

MINUTES
Fred E. Hayes Post 57
Department of Washington
The American Legion

February 18, 2021
Stevens-Young Room, Grandview Community Center, Grandview, WA
Conducted via Teleconference

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order in regular form via teleconference at 7:00 PM by Commander Gates. The Invocation was offered by Chaplain John Myers. The POW / MIA Empty Chair was recognized. The Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble was recited by all present.
2. **1900 Hour Toast:** The 1900 Hour Toast was offered by Mr. Davidson..
3. **Roll Call of Officers:**

☒ Robert Gates, Commander ☒ Dudley Brown, Vice Commander ☐ Ricard Zook, Vice Commander ☒ Jim Davidson, Adjutant / Finance ☒ Vicky Gates, Sgt-at-Arms ☒ John Myers, Chaplain ☒ Warren Barmore, PEC-man ☒ Curt Nealen, PEC-man ☐ Eddie Houser, Judge Advocate	<u>Guests:</u> ☐ Auxiliary: ☐ Other Guests: <u>Members:</u> ☒ Quorum ☐ No Quorum Ed Houser is excused due to illness or medical care.
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4. **Approve Minutes of January 21, 2021 Meeting:**
Mr. Myers moved with second by Mr. Brown to approve the Minutes of the January 21, 2021 Meeting. The Motion was approved unanimously.
5. **Post Everlasting / Memorial to Departed Comrades:**
 - Robert M. Doty, US Army, Korea Era (Resolution 57-2021-001, below).
Dr. Barmore moved with second by Ms. Gates to approve Resolution 57-2021-001 transferring Robert M. Doty to Post Everlasting. The Motion was approved unanimously.
 - A Memorial Prayer was offered by Chaplain Myers.
6. **Finance Report:** Adjutant Davidson reported the following:
 - Lower Valley Credit Union Checking (General) account balance is \$1,404.69.
 - Lower Valley Credit Union Savings (Programs) account balance is \$10,452.73.
 - Lower Valley Credit Union CD (Investments) account balance is \$26,480.44.
 - The Budget / Profit-Loss statement was circulated. The current year-to-date balance is +\$2,020.83..
 - The Penny-a-Day Income as of February 17, 2021 is \$1,128.72. A large member donation of \$500+ was received today but not yet deposited and not included in these numbers.
 - The account registers were reviewed for income and expenditures.***Mr. Brown moved with second by Mr. Nealen to approve the Finance Report. The Motion was approved unanimously.***
7. **Adjutant's Report:**
 - **Membership:** The 2021 Goal is 90 members. Current paid membership is 73

(81.11% of Goal). Actual membership, including previously-paid transfers not counting for Goal is 78.

- About 70 Letters were sent to non-renewed members back through 2016, local 110 members and members who have recently moved to the area.
- **Communications:**
 - Email from Parks and Recreation Director Gretchen Chronis for presenting the Red Cross COVID certificate to the Community Center and City of Grandview.
 - Email from Julie Wysong, Principal of Harriett Thompson School informing the Post they will be collecting change for Penny-a-Day in the office.
 - Email from Department informing the Post it will receive the 2020 Education, Community Service, Americanism, Scouting and Publicity Awards at the Spring District Conference.
 - Email from Department regarding dates for the Spring District Conferences. The 6th District Conference is slated for May 2nd but no details are yet available.
 - The Post web page has been updated and work continues. Postings to Facebook occur nearly every day. There are 180 followers on Facebook.

Mr. Myers moved with second by Mr. Brown to accept the Adjutant's Report. The Motion was approved unanimously.

8. **Unfinished (Old) Business:**

- **Hygiene Kits:** Mr. Davidson reported 50 Hygiene Kits (35 male, 15 female) were delivered to the Yakima County Veterans Pantry. The total value was \$400.00.
- **Travel Plaza:** Mr. Davidson will be sending the Travel Plaza Resolution to the City of Grandview, Port of Grandview and the Grandview Chamber of Commerce and will offer an Op-Ed article to the Grandview Herald. Attempts will be made to have local businesses to endorse the idea.

9. **New Business:**

- **Adoption of Veteran Creed:** ***Mr. Davidson moved with second by Ms. Gates to adopt the Veteran Creed adopted by the National Executive Committee as Resolution 10 in October 2018 and to include it as part of the Adjournment Protocol for Post meetings.*** The Creed was discussed. **The Motion was approved unanimously.**
- **Bunny Breakfast:** The Grandview Parks and Recreation Department has initiated advertising for the 2021 Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 3rd. The Post is listed as a sponsor for the previously-agreed "Bunny Breakfast." The event will be a drive-through affair due to COVID restrictions "while supplies last." ***Ms. Gates moved with second by Mr. Brown to allocate \$200.00 for purchase of breakfast treats for the event.*** **The Motion was approved unanimously.**

10. **Balloting on New Applications / Renewal of Expired Members:**

- **HQ TRANSFER / EXPIRED MEMBER:** Steve Harrison, US Army, Vietnam Era, transfer from HQ-DMS Post 110 as a former member of Post 57 who last paid in 2017.
- **HQ Transfer:** Leif Luglan, US Navy, Other Conflicts Era, transfer from HQ-DMS Post 110.

