



VFW POST 10262
POST MEETING
March 8th, 2021



**Our Post December meeting was also a Teleconference
 And in-person meeting.**

- Adjutant Ron Stoflet provided the electronic equipment to support a Teleconference Meeting. The meeting was open to Call-in's at 6:40 PM.

The business meeting was called to order by: Commander Tessmann at 19:06 hrs.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS/ANYONE WAITING: Richard Moore sat in the meeting on the commander's request to talk about the Portage County Business Council.

Opening Prayer: Read by Chaplain Raschka.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge Was recited by all members.

Draping/Undraping of the Charter:

- The Charter was **DRAPED** for former Post Veteran Greg Michelkamp.

Recitation of section 230102 of the Congressional Charter:

- Was recited by all.

Roll Call of officers.

Present	12
Excused	0
Absent	1

VFW Members Present 22 members physically present plus (2) Call-in's.

A big thankyou to all who called in and joined our meeting!

Membership Statistics, APPLICATIONS, TRANSFERS & SWEARING-IN OF NEW MEMBERS;
 Senior Vice

Membership	Post 10262	90.24 %
	District # 7	93.3 %
	Dept. WI	92.4 %
	National	89.45

Submissions of Meeting Minutes of previous month: February minutes were accepted with no changes.

QUARTERMASTER REPORT. Quartermaster Berg Reading/Reviewing of financial status; QM Berg reported that our income is currently down 18%. The Canteen is down about 16%. The machine income has picked up along with the up-tick in Friday Fish-Fry's and the Canteen Patrons.

Motion to Accept the QM report was made by Comrade Suchon and seconded by Comrade Halverson. The Motion carried.

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT: Comrade Mockler.

No report.

MEMBER OR FAMILY MEMBER IN DISTRESS:

Comrade Mugridge had minor surgery and is pretty well recovered. Jim Cline has recovered and is back! It was reported that John Hanson is doing well.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE Asst. ADJUTANT:

- **Adj Strasser** read a letter to the Post that was passed on through Asst. HC Chair Mockler stating that Janelle Brown; our cleaning contractor has submitted her Letter of Resignation effective March 5th.
- We received a letter from the UWSP Military Science Dept. reporting that they will not be hosting their Annual Military Ball due to the current pandemic situation. A small Awards Ceremony will be held on May 13th. They are asking if we will still consider our scholarship. To be considered at the April Post Meeting.
- Fifty of the KN-94 Masks offered to Korean War Vets and those who served in Korea are ordered by Village of Plover Dan Mahoney. No word on when they will be in!
- The Post received a letter from the DOT Construction Project Manager explaining the Reconstruct of business 51. I logged into the Virtual Construction information Meeting and viewed the project plans. The project is scheduled to start this spring and ends in the fall of 2022. (Springville Drive to Hickory Drive). Focusing just on the Springville Dam, construction will require a 3-week closure of Business 51 to build the new spillway for the dam. This could occur sometime in July or August.
- Our Portage County Tavern League is hosting the State Tavern League Convention. VFW Post 10262 took a small \$75.00 quarter page, (business card size) AD in their pamphlet.
- We received a Thank you card from the James R Miskowski family for our amazing Tribute, (Military Honors) for their deceased father!
- Our Post received a "WOW" thank you card, "you are truly amazing" from the Stevens Point Boys and Girls Club and a letter from the Executive Director Kevin Quevillon for the Golf Committees donation of \$375.00 ea. to both Plover and Stevens Point Boys & Girls Clubs.
- We received a thank you letter from Ascension St. Michael's Foundation for \$100.00 donation.
- We received a \$100.00 Check from the Poczatek family in honor of Deceased VET and Post member James Catlin.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT: Adjutant Stoflet

Below is the current activity report that has been received and submitted on your behalf. Although we are doing well as a post, we are lagging behind where we would normally be at this time. I know the past year has been tough to get out and about. I am asking you to put your thinking caps on and report anything that you have done that could be reported as community service.

