

Marine Corps League

Cpl. Suzi Sannes

Detachment 1262

VFW Post 2057, NC Hwy 97

Rocky Mount, NC

07 January 2015

Opening Ceremony:

At 1900 hours Commandant Rick Thomason instructed Sergeant at Arms, Claude Battle to secure the quarters. Seventeen active members and two guests were present. The posting of colors, salute to the flag, and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Sergeant at Arms, Claude Battle.

The Bible was opened and the opening prayer was read by Chaplin Melvin Wolfe.

The meeting was declared open for the transaction of official business by Sergeant at Arms Claude Battle.

Roll Call of Officers:

Conducted by Detachment Chaplin, Mel Wolfe. All present with the following exceptions; Judge Advocate Leo Nieves-Absent, Adjutant Donna Minton-Excused, Public Relations Moonie Sloan-Absent, and Amber Rushton – Excused, Historian James Berardi – absent, and National Web Sergeant Lori Sannes - Excused.

Visiting Guests:

Andy Anderson – perspective member, 2nd visit. A special welcome also given to member and Rocky Mount's newest Marine; Josh Minton.

Introduction of New Memebers: None

Guest Speaker: Rick Thomason introduces Kirk Scott, Executive Director of the Christian Fellowship Home of Nash and Edgecombe Counties. Kirk hits highlights – 41 year history – mission to help men with substance abuse problems – extent of problem. Explains home is a 12 bed halfway house for men who have gone through treatment and have made a commitment to (1) 100 % abstinence, (2) work a program, (3) get a job, (4) practice personal responsibility. Kirk then told his own story and how he has witnessed hundreds of successes. Kirk continues by explaining a new development that he feels our members will have particular interest in. The organization has accepted a donation from Church on the Rise of a house that will be used as a 6 bed transitional residential facility for homeless veterans in Nash and Edgecombe Counties. Indicating it is the only such house in our county and support from organizations such as ours is important to its success. Not ready now for referrals, but hoping to be in March. Closes with an open invite to visit the halfway house at 301 So Grace St. Short questions session and a 10 minute recess.

Correspondence: Wesleyan College sends letter of appreciation for \$300.00 donation. Email received about a NC Young Marine who has won Division 3 competition and is heading to Las Vegas as one of only 6 Young Marines competing in national finals.

Old Business:

January Minutes: Rick Thomason announces that the minutes of last meeting were emailed to the members, further that he would entertain a motion to accept them as presented. Motion to accept the November Minutes was made by Rick Ferguson, second by Walt Pridgen. Unanimous vote taken and accepted.

Paymaster Report: Paymaster report: opening balance is \$6984.72. Listed deposits totaling \$240.00 for memberships – total checking \$7224.72. Listed payouts: PNC statement fee - \$2.00, T4Ts \$125.00 (donation from Am Legion Post 58 deposited 11/25/15), other \$127.00, totaling \$327.00 - total checking \$6897.72, cash on hand \$40.00 (50/50) Totaling \$6937.72. Previous monies voted as dedicated were listed as Uniform fund @ \$91.51; Scout fund @ \$655.35; Humanitarian fund at \$212.46. Leaves the Detachment \$5978.40 total general use. Motion to accept paymaster report by Joe Pisarik, second by Bill Knight. Unanimous vote taken and accepted.

Sickbay Report: Bill Adcock – no update, Fred David doing better. Had hoped to attend tonight's meeting, Wally Darling doing better, his care going forward not yet determined, Moonie Sloan – no update, Mike McNeely is not doing well, he's out of the hospital but lung disorder continues to present challenges.

Officers Reports:

Sr. V Cmdt/T4T Dave Sannes – Opened with fund raising. Noting past difficulties from limited participation by membership. Opened discussion as to whether those present thought raffling off 100 consecutive NC scratch off tickets would be something everyone felt they could and would, in fact, ask friends and associates to purchase for \$5.00. Discussion touched on: how far out would drawing be – Joe Pisarik emphasizes all hands effort essential – Dave S. asks if people could sell 20 tickets – Lisa Ferguson suggest 10 tickets less daunting – Dave Evans suggests awarding prizes to members selling most tickets / better results by introducing competition / prizes could be local donations – Rick Thomason covers seriousness of this effort and that we can only legally have two raffles a year, have to be successful. Discussion ends without final decisions being made.