Mr. Myers moved with second by Mr. Brown to accept the listed members as members of Post 57. The Motion was approved unanimously.

11. **Service Officer:** Chief Service Officer Davidson reported the following:

- **Claims:**
 - Three claims are in progress and in the hands of the VA.
 - No claims pending completion of paperwork.

- No Health care requests are pending.
- **Sick Call & Relief:**
 - Eddie Houser is no longer in the hospital but is not home. It is likely he is in a nursing home or assisted living.
 - Member Mike Atteridge has offered a four wheel scooter and hitch mounted carrier to a veteran free of charge.
- **Employment:**
 - State grants are available for EMS training and recertification training. Applications are due by March 9th.

12. **Committee Reports:**

- **Rehabilitation** (includes Veterans Affairs and Volunteer Services):
 - Mr Davidson reported on the progress of veteran housing at the former Marine Corps Armory in Yakima. It should be ready for occupancy by June or July. He mentioned Yakima County Veteran Services is looking at providing household items for new occupants and this could be a community project the Post could undertake. Mr. Davidson will put out feelers for community support.
- **National Security (includes Homeland Security):**
 - **Blood Drive:** The March 10th Blood Drive has 31 donors scheduled out of 33 slots. All Power Red slots are filled.
- **Americanism:** Mr. Davidson still needs to speak with the Fire Chief about doing a flag disposal on Flag Day.
- **Community Service and Post Activities** (includes Wreaths Across America):
 - Graves Registration. Three graves are still awaiting location.
- **Economic:** No report.
- **Membership and Publicity:**
 - The Post has received a 75 year continuous membership certificate for Mel Krous. It will be framed and either mailed or delivered to him.
 - Post activities and news is not being published reliably in the *Sunnyside Sun*. It is appearing in both the Grandview and Prosser papers.
- **Boys State / Girls State:**
 - No word has been received on the status of Boys State.
 - Auxiliary Secretary Nancy Davidson, with the approval of Unit President Betty George, has sent a letter to the Department President advising her that the Post and Unit cannot support a Virtual Girls State.
- **Children and Youth:**
 - Both Troops have been rechartered. The Pack has not due to an absence of Cubs and leaders. The Troops will resume meeting at the Community Center on March 2nd.
- **Law and Order:** Mr. Davidson will check on the status of our 2020 nominations for Law Enforcement Officer of the Year and Humanitarian of the Year.
- **Constitutional Speech:** No report. The Department Contest is scheduled for March 12-13 in Ephrata.
- **Education:** Mr. Davidson suggested that School Awards be ordered for Mabton High School and Bickleton High School in addition to those planned for Grandview and Prosser.

13. **Good of the Legion:**

- The next Chamber of Commerce meeting will be Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 11:00 AM. It likely will be conducted via Zoom.

14. **Next Regular Meeting.** The next regular Post meeting will be Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

15. **Adjournment:** With no other business before the Post, members recited the Veterans Creed, the POW / MIA Flag was retired, benediction was offered and the meeting was adjourned in regular form by Commander Gates at 8:18 PM.

James A. Davidson
Adjutant

Robert G. Gates
Commander

Date

Appendix “A” – Transfer to Post Everlasting for Robert M. Doty

Resolution 57-2021-001

POST EVERLASTING FOR ROBERT M. DOTY, US ARMY, KOREAN ERA

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, The Great Commander, to summon to the immortal legions our beloved comrade, Robert M. Doty, US Army, Korea Era, and

Whereas, We humbly bow to the will of Divine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of distinguished service to our country and outstanding contributions to American Legion comradeship; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Fred E. Hayes Post No. 57, The American Legion, Grandview, Washington, does mourn the passing of our comrade, Robert M. Doty, that we commend to all the works and to God the spirit; and be it further

Resolved, That in token of our common grief, a copy of this resolution transferring Robert M. Doty to Post Everlasting, The American Legion, is presented to the next of kin.

Appendix “B” – Veterans Creed (Resolution 10, NEC, October 17-18, 2018)

The Veterans Creed

1. I am an American Veteran
2. I proudly served my country
3. I live the values I learned in the military
4. I continue to serve my community, my country and my fellow veterans
5. I maintain my physical and mental discipline
6. I continue to lead and improve
7. I make a difference
8. I honor and remember my fallen comrades