Past common submissions have been;

- 1) Aid to their neighbor, snow shoveling, leaf pickup.
- 2) Blood donations.
- 3) Transport others to Dr. Apt.

4) Helping youth.... i.e. taking time out to help grandkids with school work as parents are working

Thanks for your support!

POST 10262 Community Service Report (Jan '21)

Category	# Reports	# Members	Hours	Costs	Miles	IRS Mileage (\$0.14 Mile)	Volunteer Time Costs (\$24.69 /hr)	Total Dollar Value
Community Service	23	97	267	\$2,279	1,445	\$202	\$6,592	\$9,074
Youth Activities	4	10	10	\$3,100	0	\$0	\$247	\$3,347
Hospital	0	0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Citizenship Education	19	31	55	\$0	610	\$85	\$1,358	\$1,443
NAMS	3	3	3	\$700	0	\$0	\$74	\$774
Safety Programs	0	0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Legislative Action	0	0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Buddy Poppy	0	0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	49	141	335	\$6,079	2,055	\$288	\$8,271	\$14,638

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Comrade Mockler; Comrade Mockler announced that he was stepping down from the House Committee and also stated that Ray Gauthier is stepping down from the House Committee. He stated that he and his wife Gale would continue with the Asst. HC Chair duties until the New Committee members begin their duties. They will work with and continue to bring Barb Schultz up to speed on the procedures with the Bar operations, the Bartender money bags etc. until they feel she is comfortable to assume the duties.

- Commander Tessmann questioned Mockler as to Ray Gauthier's intentions and Mockler stated he didn't know for sure but, his daughter had just sent a Text message to Guy, to meet her outside the post, where she turned over to him a briefcase with all Ray Gauthiers VFW property.
- Commander Tessmann brought up the need to increase the number of tables and bar stools for patron use for dinning and bar patrons. The question was asked if we were aware of what the Portage County Health Care policy currently is, and should we know before we consider expanding the seating. Asst. HC Chair Mockler reminded the membership that the Post agreed to follow the CDC opening guidelines when the Post opened after the May Meeting. Membership discussion continued on for a lengthy period and "Hedged" around increasing the seating space to about 75% capacity and that figures out to about 145 seats.
- A motion was made to increase the seating to 75% capacity by Comrade Ransbottom and was seconded by HC Asst. Chair Mockler, stating the HC would go along with that... The motion carried

- The HC Asst. Chair reminded Commander Tessmann that the number to tables and chairs increase in the dining room would have to be worked out with Jake, the Kitchen Contractor.
- Commander Tessmann announced that Jake has asked permission the host a traditional St. Patrick's Day meal on the 17th of March. Corned Beef & Cabbage etc. Because the current Kitchen operating days is currently limited to Thursday and Friday, the Commander would accept a motion to make an exception and allow the St. Patrick's Day Meal. The Motion was made by Comrade Mockler and seconded by Comrade Ransbottom. The motion carried.
- The Commander informed the membership that we needed to hire a new cleaning contractor and offer \$12.00 per hour for a starting wage.
- Mary Colegrove has agreed to assume more duties as the Bar Supervisor and the Commander recommended increasing her wages to \$14.25 per hour.
- Barb Schultz agreed to take on additional responsibilities as Bar Manager and the Commander recommended her wages increase to \$18.00 per hour. The membership was reminded by Comrade Mockler that it was the HC responsibility to deal with employee wages, but Commander Tessmann has assumed the position of House Committee Chair, because of the HC Chair's absence and reportedly "stepping-down" as a HC Member. Commander Tessmann asked for a motion to approve the employee wage increases and to start effective the 9th of March, for Mary Colegrove and Barb Schultz. A motion was made by Comrade Ransbottom and was seconded by Comrade Wysocki. The motion carried without objection.
- Tim Colegrove has offered the support of a personal Fogger to sanitize the inside of the Post, stating one application will last for a month. Members familiar with the procedure explained how effective the process is and mentioned all the necessary precautions needed to be taken to protect the bar stock and kitchen equipment and work space. This will not replace a cleaning contractor but will cut down on the hours required by the cleaner to sanitize the post.
- The issue of how to deal with the Gambling Machine "Pay-out" is creating issues in that occasionally, the winner's payout takes nearly all of the money from the Cash Register, thus limiting the Bartenders to not being able to cash bills. Discussions on how to handle this problem took place with much input and suggestions from members. After much discussion, the commander asked for a motion to create a separate money bag designated for gambling machine pay-outs. The money bag would be stocked with \$2000.00 cash, \$1000 from the Post and \$1000 from the machine vendor. The details would be worked out with the Bartenders and Bar Manager. A motion was made by Comrade Anderson and seconded by Comrade Wysocki. The motion carried.
- The pressing issue with Bar operating hours was extensively discussed and the membership agreed to change the operating hours as follows:
 1. Tues, Wed & Thursday, open at 2:00 PM and close at 11:00 PM.
 2. Friday, Sat & Sunday; open at 2:00 PM until closing time.

