



**MINUTES OF THE
QUEENS COUNTY COMMITTEE, Inc.
ROSEDALE-LAURELTON POST # 483
EXECUTIVE / COUNTY MEETING ON FEBRUARY 11, 2009**

Commander Michael Honan opened the meeting at 8:29 PM, with the salute of colors, opening prayers by our Chaplain, the Pledge of Allegiance and the POW / MIA Ceremony.

Roll Call was held as follows:

Adjutant Louis A. Rodriguez and Executive Committee Members George Korb, Thomas Williams, and Peter Zaun were excused. Executive Committee Members Corrine Alpert, Michael Barone, John Biehl, Brian McManus, and John O'Neill were absent.

The County also recognized the presence of PCC's Thomas X. Winberry, David L. Patterson, Daniel F. O'Sullivan, Vincent J. Calimano, Denis J. McEneaney, Joseph C. Thomassen, and James W. Casey.

The County also recognized the presence of PTDC Denis J. McEneaney, PTDC Joseph C. Thomassen, and PDC/PTDC James Casey.

The reading of the minutes of the meeting of January 7, 2009 was tabled because VC Paul J. Schottenhamel left them home.

Executive Committee Items

VC Commander Paul J. Schottenhamel reported that he and Commander Honan met with representatives of the George Werst Funeral Home, a member of Dignity Memorial. We requested their support to bury indigent veterans if the County is designated an institutional friend by the City of New York. Once we have their commitment, we can apply for the status. If we are successful, we will help ensure that no honorably discharged veteran is ever buried in potter's field by the city.

PCC Thomas Winberry reported that several posts have already contributed to the establishment of a non-alcoholic "pub" at St. Albans. He will need some help setting up the room. Once completed, he will be looking for volunteers to operate it.

PDC James Casey stated that only 38 tickets have been purchased for the National Commander's Dinner. In order to guaranty seating on the big round tables, tickets must be purchased by mid-March.

Vice Commander Robert Condoleo was concerned that our membership renewal efforts have stalled. We are now 23rd in the state. He contacted all the posts in the county to encourage them to contact the non-renewed members...

PCC Thomas Winberry reported that the Continental Post has obtained all required permits and is now back in operation. He contacted the Director of Veterans Affairs of NYC for their assistance in easing the requirements for veteran organizations. He has also contacted members of the City Council.

Commander Michael requested that Vice Commanders push membership and the National Commander's Dinner attendance to their posts.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Dennis McEaney report that we presently have \$1,265.38 in our checking account.

Correspondence : Correspondence was read and accepted to take their usual course.

Committee Reports:

Adjutants Call/County Website: VC Paul J. Schottenhamel encouraged committees and posts to send him items to include on the web site. Photographs from the Midwinter Conference and the Four Chaplains Mass have also been added.

Borden Ave Shelter: Chaplain Philip Sica reported that the Salvation Army has been replaced by a community at the shelter.

Commander Honan temporarily relinquished the chair to VC Schottenhamel to make a report.

Boy Scouts: Commander Michael Honan reported that he and Zoltan Szollosy attended an Eagle Scout Court of Honor and gave awards to the new Eagle Scouts.

Boys State: Harry McMahon reported that this year, Boys State will be from June 27 to July 3. The cost is \$325.00. Thus far, four boys are going, but we would like to send more. PDC James Casey suggested that outside organizations could sponsor boys to reduce the cost to posts, but all boys should be interviewed by the posts to make sure the boys understood the program.

Children & Youth: Arthur Adams displayed a Queens Library newsletter that featured the donation of books by Queens County. They referred to the children receiving the books as an "army of young readers". He also commented that parents want more input into the education of their children.

County Convention Selection: Daniel O'Sullivan reported that the Continental Post 1424 sent in a letter offering to host the 2009 Queens County Convention. Thus far, this is the only post to do so.

Foreign Relations: Norbert Chwat reported that Kyrgyzstan, a country just north of Afghanistan, under pressure from Russia, has canceled its basing rights agreements with the U.S. Most of the American forces that defeated the Taliban were based out of that country. This may affect our sustainment of forces in Afghanistan.

Forty-& Eight: Chef Phil Sica reported that the National Convention will be held in Rochester, September 8-12, 2009, at the Clarion Riverside Hotel.

Oratorical: Philip Sica reported that county contest was held at the Ruoff Norelli Hargreaves Post. Two young ladies were declared winners. One participated in the 10th District contest and came in fourth. She may go to Department contest if one of the first three winners drops out.

Public Relations: Norbert Chwat reported that the Queens County Press Association donated \$400.00 to the Alley Pond Environmental Center.

VAVS: Thomas Winberry reported that St. Albans is looking to replace most of the televisions that the county donated many years ago. The cost is \$60.00 per set. Joseph Thomassen said they need two women to serve on the board.

Ways & Means: (R Pearsall)

County Vice Commander's Reports:

VC Norbert Chwat: He contacted several posts on the issue of membership.

VC Paul J. Schottenhamel: He attended the return of two dozen Citizen Soldiers from the New York Army National Guard's 4th Finance Detachment of the Whitestone Armory, Queens on Friday, January 30. While serving for ten months in Bagram, Afghanistan, the unit was supported with "care packages" for the MAJ James A. McKenna Post 797 in Whitestone. Four Post members were present and they provided all the refreshments for the event. VC Schottenhamel was allowed to address the troops while in formation.

Commander's Remarks:

Sick call: PCC Harvey Moder is back in the hospital

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

A motion by VC Paul J. Schottenhamel, seconded by PDC James Casey, that the Queens County Committee apply to the City of New York to be designated an organizational friend of indigent veterans and ensure their burial in a National Cemetery, was unanimously approved.

A motion by PCC Daniel O'Sullivan, seconded by VC Paul J. Schottenhamel, that the Continental Post 1424 be designated as the host of the 2009 Queens County Convention, was unanimously approved.

Good of the Legion:

VC Norbert Chwat recommended that posts use the Purple Heart stamp for all their correspondence.

50/50 was held and the prize was \$20.00 won by Jacob Domfort.

Motion to adjourn was made by acclamation.

Meeting was then closed with a prayer and the salute to colors. Time 9:30 PM

Paul J. Schottenhamel
Acting Adjutant