



**MINUTES OF THE
QUEENS COUNTY COMMITTEE, Inc.
Queens Village Post #301
COUNTY MEETING on November 19, 2008**

Commander Michael Honan opened meeting at 8:00 PM, with the salute of colors, opening prayers by our Chaplain, the Pledge of Allegiance and the POW / MIA Ceremony.

Commander Honan announced that Adjutant Louis A. Rodriguez and PCC Richard Pearsall were injured in an automobile accident and were unable to attend the meeting. VC Paul J. Schottenhamel volunteered to take the minutes.

Roll Call was held. Adjutant Louis A. Rodriguez was excused. Executive Committee Members Arthur Adams, John Allison, and Thomas Williams were absent.

The County also recognized the presence of PCC's Thomas X. Winberry, David L. Patterson, Daniel F. O'Sullivan, Harry B. Jahnke, Vincent J. Calimano, Denis J. McEneaney, Joseph C. Thomassen, Maurice J. Ahern, and Harvey G. Moder

The County also recognized the presence of Past 10th District Commanders Denis J. McEneaney, Joseph C. Thomassen, and Harvey G. Moder

Due to the hospitalization of the adjutant, the reading of the minutes was tabled.

Correspondence was read and accepted to take their usual course.

Committee Reports:

Adjutants Call: VC Paul J. Schottenhamel reported that we would have our minutes posted to our website. Flyers for post activities can be added to the website. This would quickly get the word out to all the posts. Thus far, only the Continental Post and the Broad Channel Post have done so.

Budget & Finance: Joseph Thomassen reported that the committee met and finalized the budget for this fiscal year. It will be presented as new business.

Directory: Tom Winberry reported that the next edition will include cell phone numbers and email addresses.

Family Support: Rev. Philip Sica reported that he has a social worker available to assist Legionnaires and their families.

Foreign Relations: VC Norbert Chwat read a report from the National convention.

Forty- & Eight: Chef Rev. Philip Sica stated that the next prom will be at the Ruoff Norelli Hargreaves Post 632 on November 20, 2008. They may move future proms to Thursday. Only 46% of the dues have been paid.

Housing (Mid-Winter & Dept. Conv.): Vincent Calimano reported that all the applications received have been forwarded to Albany and he is waiting on a reply.

Investments: Harry Jahnke reported that, due to good investments, our losses in the current markets have been kept to a minimum.

Membership: VC Robert Condoleo reported that the county is doing well on membership; we are currently fourth in the state. However, we must continue to push hard to meet our goals. He handed out the current member figures. It appears that some posts are waiting until they get a large number of dues payments before forwarding them to Department. We may have better numbers that reported.

National Commander's Dinner: Commander Michael Honan that the county has succeeded in getting our members seated at the large round tables in the back of the room. Tickets will be given out about two weeks before the event on April 17, 2009.

Oratorical: Rev, Philip Sica reported that there are currently three schools involved in the contest: Martin Van Buren, Francis Lewis, and the Mary Louis Academy. Corrine Alpert stated that very few children know about veterans and this should help educate them.

POW/MIA: Walter Karas stated that there are 30,000 Vietnamese missing soldiers. The US is sharing information with the Vietnamese to assist in the location of their soldiers. This will help in locating our own MIAs.

Public Relations: VC Norbert Chwat stated that the American Legion is not being recognized for all the good works we are doing because we are not getting the word out. He requested that copies of all press releases be forwarded to him

VAVS: James Osborne reminded us that the Auxiliary is hosting three parties at St. Albans on December 2nd, 3rd, and 4th at various locations. Legionnaires are encouraged to attend, especially the one on the fourth.

Ways & Means: Commander Michael Honan is handling the tickets until PCC Richard Pearsall is again able to return.

Woman's Rehab: Corrine Alpert attended a meeting at La Guardia College. She stated that many health problems for woman are not being handled at St. Albans, forcing female veterans to go to other facilities. Many free courses are being offered to veterans at LaGuardia Community College. PCC Tom Winberry stated that much of St. Albans is being stolen from the veterans by the actions of Congressman Meeks.

County Commanders Report

VC Norbert Chwat: He attended the Veteran's Day ceremony at St. John's University.

VC Robert Condoleo: He praised Commander Michael Honan for all the activities he attended in the past month. This included visits to two schools and a dinner at St. Albans.

VC Paul J. Schottenhamel: He attended, along with PCC Tom Winberry, the awards ceremony at St. Albans Hospital hosted by State Senator Serphin Maltese. Several days later, he participated in the Salute to Veterans, also at St. Albans. The only American Legion post to participate was the Joseph B. Garity Post 562. Over the past several years, very few veteran posts have attended these ceremonies at St. Albans.

Commanders Remarks

Commander Michael Honan reported that the Executive Committee had met on November 5. James Osborne and Thomas Winberry were recommended by posts as the county representative to the VAVS. The Executive Committee recommended that the Queens County Committee select PCC Thomas Winberry for our representative to the VAVS.

New Business

Joseph Thomassen reviewed the budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

Estimated Income		\$ 51,455.00
Estimated Expenses:		
General & Administrative Expenses	\$11,375.00	
Committee Expenses	19,940.00	
Conferences & Celebrations	<u>25,315.00</u>	
Total Estimated Expenses	\$56,630.00	<u>\$ 56,630.00</u>
Estimated Deficit		\$ -5,175.00

A motion by Joseph Totaro, seconded by Daniel O'Sullivan, to accept the budget as read, was unanimously approved.

The election for the recommendation for the Queens County representative to the St. Albans VAVS followed. The candidates were James Osborne and Thomas Winberry. A motion by Rev. Philip Sica, seconded by Peter Zaun, to conduct the election secret ballot, was passed unanimously. A motion by Corrine Alpert to allow the candidates to speak was defeated by a vote of eight for and twelve against. The winner was PCC Thomas X. Winberry.

Good of the Legion

PCC Thomas Winberry spoke at PS 95 on November 10 about being a veteran. He would be happy to speak at other schools.

50/50 was held and the winner was received \$22.00.

Motion to adjourn was made by acclamation.

Meeting was then closed with a prayer and the salute to colors. Time 9:37 PM

Paul J. Schottenhamel
VC, Acting Adjutant