Rifle Squad:

- Comrade Mockler mentioned two funerals, one last Friday for Greg Michelkamp and the other the previous week.

Golf Committee: Comrade Stoflet.

Comrade Stoflet stated that a 2021 Golf Tournament is being planned. The first meeting was held March 1st. Serving food was discussed as to where it will be served, here at the Post or the Golf Course. The next meeting is scheduled for next Monday. March 15th at 7:00 PM.

CITIZENSHIP, EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT Committee:

Comrade Anderson. No report

Scholarship Committee:

Comrade Zynda stated that he will be taking the Scholarship application information to the High Schools maybe this week.

Voice of Democracy & Patriot's Pen & Teacher of the Year.

Comrade Strasser; mentioned that Comrade Raschka's Grand Daughter, our Post VOD winner was on the SPASH Gymnastics team that competed at the State level. She became the State Champion in her individual Gymnastics skill event. Raschka mentioned that she currently is the Manager at "Belts".

Military Assistance Program: Ron Charneski

- Ron reported that the MAP is waiting out the Covid-19 situation before they look at scheduling anything.

Surgeon: Comrade Yelkin:

- No report.

Poppy Committee: Comrade Mugridge;

- Comrade Mugridge mentioned that he was planning a Poppy Event during May.

Donations Committee: Asst. Adj. Strasser reported:

- Auxiliary member Diane requested a donation of a Bottle of Booze or something to fill a basket to support the Portage County Tavern League's Spring Fundraiser on April 5th. At the Double Down in Kellner. A motion was made to donate a bottle of booze by Comrade Ransbottom and seconded by Comrade Engel. The motion carried.
- Easter Seals of Wisconsin is looking for support for funding a Veteran Family at Camp Wawbeek Veterans Family Camp during the 2021 -2022 family camp period! The fall session is Sept 24th - 26th. Options are \$250.00 for Partial Support and \$500.00 for one Veteran Family. The request for funding was presented and a motion was made by Comrade Mockler to not support the request because it was not local. The motion was seconded by Comrade Halverson. The motion carried. During the discussion of the issue, Comrade Strasser reminded members that the Post has a lot of money in the Relief fund that no one seems able to find a place or cause to use it on. The fund is to support Veterans and this camp is for Veterans and their Family. Commander Tessmann mentioned to the members that we are netting money every month and piling up money for/in a "Rainy-Day Fund" that we need to use and support Veterans and Community events with more genericity. Our checking account has a very large amount of money in it. Comrade Mockler made a motion to rescind his motion and Comrade Zynda seconded the rescinding motion. The motion Carried. Comrade Worzalla made a motion to support a family for \$500.00. The motion was seconded by Comrade Verhage. The motion carried.
- The Post Vietnam Veterans Club members are intending to have a Vietnam Veterans celebration on the 27th of March. They have requested \$200.00 to help support the celebration. A meal is planned to be served between 4:00 to 6:00 PM. A motion was made by Comrade

Suchon to support the \$200.00 request and Comrade Ransbottom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The 8:00 PM Prayer along with the closing prayer was read by Chaplain Raschka.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Bar operating hours were voted upon by the membership during the Feb 8th meeting and established that operating hours on Tuesday, Wednesday Saturday & Sunday would be open at 2:00 PM and close at 11:00 PM. On Thursday and Friday, Open at 2:00 PM and close when less than four (4) customer were in the BAR. This issue was resolved in the HC portion of the minutes.
- Portage County Business Council Executive Director Todd Kuckkahn met with Comrade Strasser and explained how the Post could benefit with membership even at the lowest level.
 1. Their “basic” annual program is \$325.00.
 2. The opportunities for us, the Post to be recognized and acknowledged within the Business Council and Community are abundant.