Sr Vice then calls David Evans and Pat Milligan front and center for special recognition. Commanders Awards and Cpl Suzi Sannes Det. challenge coins are awarded for exceptional contributions of time and energies to 2015 Toys For Tots campaign.

Jr. V. Cmdt. Rick Ferguson - Mentions that members had voiced interest in and wiliness to participate in the My Fitness Pal program he mentioned in December. Rick again stressed taking care of ourselves is a serious topic. He went on to mention other programs that could tie in.

Paymaster Larry Hill – reminder Mid Winter conference March 3-5, in Falls Church VA, has sign up sheets avail, deadline Feb 8, banquet \$60.00. Detachment will pay for registration, but if you don't show up you will reimburse Detachment. Ed Holloman, Tom Mignosa, Jeri Mann coming up for renewal.

Sgt at Arms Claud Battle – nothing

Chaplain Mel Wolfe – nothing

Dept Cmdt Charles Minton - nothing!!!!???

Cmdt Rick Thomason – encourages all members to attend Department and National events. Stressing the fun and brotherhood advantages. Pound 210 growl January 9 at Am Legion post 67 in Cary. By Laws have been submitted, not back as of yet.

Marine of the Year award presented to Mary Francis Dinan by Rick Thomason, Rick Ferguson, and Dave Sannes. She was emotional, overwhelmed and truly thankful. Members are encouraged to call, let her know there is help avail at any time.

New Business:

Elections; Jan and Feb are nominations for officers – March is the elections – April is installation of officers. Cmdt asks attending Dept Cmdt Charles Minton to officiate nominations for officers. Nominations are opened for Cmdt, Sr Cmdt, Jr Cmdt and Judge Advocate.

Tom Deaner nominates Rick Thomason for Cmdt. No other nominations.

Tom Milligan nominates Dave Sannes for Sr Vice. No other nominations.

Tom Deaner nominates Rick Ferguson for JrVice. Dave Sannes nominates David Evans for Jr Vice. No other nominations.

Walt Pridgon nominates David Evans for Judge Advocate. Rick Ferguson nominates Pat Milligan for Judge Advocate. No other nominations.

Officers Forum:

Sr Vice - none

Jr Vice - none

Sgt at Arms - none

Chaplain - none

Cmdt Talks about instituting a buddy system. Used Wally Darling situation as an example of how important it can be. By “executive order” we are going to put it into practice. Rick asks Pat Milligan to use his talents to map locations and assign buddies by geographical locations. Rick further explains what the duties of being a “buddy” should entail.

Establish an Awards Committee. To recognize people / business’ in the community. Asks for a volunteer – David Evans accepts the challenge.

Good of the League:

Dave Sannes displays uniform items that have been provided by wives of our deceased members. Runs through a quick inventory. First come – first serve at end of meeting.

Rick Thomason talks of flag protocol. Spoke of a salute if you happen to break colors

Carl Johnson announces that the Carl Johnson Vending Machine Co. will pay the cost of printing any needed raffle tickets. Round of applause.

Tom Deaner mentions a 50th anniversary for Viet Nam Veterans to be held on March 30 at Executive Center, 1021 WH Smith Blvd, Greenville.

Rick Thomason informs Joe Pisarik (VFW) and Bill Knight (Am Legion) Kirk Scott will accept invites to speak at their meetings. Encouraging all military organizations to support the new residence for our homeless vets.

Closing Ceremony:

Silence observed to honor our deceased members

Commandant calls on Sergeant of Arms to retire the colors.

Chaplain Melvin Wolfe reads closing prayer.

Sr. Vice Commandant reads closing statement.

Sergeant of Arms declares meeting officially closed for business till Monday, February 1, 2016.

Meeting closed - Ordered by and approved by Commandant Rick Thomason

First verse of Marine Corps Hymn sung (well verbalized)

Prepared by: David Sannes, reviewed by Donna Minton – Adjutant