



THE AMERICAN LEGION
JEFFERY S. HOLMES POST 84

October 5, 2023
MEETING MINUTES

The meeting convened at 1800 hours by Commander Dennis Brown.

Excused absence: Sam Zucker

Roll call by Second Vice Commander Penny Johnson (Sam Zucker out). Present were: Commander and Judge Advocate Dennis Brown, First Vice Commander and Historian Howard Bixby, Second Vice Commander Penny Johnson, Adjutant and Finance Officer Scott Holmes, Chaplain Luther Johnson, Past Commander Charles Patch and member Bill Brown. Visiting guests were Ben Gardner (HHS) and Patti Holmes.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the September 7, 2023 meeting were read by Past Commander Charles Patch. Motion to accept by Scott Holmes and seconded by Bill Brown. Approved with the minor correction of asking Bill Brown to submit his volunteer hours on a monthly basis.

Guest speaker: Ben Gardner from Hartford High School spoke regarding the power of relationships and one-on-one skills with

children in need. Ben spoke of his credentials and about his job at HHS (which includes Assistant Principal). There are many children and youth in our school system that could greatly benefit from spending mentoring time with an adult who can help teach them skills, listen to them, guide them, etc. If you are interested in being a mentor in some way, please contact Ben Gardner at:

gardnerb@hartfordschools.net

work: 802-295-8610 ext. 2101

mobile: 802-356-7031

Finance Report:

1. Finance Officer Scott Holmes reported that we have \$14,280.20 in the bank. All bills have been paid.
2. Golf tournament brought in \$5,024.96 (after Big Fatty's check comes in) and monies have been deposited.
3. Next budget meeting will be in April or May.
4. The report was accepted and filed for audit.

Service Report: None

Membership:

1. We have 30 (72.5%) paid up members for fiscal year 2023-24. Our goal is 40 members by the end of December 2023.
2. There is ongoing membership recruitment.
3. Scott Holmes brought up that he would like to reach out to the older unpaid members to see if they would like to continue as a member and was wondering if the Post could pay for their dues. This would be directed at those who cannot afford their dues. Discussion was had. Charles Patch made a motion that Post 84 allocate \$350 to pay the dues of

the unpaid members if they choose to remain a member. Luther Johnson seconded the motion. All were in favor; zero opposed. Commander Brown stated he would like to accompany Scott Holmes on this endeavor.

Americanism: Scott Holmes and Luther Johnson fixed three flags on Route 5 that were in disarray.

Children and Youth:

1. Athletics – Scott Holmes will be attending a Legion baseball meeting on October 15, 2023 in Ludlow, VT.
2. The baseball account will be paying Hartford Parks & Recreation \$480 for the use of the Maxfield Complex.
3. Charles Patch will reach out for Boys State and Girls State.
4. Patti Holmes will reach out to The Haven regarding the Christmas party for this year.

Legal: None.

Publicity: None.

Service Officer: None.

Old Business:

1. Golf
 - a. Everyone was in agreement that the tournament went well this year.
 - b. Charles Patch would like to put a thank you in a Friday edition of the Valley News at the cost of \$375. Penny Johnson made a motion to have the Post pay the

\$375 for the Valley News ad and was seconded by Bill Brown. No discussion. All in favor.

2. The date of September 21 has been chosen for the 2024 golf tournament to be played at Montague. A contract will be drawn up.
3. Hometown banners: Commander Brown has been in touch with Scott Hausler from Hartford Parks & Rec. They will be meeting again to discuss further details. More info continues to be needed.
4. WWI & WWII memorial: Progress has been made; more to come.
5. Website: Will get more info from Sam Zucker at the November meeting.

Comrades in distress: Sam Zucker

Commander Brown's at-a-boy and at-a-girl mentions: Sam Zucker for his excellent taking of meeting minutes. Sam Zucker for putting the golf tournament in the Hartford Listserve. Scott Holmes for being on top of the finances. Charles Patch for chairing the golf tournament. Luther Johnson for taking one for the team (got hit by a golf ball). Luther Johnson mowed the Blue Star Memorial area once again.

Correspondence: The Fall Conference will be held in Vergennes, VT on Saturday, October 14, 2023. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. Scott Holmes will be attending and asked if anyone would like to join him.

The meeting adjourned at 2000 hours.

Next meeting, Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 6:00 PM, at WRJ VA, Freedom Building (formally Building 44), Room 103a.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Holmes (Guest)