Todd pointed out 11 different options to connect to our region:

1. One of the areas of opportunity is the visibility and promotion on face book and blog articles.
 - a. Job Postings (Including Online Video Promotions), News Releases.
 - b. Member events
 - c. Our Logo on Member Profile.
2. Our news in the PCBC Business Briefs in “The Active Voice” digital Magazine...
3. Opportunity to be spotlighted as “Monday Member Spotlight”.
4. Mailing lists of over 5000 addresses. This is not all of the opportunities available with the Low Package that suggests a \$325.00 entry for a value of more than \$900.00.

After a few negative comments and many positive comments, the Commander asked for a motion on the issue. Comrade Worzalla made a motion to “buy into” the \$325.00 program that was seconded by Comrade Ran bottom. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- Commander Tessmann returned from a Construction Project in South Carolina just before Superbowl Sunday to find several serious issues that were “festering” concerning the House Committee Chair Ray Gauthier, Bar Supervisor Mary Colegrove, the Post Bartenders and Jenelle Brown, Gauthier’s daughter. She had been employed at the post as a Contact Cleaner, because of the Covid issues. The issue centered around **carry-in food** that was planned for the Superbowl Party. As Commander Tessmann looked deeper into the issues that he felt were a serious problem, he determined that our current House Committee SOP allowed the HC Chair Gauthier to be physically absent from the post for over four months, yet he attempted to retain tight control of the HC and the Canteen activities with phone calls and watching our post Security Cameras. Commander Tessmann determined that the HC Chair Gauthier created a state of dysfunction within the HC in attempting to control the HC and the Canteen from afar.
- To correct this problem and any problems in the future, Commander Tessmann directed a complete review of the HC Sop and rewrite changes into the SOP that requires **the three Key Positions of importance** within the HC, the Commander, Quartermaster and the HC Chair, when accepting nominations to those Key positons of importance, should include a commitment to being available twelve months each year, barring unforeseen circumstances and emergencies.
- An email memorandum was sent out to all Post members on Feb 28th outlining the changes that needed to be reviewed by them, and to bring their comments and concerns to the March 8th Meeting.

