

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

March 18, 2021
Conducted by 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, Deceased	<u>Guests:</u> ☒ Auxiliary: Nancy Davidson - Secretary ☐ Other Guests: <u>Members:</u> ☒ Quorum ☐ No Quorum
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4. **Approve Minutes of February 18, 2021 Meeting:**
Mr. Myers moved with second by Mr. Brown to approve the Minutes of the February 18, 2021 Meeting with correction of a typo. The Motion was approved unanimously.
5. **Post Everlasting / Memorial to Departed Comrades:**
 - Resolution 57-2021-002: Post Everlasting for Michael R. Fischer, US Navy, Vietnam Era (Appendix "A");
 - Resolution 57-2021-003: Post Everlasting for Eddie L. Houser, US Air Force, Vietnam Era (Appendix "B").*Mr. Brown moved with second by Ms. Gates to approve the above the Resolutions for member transfer to Post Everlasting. The Motion was approved unanimously.*

Memorial Prayer was offered by Chaplain Myers.
6. **Finance Report:** Adjutant Davidson reported the following:
 - Lower Valley Credit Union Checking (General) account balance is \$1,375.80.
 - Lower Valley Credit Union Savings (Programs) account balance is \$12,378.23.
 - 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 +\$3,699.45.
 - Penny-a-Day income is \$1,836.62.
 - Wreaths Across America Income is \$2,321.66.
 - There has been a minor increase in Free Conference Call fees due to the addition of sales tax. It is now \$4.27 a month.
 - The account registers were reviewed for income and expenditures.*Ms. Gates moved with second by Mr. Brown 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 76 (84.44% of Goal). Actual membership, including previously-paid transfers not counting for Goal is 78.
 - There was membership HQ transfer hiccup regarding Mr. Luglan, but that has been partially resolved.
- **Communications:**
 - The Spring Conference schedule has been released. The 6th District Conference is slated for Sunday, May 2nd. Location and time has not been determined.
 - The new MyLegion system is to go into effect on April 1st.
 - Department Resolutions are to be submitted by April 9th.

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

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

- There was no unfinished business.

9. **New Business:**

- **Miniature Historic Flag Set request from Museum.** Post member Ray Vining made a request for the Legion to replace a miniature historic flag set that has been on display at the Museum. Mr. Davidson opined that it appears to be something the Legion would have sold decades years ago and may be from the old Post Home, but he has not seen it in Legion catalogs during his time in the Legion. He is looking for something similar but has not found anything yet. He will keep looking. It is possible we could make something, but he has not seen miniature historic flags. ***No action taken.***
- **Luncheon with Congressman Newhouse:** Mr. Davidson reported he has been contacted by Congressman Newhouse's office with a request to meet with Grandview area veterans on March 31st. ***Mr. Brown moved with second by Dr. Barmore to sponsor a luncheon with Congressman Newhouse providing a small lunch and beverage with estimated cost of \$100.00 with donations accepted. The Motion was approved unanimously.***

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

- There were no new, expired or transfer members to act upon.

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

- **Claims:**
 - Two 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:**
 - Richard Zook, post-surgery recovery
 - Curt Nealen, continuing back and mobility issues.
- **Employment:**
 - A notice regarding a two for one offer for CDL training at Gloria Mendoza's training program was published on Facebook.
- **Equipment:**
 - A member has a functioning four wheel scooter and hitch-mounted carrier that he is willing to donate to a veteran.

12. **Committee Reports:**

- **Rehabilitation** (includes Veterans Affairs and Volunteer Services):

- A flyer seeking donations for the Chuck Austin Place in Yakima (housing for homeless veterans) was provided to officers and will be sent to members.
 - **National Security (includes Homeland Security):**
 - **Blood Drive:** The March 10th drive netted 22 units; 21 donors are pre-scheduled for the May 12th drive.
 - **Americanism:**
 - Mr. Davidson reported he is still working on the flag disposal issue. With the death of Mr. Houser, we likely cannot rely on using Yakima Fire Station 5 as planned.
 - **Community Service and Post Activities (includes Wreaths Across America):**
 - **Economic:**
 - **Membership and Publicity:**
 - Mr. Davidson reported National is encouraging “Buddy Checks” during March. Materials were sent to officers.
 - **Boys State:**
 - Boys State will be held in person at Warm Beach and recruiting is underway. One Scout in Troop 643 would make a great delegate and is being recruited.
 - Girls State has announced they will run as a virtual program this year. Nancy Davidson, Auxiliary Unit Secretary explained the Unit does not support this and will not actively recruit or fund positions. If girls are identified from Sunnyside and Granger and their sponsorships are paid, the Unit will endorse them. If girls from Grandview wish to attend and can pay their way, the Unit will sponsor them.
 - **Children and Youth:**
 - Scouts: Troop 643 and 644 is encouraging several senior Scouts to attend National Youth Leader Training (NYLT) at Scout-a-Vista in Wenatchee beginning June 27th. They may need financial assistance since the Troop has been unable to do fundraising. The fee is \$295.00. ***Mr. Brown moved with second by Mr. Myers to distribute \$850.00 from the Scouting line item among the Scouts wishing to attend NYLT (potentially five Scouts). The Motion was approved unanimously.***
 - The community drive-through Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 3rd at 10:00 AM. Supplies for the Bunny Breakfast, which the Post is providing, are now being collected. Post members are asked to help assemble the bags beginning at 9:00 AM at the Community Center.
 - **Law and Order:**
 - **Constitutional Speech:**
 - The Department contest was last weekend but there has been no report.
 - **Education:**
 - Solicitation for nominees for School Awards will begin shortly.
 - Attempts will be made to seek nominations for Educator of the Year.
13. **Good of the Legion:**
- Chamber of Commerce meeting, Thursday, April 8th. Time and location to be determined (Zoom vs. in-person).
 - Bunny Breakfast, Saturday, April 3rd, 9:00 AM for set-up.
14. **Next Regular Meeting.** The next regular Post meeting will be Thursday, April `15, 2021 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be conducted both in-person at the Community Center and via teleconference. A call for nominations for officers for 2021-22 will be made at that meeting.

15. **Adjournment:** With no other business before the Post, the Veterans Creed was recited, the POW / MIA Flag was retired, benediction was offered and the meeting was adjourned in regular form by Commander Gates at 8:17 PM.

James A. Davidson
Adjutant

Robert G. Gates
Commander

Date

APPENDIX "A"

Resolution 57-2021-002

Post Everlasting for Michael R. Fischer U.S. Navy, Vietnam Era

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, The Great Commander, to summon to the immortal legions our beloved comrade, Michael R. Fischer U.S. Navy, Vietnam 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 57, The American Legion, Grandview, Washington, meeting on March 18, 2021, does mourn the passing of our comrade, Michael R. Fischer, 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 Michael R. Fischer to Post Everlasting, The American Legion, is presented to the next of kin.

APPENDIX "B"

Resolution 57-2021-003

Post Everlasting for Eddie L. Houser, U.S. Air Force, Vietnam Era

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, The Great Commander, to summon to the immortal legions our beloved comrade, Eddie L. Houser, U.S. Air Force, Vietnam 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 57, The American Legion, Grandview, Washington, meeting on March 18, 2021, does mourn the passing of our comrade, Eddie L. Houser, 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 Eddie L. Houser to Post Everlasting, The American Legion, is presented to the next of kin.