

Marine Corps League

Cpl. Suzi Sannes

Detachment 1262

VFW Post 2057, NC Hwy 97, Rocky Mount, NC

5 February 2018

Opening Ceremony:

At 1900 Commandant Dave Sannes instructs Sergeant at Arms, Claude Battle to secure the quarters. The Sergeant at Arms was further instructed to post the colors and lead the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bible was opened and opening prayer was read by Chaplain William Blackmon.

Meeting was declared open for business by Sergeant at Arms, Claude Battle.

Roll Call of Officers:

All present except: Jr Vice Commandant Rick Ferguson National Web Sergeant Lori Sannes – excused.

Visiting Guests:

Dept. Sr Vice Rick Thomason, and District Jr Vice Commandant Mike Black

Induction of New Members:

None

Correspondence:

None

Old Business:

November Minutes: Rick Thomason makes motion to accept minutes as posted. Second by Joe Pisarik. Motion passed.

Paymaster Report: Larry Hill gave updated paymaster report. Beginning balance \$9,321.35 & total deposits \$640.00 put check book \$9,961.35. \$2.00 service fee deducted and with \$40.00 cash on hand – Ending Balance \$9,999.35. Minus: \$91.51 uniform fund & 332.46 humanitarian fund, \$250.00 T4Ts Coordinator fund, 400.00 Commandant Expense leaves General Use at \$8,925.38. Motion to accept from Rick Thomason, second from Joe Pasarik. Motion passed

Sickbay Report: None

Officers Report: None

New Business

Dave Sannes - reviewed Toys For Tots. Mentioned banquet to honor volunteers at warehouse. From after action report: 5,600 toys, 1,448 books and nearly 7,000 stocking stuffers were given out to 1,792 children. At the banquet each civilian volunteer was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation, five members were awarded Individual Meritorious Commendations. Rick Thomason, James Wagoner, Pat Milligan, William Blackmon and Mike Pressley. The highlight of the evening was Carl Johnson receiving the Detachment marine of the Year Award. The warehouse has been moved to a location found by Rick Thomason. It has electricity, is dry and would provide enough room for the collection and sorting of toys next year. It does not, however; lend itself to distribution of toys to individual families. Membership is encouraged to continue to be on alert for a location that would. Rick mentions Peacemakers is right around the corner, should check if they could help. Salvation Army is discussed.

Carl Johnson - Advised that the Elks Lodge has been reserved for Sunday, November 11. Sunday evening was an economical decision. Rick Thomason is recognized as chairperson of last year's event. When asked if he'd serve again his reply was affirmative. Discussion then went to initiating an ad book, it's not too early to get started. Charles Minton will be asked to supervise printing. Mike Pressley is asked and accepted responsibility to collect and keep track of membership efforts. July was set as start time to approach businesses. Leo will be asked about his cadet's availability for

ceremony. \$25.00 a person was set cost of attendance. Additional activities, fund raising tactics was discussed, raffle, action, drawing for pre-purchased party favors, etc. Live music was discussed and vetoed. Carl suggested a member be responsible to contact surrounding units about supporting the event. Discussed went back to tactics procedures, coordinating with Mike Pressley, for coordinating the add book and acquiring items for fund raising. Add book ads should start no later than July. When soliciting ads try to get items donated for auction. Carl mentioned we made \$3,000.00 on the add book.

David Sannes - Members attending the staff meeting discussed idea again of meeting for breakfast to be out in the public as Marines simply for exposure. Discussion resulted in doing it at the Highway Diner the morning of the monthly flag ceremony at 0800. Those attending ceremony would be in long sleeve blues, everyone should wear something that identifies them as a Marine.