- On March 1st, a copy of the changed HC SOP was emailed out to all Post members with email addresses. The changes were “highlighted in yellow” for their ease of finding and reviewing of the changes. Instructions to members were to review the changes and bring their issues to the March 8th Post Meeting.
- After 15 minutes of explanations and discussions with the members present of the circumstances that led up to this point, and his decisions on the changes to the SOP, Commander Tessmann was ready to accept a motion on the changes. Comrade Ransbottom made a motion to approve the draft as written. Comrade Halverson seconded the motion. The motion carried with one exception to change one word from must to should in in Para 2. The motion carried.
- Comrade Stoflet requested that a Phone message from HC Chair Gauthier be entered into the minutes stating that he, Gauthier intended to attend the meeting by phone but (Gauthier) was advised by his Attorney to not have contact with anyone form the post until all of the documents were studied, and he would then advise him on how he would respond!
- The current House Committee SOP Para 5.reads that the HC shall employ such personnel, including Bar Manager and/or Canteen Supervisor. We currently do not have a Bar Manager The HC may immediately appoint one of its own to act as a Temporary manager until a new BAR manager is employed. Post Commander Tessmann, (with his second hat on) acting as the HC Chairman due to the absence of the elected HC Chair, has asked the membership to consider appointing Barb Schultz as the Temporary Bar Manager. Bar Manager Duties have been agreed upon with the Commander and Barb... The Bar Managers duties are separate from the Canteen Supervisors. The Commander asked for a motion from the membership to hire Barb Schultz as a temporary Bar Manager. A motion was made by Comrade Ransbottom and seconded by Comrade Halverson. The motion carried.
- The issue to hire a New Bar Manager was brought up and it was determined that a committee needed to be established to search for and recommend/hire a new Bar Manager. A motion was made by Comrade Verhage and seconded by Comrade Ransbottom. To form the Committee. The motion carried.
- Commander Tessmann brought it to the attention of the membership, the fact that he had erroneously informed HC Chairman Gauthier that he had relieved and removed him of the HC Chair of his HC duties.
 - a. Podium Edition 2020 Manual, Congressional Charter/Bylaws, Procedure Ritual Sec. 220- Vacancies and Removal of Elected Officers or Committee Members describes the proper procedures for this action.
 - b. Removal – Post. A Post may, upon motion duly passed at any meeting, propose the removal of an officer or committee member at the next regular or special meeting.
 - c. The Post, at the next regular meeting, may by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting, declare vacant the position of any elected officer or elected chairman or committee member who may have:
 2. Failed to fulfill the duties of the office specified in Section 218 of the Bylaws and Manuel of Procedure.
 - Section. 218 – Officers and Chairmen, Duties and Obligations.
 - (a) Officers (1) Commander. C. Insist that Post business and activities be conducted in such a manner that they do not violate applicable government law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment upon the Post, its members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Commander Tessmann asked the membership for a motion for removal from office, HC Chairman Gauthier. A motion for removal from office of HC Chairman Gauthier, IAW the above listed regulations at the next scheduled meeting, was made by Comrade Ransbottom.

The motion was seconded by Comrade Halverson. Of 22 members present, 20 members voted in favor of removal, and two were opposed. The motion carried

Sec. 218 – (a) (4) Commander **pro Tempore**. In the event the neither the Commander, Sr. Vice or Jr. Vice is present, the Post shall elect a Commander Pro Tempore to preside at the meeting of the Post. Past Commander Scott Halverson volunteered and was nominated to fill the Position. The Post membership approved the nomination.

Commander Tessmann opened nominations for the 2021-2022 Elected slate of officers;

For Commander; (Al Tessmann) was nominated; For Sr. Vice Cdr.(Mark Wysocki) was nominated; For Jr Vice Cdr. (Brandon Taylor) was nominated & (Don Mugridge) were nominated; For Quartermaster, (Darrell Berg) was nominated, for Chaplain (Frank Raschka) was nominated; for 3 yr. Trustee (David Verhage) was nominated. For 3yr. HC Member (Steve Ransbottom) was nominated; For 2 yr. HC Member (Perry Engel) Was Nominated.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- **The AMVETS** Spring Fund raiser is still scheduled for next spring, April 26th 2021
- Bob Munro Service to Veterans Award Program. The purpose of the award is to honor those among and around us who go above and beyond ordinary efforts in support of Veterans, Active Duty Troops and their families. One awarded to a VFW Member or group of members for their service as members, and one awarded to an individual or group that, although ineligible to belong to our organization or its Auxiliaries, nonetheless has demonstrated excellence in supporting our goals. Any thoughts on this???
- Comrade Tessmann has selected Tim & Mary Colegrove as candidates for the Bob Munro awards.
- The 7th District Spring Meeting is in Wausau April 25th.
- The Vietnam Veterans Committee is planning and Veterans Celebration on March 27th with a meal being served from 4:00 PM to 6:00 Pm. Tim & Mary Colegrove will work with the Committee for the meal prep!

•

Birthdays & Anniversary's:

- March Birthdays and Anniversaries were read by Adj. Strasser.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO EVERYONE!

Closing Prayer: Read by Chaplain Raschka.

Adjournment: 21:38 Hrs.

Next Meeting 19:00 Hrs. April 12th, 2021

Respectfully submitted by:

Norb Strasser
Adjutant