

# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS of the United States of America

Thomas F. Welch VFW Post 706  
5000 Lillian Highway  
Pensacola, Florida 32506



Founded September 29, 1899

20 September 2017

## JOINT SESSION

Post Commander Nathaniel Bass called the Joint Session of VFW Post 706 to order at 1830hrs.

Auxiliary – Madam President Phyllis Smith introduced District 1 Madam President which is present to conduct an inspection. She continued by announcing the upcoming events to take place on 23 October 2017.

MOC – Seam Squirrel Victory Looney- Announced Steak Night on 7 October, following the monthly scheduled Scratch. Reminded everyone of the MOC Casino Bus Trip scheduled for 21 October and to purchase their tickets by 16 October from the Canteen workers.

Canteen Manager — Michael Gergel – Removal of the mirrors increased seating at the bar area still need more bar stools for the area.

Billy Mac donated walker, aids, and supplies.

TV installed thanks to Mike Cline and Richard.

Front door stuck, fixed, in need a faucet because the nuts are stripped.

Office inventory records are missing.

Planning to put a TV where the front door monitor currently sits and mount the monitor on the wall.

Mike Gergel was highly concerned with what he described as a field day with members entering controlled areas of the canteen and this must stop. Only authorized persons should be in areas within their responsibilities. Mike went on to say he is open to input for improvements with the Canteen with exception of request for Alcohol and consumables.

Mike closed by encouraging the post to invest in a Automated external defibrillator (AED), and explained that there was an individual that had passed out a few weeks back and although this incident was not a medical emergency it could have been. Mike stated that these devices cost around \$ 1800.00. Mike shared that Mike Cline is trained on these devices and is capable of training the required personnel on the proper use of an AED unit. The Commander stated that Mike Gergel is the new Canteen Manager and that all rules will be enforced and not to get angry with him he is doing what he has been instructed to do.

Americanism – Victor Looney stated that an individual named Doctor Jim contacted him about the Voice of Democracy/Patriot Pen but has not made contact at this time and encouraged all to advertise this event with anyone who would be a good candidate. Victor went on to state the other upcoming deadlines for Teacher of the year, Firefighter, Police and Sheriff Officers.

# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

## Post 706 Monthly Meeting, 20 September 2017

Good of the Order – The Commander thanked Cathy Koln, Linda Jordan, Phyllis Smith, and other ladies for their help with the dinners.

Victor Looney reminds everyone that 29 September is VFW Establishment Day and that 1 October is the Post Sunday Brunch.

The Adjutant explained the Program responsibilities and how the Post gets credit for these activities. Ask for the assistants of everyone present. Conduct Annual Fire Safety Training for everyone. Question was asked who reports to whom, because the Auxiliary has their own reporting system. District 1 Madam President stated that the Auxiliary does not report through the Post reporting system.

The Commander explained the ATF inspected the Post a few days ago and it is imperative that we utilize the Guest Sign-in sheets to maintain our liquor license even during karaoke. A member of the Post will be present on during karaoke to ensure this is happening as required by law.

The Commander announced the Flag Pole Fundraiser, the new Flag Pole cost \$ 900.00 and \$ 200.00 has already been donated leaving a balance of \$ 700.00, inviting all present to donate and help us in accomplishing this goal.

Rick (karaoke) asked if the Post will be supplying prizes for the Halloween Costume Contest 28 October for the winners.

Joint Session ended at \_ 1851hrs \_\_\_\_\_.

### **POST 706 MEETING**

Post meeting called to order by Commander Bass at 1853hrs.

Officer of the Day Comrade Walt Smith led the members in a salute to the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. ( 17 members in attendance)

Opening prayer by Chaplin Jerry Hunter.

### **Distinguished visitors introduced**

Past Post Commander – Mike Sakalarios– Present

Past Post Commander – Bill Jacobson- Present

Past Post Commander – Victor Looney- Present

Past District 1 Commander and Post Commander – Richard Mullen- Present

### **Roll Call of Officers**

Commander – Nathaniel Bass - Present

Sr. Vice Commander – Paul Hermance – Excused

Jr. Vice Commander – Mike Sakalarios – Present

Quartermaster –Faith Wylie - Present

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## Post 706 Monthly Meeting, 20 September 2017

Adjutant – Anthony Carroll – Present  
Judge Advocate – Howard Prince - Present  
Chaplin – Jerry Hunter - Present  
Surgeon – Robert Hall – Excused  
3 Year Trustee – Richard Mullen – Present  
2 Year Trustee – Scott Allison - Present  
1 Year Trustee – William Jacobson - Present  
Officer of the Day- Walt Smith - Present

**New Membership** – Read \_\_ 0 \_\_ Membership and \_\_ 5 \_\_ Transfers New Applications. Motion by Comrade Loone , Seconded by Comrade Cline the Commander called to vote these members in, vote called motion carried. Cross of the Malta presented. New Members/ Transfers: Are attached to the back of this report.

