

MINUTES OF THE S E C: held November 19th, 2017 at Post 147, Haverhill, MA

Meeting called to order by Commander David Prescott at 1:03 PM

INVOCATION given by Mike Bruno, PDC

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by 2ND Vice Commander Mark Serpis, PNC

PREAMBLE led by Commander David Prescott

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS conducted by Adjutant Mike Bruno, PDC

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS (As they arrive) Commander Prescott acknowledged Steve Dugan, IPDC who introduced Ed Murphy, Member, Squadron 51 and current President of AMVETS Riders, Chapter 51 to the body present. Acknowledgement and welcome extended by the body present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: SEC held September 17th, 2017, Post 74 Three Rivers, MA. Motion to approve Minutes made by Mike Bruno. Seconded by 1ST Vice Commander Scott Soucy. Under call for questions three errors were cited and noted for correction. Mike Bruno assured the body present the corrections will be made.

Mike Bruno informed the body present that the January S E C Meeting will be held at AMVETS Post 56 (VITTORI – ROCCI POST 56) 143 BRIMBAL AVENUE, BEVERLY, MA at 1:00 P.M.

Upon call for the vote the Motion passed

At his point, as no Provost Marshal has been appointed to date, recorded information indicated a Motion to appoint Mike Veator, Commander, Squadron 32, as Provost Marshal for the purposes of this Meeting made by Finance Officer David Spencer, PNC. Seconded by Mark Serpis. Upon further discussion the Motion was amended to appoint Mike Veator as Department Provost Marshal for the remainder of the year by Dave Spencer. Seconded by 3RD Vice Commander James Jones. Under call for questions, Mike Veator respectfully declined this appointment and, as a result, no vote was taken.

Adjutant Mike Bruno was fined and paid a total of \$ 6.00 for all errors reported.

BILLS AND COMMUNICATIONS: David Spencer informed the body present that upon being notified of the passing of Beverly Studebaker, PDP, a vote was conducted and passed by the Executive Board to donate \$ 50.00 to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, MA in accordance with her family's wishes. Having made this donation, the Department received a letter of acknowledgement from Dana Farber (letter is on file).

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Commander David Prescott submitted a written report. Motion to accept the Commander's report made by Commander Prescott. Seconded by Mike Bruno. Motion passed.

1ST Vice Commander Scott Soucy gave a verbal report to include 10 New Members, 37 Renewed Members and 59 Life Members for a total of 106 Members to date.

Vice Commander Soucy informed the body present effective immediately and until further notice all Department Membership should be sent directly to Scott Soucy c/o AMVETS Post 147, 576 PRIMROSE STREET, HAVERHILL, MA 01830. He further indicated he will inform all Squadrons with this information.

Upon inquiry from Steve Dugan, Scott Soucy reported that total Membership as of August 31st, 2017 stood at a total of 514 Members.

Motion to accept the 1st Commander's report as stated made by Scott Soucy. Seconded by Mike Bruno. Motion passed.

2ND Vice Commander Mark Serpis, PNC submitted a written report. Motion made to accept the 2ND Vice Commander's report made by Mike Bruno. Seconded by Mike Veator. Motion passed.

During his report Mark Serpis discussed inviting National Commander Harold Collins to our State Convention in June. Upon further discussion, recorded information indicated Mike Bruno said he would do so as soon as possible.

3RD Vice Commander James Jones gave a verbal report to include his attendance and participation with the State Honor Guard at the North Adams Parade on Oct. 1st, 2017, Squadron 51 Chili Cook off held on Oct. 15th, 2017, attending the wake for Beverly Studebaker, PDP, on Oct. 18th, 2017, attending the Pilgrims Awards Dinner on Nov. 4th, 2017, participating with the State Honor Guard at the Veterans Day Observances held at the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne MA, on Nov. 5th, 2017 and marching with Post 51 Honor Guard at Veterans Day Observances held on Nov. 11th, 2017 in Randolph. Motion made to accept the 3rd Vice Commander's report made by Mike Bruno. Seconded by Mark Serpis. Motion passed.

Adjutant Mike Bruno gave a verbal report to include sending September Minutes to all known contacts this morning. He apologized to all present for the lengthy delay in sending them out any sooner. Motion to accept the Adjutant's report made by Mike Bruno. Seconded by Dave Spencer. Motion passed.

Finance Officer David Spencer read from his written report (written report and current Profit & Loss report received by Department via email on Nov. 21, 2017) Motion made to accept the Finance Officer's report made by David Spencer. Seconded by Mike Bruno. Motion passed.

Judge Advocate Floyd Francis (after being teased and having his b**** thoroughly busted) gave a verbal report to include his apologies for not having been able to be more involved in recent months due to personal matters. He reported that he may have to involve himself in matters regarding Squadron 1977 and is prepared to do so. Motion to accept the Judge Advocate's report as stated made by Floyd Francis. Seconded by Mark Serpis. Motion passed.