David Sannes - We have talked in the past of organizing an event that would become an annual outing that the community would relate to the MCL, would recognize it as an annual affair, that was something for the whole family. We spoke about a mud run, or something similar. Many options were thought to be out of reach because of the manpower it would require to organize and staff it. During Toys For Tots the membership rallies together; during that period every winter there is a proliferation of brotherhood and camaraderie that lessens after it ends. We should have at least one other mid-year project that is something everyone can contribute to that would promote that kind of fellowship amongst the members. Mentioned a food or clothing drive that is a 36-hour vigil. Get Bullocks trailer, have coffee, hot chocolate, advertise via paper, posters, word of mouth through civic organizations. Coordinate with Walmart (or elsewhere) to setup. Members come in shifts. Just something that revitalizes the camaraderie we experienced during toys for tots. The rewards could be a tighter unit that continues to find reasons to gather as a group.

Joe Pizarik Rifle Raffle. We were at about 70 tickets, then we had 30 turned in that brought us back up to 100. People are asking "when are we going to draw". We need to finish this up. We hope we're down to 76. Unless those that are out are not or will not be sold. Discussion was setting a date and pulling regardless of sales, we are up a few thousand dollars. Decided to ask all members to have tickets or money in by April meeting. Determine where we stand financially and set the April meeting as the drawing. We would encourage a final drive during the month of March.

Rick Thomason - Spoke of a \$1,000.00 electric bill at Veteran's Home. Mentioned a grant that will replace windows but explained while a grant may be sought for a specific item, they are not available for routine costs of operation. Asks the Detachment to commit \$100.00 a month toward the maintenance (electric bill) of the veteran's home. Rick went on to talk about the last staff meeting. Those present just had an enjoyable time over a cup of coffee or a beer talking about a lot of common topics, many of which had nothing to do with the league till after 2115. Rick threw out the idea of outside of a staff meeting or any other business meeting just to get together at his shop. He'd cook up a pot of chili, everyone brings drink of choice. Just hang out, he and the staff members thought it would be a lot of fun. There is a TV, could be around a ball game and there are sofas available if someone can't drive home.

William Blackmon steps forward and before the topic is lost, makes a motion that the detachment obligates \$100.00 / month towards the veteran's home. Carl Johnson seconds the motion. Discussion provides a quick synopsis of detachment's check book history, and some of the fund-raising events already planned. It was determined the detachment could handle it financially. Discussion included making the commitment a line item in the financial report. Vote was called, motion passed that we would write a monthly check.

Pat Milligan takes podium to open nominations for 2018-2019 Detachment Officer's. Elections will be held at the April meeting. Current officers with exception of Judge Advocate are eligible to remain in office for an additional year. The incoming Judge Advocate will have the task of re-writing the detachment bylaws.

Rick Thomason nominates David Sannes for Commandant

Dave Sannes nominates Joe Pizarik for Sr Vice Commandant

William Blackmon nominates Pat Milligan, Pat Milligan nominates Rick Ferguson, Dave Sannes nominates Larry Hill all for Jr Vice Commandant

Pat Milligan nominates Mike Pressley, Pat Milligan nominates William Blackmon for Judge Advocate

Good of the League:

Rick Thomason goes over the dates and location of all upcoming organization meetings / conventions occurring between the present up to the nation convention in August. Discussion covered different aspects of each for newer members. Rick discusses the merit of wearing updated league ribbons to these events.

Mike Black has no district business but updates members on his son's Army assignments.

Joes Pisarik Explains problems that led up to VFW having to replace a heating/cooling unit to the tune of \$4,700. Asks the detachment if they are able to help with the cost of that unit. Rick Thomason makes motion the detachment does contribute, leaving the amount open to discussion. Second by Pat Milligan. Discussion starts with the fact that we have had use of the building for any and every occasion we have requested, free. Joe points out that we have helped in the past with other needs which were appreciated, no pressure, but the need is present. Membership agrees the detachment can support a contribution of \$1,000.00 for the heating unit. Vote is called and approved. Carl Johnson steps up and personally pledges an additional \$400.00.

Closing Ceremony

Sergeant at Arms Claude Battle retires the colors

Chaplain William Blackmon reads closing prayer, Sr Vice Joe Pisarik reads closing statement.

Sergeant at Arms Claude Battle declares the meeting officially closed until Monday, March 5, 2018.