**Adjutant** – Read the minutes, no correction, additions, or deletions; minutes stand as read.

**Quartermaster Report** – Read the Report, Report ending 31 August accepted as read, pending audit. Posted and on file.

**Comrades in Distress** – Chaplin Hunter provided the names of Comrades in distress, Ernie Blond, Ebbie Jermin, Paul Constadine, and Richard Gillman and stated to keep these Comrades in prayer.

**Buddy Poppy** – Comrade Sakalarios raised \$ 61.00 in the month of August and the scheduled drive at the VA Clinic was cancelled due to the storm.

**Service Officer Report** – Comrade Bass reported assisting \_ 83 \_\_ veterans in house and made \_\_ 0 \_\_ in assisted living, \_ 3 \_\_ in hospital and in \_\_ 0 \_\_ home visits for the month of June. Secretary of Veterans Affairs wants to treat Veterans with honorable discharge for mental health issues. Jail Visits 6 Santa Rosa County, 9 Escambia County, and 14 in the Federal Prison.

**House Committee Report** – No report because there were not enough members for a quorum.

**Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen-** - Same as Joint Session

**Canteen Report** – Same as Joint Session

**Blood Bank** – \_\_ 0 \_\_ pints donated by Note: This report currently requires a chairman.

**Membership Report** – The Commander reported membership as currently 493, \_\_ 462 \_ Life Members, \_\_ 6 \_\_ New or reinstated, \_\_ 22 \_\_ continual membership: Last year's membership number: \_\_ 540 \_\_. Currently the Post is at \_ 91.29 \_\_%.

**Food Drive** – Is gearing up but no report at this time

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**Prayer For The Children** - Chaplain Hunter led the Prayer for the Children. Collected \$ 18.00 for the National Home for the Children.

**Americanism** – Same as the Joint Session

**Unfinished Business** – The Commander provided an update on the new sign, permit, and Wi-Fi information. The target date for installation is 19 October.

### **New Business** –

Comrade Looney motion for Comrade Mike Cline to be accepted into the MOC, seconded by Comrade Smith; no discussion, vote called, motion carried.

Comrade Sakalarios motion to extend Canteen operating hours to 2230hrs for 60 days, seconded by Comrade Prince, no discussion, vote called, motion carried.

Comrade Prince motion to purchase a new Flag Pole, seconded by Comrade Wylie, no discussion, vote called, motion carried.

Comrade Sakalarios motion to move the Flag Pole to a new location, seconded by Comrade Cline, discussion: the Commander stated the placement to be put on the left side of the building when facing the front of the building and this would save on having to install a new light, Comrade Smith ask why the new pole cannot be placed in the center of the building, both sides were entertained with the final decision made to place it in the center after Comrade Mullen suggesting to buy a solar cell light that can mount to the pole at little cost, vote called, motion carried.

Comrade Cline motion to purchase a solar cell light for the Flag Pole, seconded by Comrade Prince, discussion table this motion until the House Committee Meeting.

Comrade Looney stated that the AED unit is a good idea although the cost is a little expensive; this was tabled for the House Committee Meeting.

The Commander stated the last issue under new business is the approval of the House and Canteen SOP and By-Laws, Comrade Looney requested the Commander for time to review the updated documents and to table the issue until next month's meeting. The Commander granted the request and the issue was tabled.

**Good of the Order** – Allen Elegbriecht restated his position on the Post parking rules. Commander informed him that he must request a hearing in writing addressed to the House Committee.

The Adjutant shared the new AAFES online system for Veterans usage.

**Closing Prayer** – Chaplain Hunter gave the closing prayer.

Post meeting was closed at 2003hrs. Next meeting Scheduled at 1830, 18 October 2017.

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Post 706 Monthly Meeting, 20 September 2017

Anthony Carroll  
ADJUTANT