Provost Marshal Report: N/A

Chaplain Report: N/A

Immediate Past Department Commander Steve Dugan gave a verbal report to include since the last S E C he was able to continue his monthly effort to feed spinal cord patients at the Brockton VA. He further reported his participation in the Squadron 51 Chili Cook off held on Oct. 15th, 2017, upon prior request made by Commander Prescott his attendance, representing the Membership, at the AMVETS Pilgrim Awards Dinner held at Sturbridge on Nov. 4th, 2017, upon prior request made by Commander Prescott his attendance, representing the Membership, at Veterans Day Observances held at the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne, MA on Nov. 5th, 2017. He also reported his attendance and participation at recent events in conjunction with the Randolph Elks in feeding 70 Veterans from the VA, homeless shelter, the Chelsea Soldier's Home and assisting with their Senior dinner held last week. Motion made to accept the IPDC report as stated by Steve Dugan. Seconded Mark Serpis. Motion passed.

Webmaster Report: Acting Webmaster Dave Spencer gave no report.

NEC Report: None submitted

VAVS Coordinator Report: N/A

AMVET Coordinator: N/A

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mike Bruno informed Commander Prescott that an amended Change of Officers Form for Squadron 51, Randolph was submitted to National and that all relevant parties were notified via email (Oct. 9, 2017) as requested. Further discussion indicated Squadron 32 Change of Officers Form submission or lack thereof has been resolved.

NEW BUSINESS

David Spencer brought forward that at the September S E C, Ken Moniz (excused 11/19/17) indicated he MAY NOT be able to represent the Department at the upcoming Fall N E C. After further discussion Mike Bruno indicated he is willing to represent if Kenny is unable to do so, noting that work constraints may apply. Department will follow through.

Steve Dugan brought forward discussion regarding Squadron 1977, Stoughton. He prefaced his comments by stating he invited the Squadron Commander (Derek Elwood) to today's meeting in order that the Department be able to give guidance and render any assistance that may become necessary.

He indicated that in following up with the squadron regarding the raffle tickets he was informed by the Squadron Commander (Derek Elwood) that the Members are extremely upset. He was told that the squadron was given permission from the Post Commander to place an electronic sign outside the post regarding upcoming Veteran's Day activities. Apparently, this sign indicated some sort of NFL protest. He further reported that upon seeing this sign the Post Commander disavowed any knowledge of or about this sign, called the police and had the sign removed. This action was presented to him as one of several that appears to be creating another divide among all Post members.

He further stated his discussion indicated that they are looking to disband. The Squadron meets this coming Tuesday and he will not be able to attend. Steve Dugan's recommendation is to go forward with IMMEDIATE follow up.

Mark Serpis indicated he has been in touch with Squadron 2ND Vice Commander Joe Sbardella regarding Project reporting and that he was informed that there appears to be so much tension within the Post that most Members appear to be at a point where being a "Member" of the AMVETS family appears no longer be a desired option.

With regard to Squadron 1977, Commander Prescott asked Steve Dugan and Mark Serpis, if possible, to please continue with follow up and to keep the Department informed of any further developments.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- A. November 23rd, 2017, Thanksgiving Day
- B. November 26th, 2017 AMVETS Post 51 Pearl Harbor Day Breakfast. Ceremony will be at 10:00 AM with breakfast to follow. Tickets for the breakfast \$10.00 pp.
- C. December 7th, 2017, Pearl Harbor Day
- D. December 12th, 2017, Hanukkah begins
- E. December 16th, 2017 Squadron 79 Meat Raffle @ 2:00 PM to include prime rib dinner. Cost \$18.00 pp.
- F. December 25th, 2017, Christmas Day
- G. December 26th, 2017, Kwanzaa begins
- H. January 1st, 2018, New Year's Day
- I. January 21st, 2018 State Executive Committee Meeting @ 1:00 PM. AMVETS Post 56, Beverly, MA
- J. January 28th, 2018 Squadron 51 Annual "Soup or Bowl" @ 2:00 PM. \$10.00/entry \$5.00/tasting. Raffles will include a 50 inch flat screen TV as well as horse racing.
- K. March 3rd, 2018 AMVETS Riders Chapter 51, Randolph will be hosting a Cabin Fever Party. Details TBA in January
- L. March 18th, 2018 State Executive Committee Meeting @ 1:00 PM. AMVETS Post 79, Natick, MA. ALL DEPARTMENT OFFICERS/COMMITTEE MEMBERS must be here NO LATER than 11:00 AM for Convention Book 2018 photos!
- M. June 9th, 2018 Sons of AMVETS State Convention, Sturbridge, MA @ 1:00 PM

Miscellaneous Announcements: None reported

At this point upon inquiry 3RD Vice Commander Jim Jones reported 166 Scratch Book raffle tickets have been sold. Prior to the drawing additional tickets were sold in our meeting. Ed Murphy drew the winning ticket. Mike Bruno – winner!

James Jones reported receiving \$ 1,780.00 in raffle ticket revenue (\$610.00 in checks, the remainder in cash) giving the Department a profit of \$ 1,030.00.

He further stated another scratch ticket raffle will begin in January, 2018 and will be drawn at the March, 2018 S E C to be held at Natick.

Good & Welfare: David Spencer asked all present to please continue to keep Beverly Studebaker, PDP, Charlie Studebaker, AMVETS PDC, their family and loved ones in your thoughts and prayers.

Benediction: given by Adjutant Mike Bruno

Retiring of Colors led by 2ND Vice Commander Mark Serpis

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Mike Bruno. Seconded by David Spencer. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:26 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Bruno

Michael J. Bruno, PDC

Adjutant

Sons of AMVETS

Department of MA