724.87. A motion to accept the report was made and unanimously passed.

Correspondence was read and accepted to take their usual course.

Committee Reports:

Boy Scouts: No report.

Budget & Finance: The committee will meet on Wednesday, October 29, 2008 at the Little Neck/Douglaston Post.

DC Dinner and Visitation: PDC/PCC James Casey reported that the O'Connell Post Paid the expenses and billed the County. The Mets game was rained out and the status of the tickets is unknown.

Family Support: No report.

Forty- & Eight: Chef Philip Sica states the next prom is Woodhaven Post # 118, on October 29,2008.

Holiday Party: Chairman Vincent Calimano reported that the party is scheduled for 3-7 PM on Sunday, December 14, 2008 at the Harbor Lights Pub in Rockaway Park. It is free for all County Committee members and their significant others.

Housing (Mid-Winter Conference): Chairman Vincent Calimano has housing request forms. To ensure that Committee members are housed together, he requested that they be turned in as soon as possible.

Legislative Breakfast: PCC John Severa reported that 130 people FROM 14 POSTS, 4 auxiliary units, and 1 SAL squadron, plus politicians attended the breakfast. Several of the officials and candidates did not reply or failed to attend. Donations totaled \$1,965.00; total expenses were \$1,628.04; making a net profit of \$336.96. A motion to accept his was made and accepted. John received a standing ovation for his services.

Membership:

VC Conoleo reminded the delegates that the pink copy of the Post Dues Transmittal forms must be sent to county. Don't forget to send in the money for PUFLs. He also reviewed the National Commander's membership goals and how to get recognition pins. Queens County is presently the third highest retention rate in the state, but we must continue to strive to achieve 100%.

VC Conoleo reviewed the finances of the 2008 Queens County Convention held the Daniel M. O'Connell Post 272. The total expenses were \$3,639.73; the total income was \$3,639.72, including a check of \$639.72. There

Oratorical: Rev Philip Sica reported that he presently has two high schools participating in the program.

Parades:

POW/MIA: Walter Karas made his report. PDC/PCC Casey noted that American Vietnam veterans are volunteering information and personal items recovered enemy dead that is aiding the Vietnamese government in recovering and identifying their own dead and missing soldiers. This has encouraged the Vietnamese government to supporting our own recovery and identification process.

Resolutions: (JT)

Service Committee: PCC Daniel O'Sullivan reported that the VA has linked Lou Gehrig's Disease and several other as possible service connected diseases.

VAVS:

Ways & Means: CC Mike Honan was handling the raffle tickets which PCC Richard Pearsall is recovering.

County Vice Commanders Report:

VC Rober Condoleo attended the 1st and 10th District Membership meeting at the Williston Post, the Legislative Breakfast and the installation of officers at the Breezy Point Post.

VC Paul J. Schottenhamel attended the 1st and 10th District Membership meeting at the Williston Post, the Legislative Breakfast, and the NYC Police Department/Naval Veterans recognition ceremony with CC Honan at 1 Police Plaza.

He also attended the funeral of an indigent veteran who would have been buried in Potter's Field. Vietnam Veterans Chapter 32, of which he is a member, has been designated as an Organizational Friend of deceased veterans. PDC Casey stated that the American Legion counties in New York City attempted to do this several years ago but there was some question about if such organization can be sued by a newly discovered family that later on did not want the veteran buried in that cemetery. There might be some outlay of funds subject to delayed reimbursement by the government. He advised that the county attempted

to be designated as an Organizational Friend. VC Schottenhamel said he would investigate this course of action.

Unfinished Business

PCC Thomas Winberry reported on his efforts to establish a non-alcoholic Happy Hour Pub for the residents of St. Albans VA Hospital. He has received good support from the facility. The security of keys, storage of the items, and a budget must still be worked out. He estimated that each secession would cost about \$50.00, which could be funded by individual posts within the county. They would charge about \$1.00 per bottle of non-alcoholic beer. He asked that posts supply bar items to the pub.

VC Paul J. Schottenhamel reported he is still waiting on notification that our web site has been established. He expects action within the next few days.

New Business

A motion by Rev Philip Sica that the Daniel M. O'Connell Post 272 be commended for its unselfish service to the county by hosting the county convention and installation dinner was seconded and unanimously approved.

Commanders Remarks

At the Nassau County Legislative Breakfast, CC Michael Honan asked a Congressman Gary Ackerman why he did not support the Flag Amendment. The Congressman replied that the burning of the flag was an expression of free of speech. CC Honan noted that by that logic, if someone burned a cross on the Ackerman's lawn, he would defend it as an act of free speech. There was no reply by the Congressman.

Good of the Legion

50/50 raffle was held and the winner was awarded \$20.00.

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Meeting was then closed with a prayer and the salute to colors. Time 10:07 PM

Paul J. Schottenhamel
Vice Commander
Acting Adjutant.