

Disabled American Veterans

Calhoun County Chapter 7

PO Box 200

Battle Creek, MI 49016

07/17/2012

1900: Commander Ed Holden opened the meeting.

Chaplin Allen Abels read the prayer.

Adjutant Jerry Schmidt called the roll. 6 Officers, 8 Members and 1 Guest were present. The guest was Andrew Ferguson, the new DAV VSO at the Medical Center.

The minutes were passed out, Al Abeles made the motion to accept them as written, subject to any corrections. Dave Martin seconded, motion carried.

Treasures report: Frank Sheperd gave the monthly report, motion was made by Dave Martin and seconded by Bill Roush to accept the report subject to audit, motion carried. Frank Sheperd stated that when he did the Annual report everything balanced as follows:

2010's ending balance: \$37,971.41

This year's income: \$12,710.51

This year's expenses: \$ 7,958.43

2011's ending balance: \$42, 723.49

The monies are disturbed as follows:

Checking: \$9,739.57

Savings: \$15,123.66

CD \$ 17,860.26

For a total of \$42,723.49.

Frank Sheperd asked for the Commander to appoint an audit committee to review the report tonight and approve it so he could send it to National. The Commander picked Dave Martin, Tom Lightbody and Bill Roush to review and sign the report. Frank reported he had sent in our 990 report to the IRS for 2011.

Chaplin's report: No report

Correspondence: Adjutant Jerry Schmidt, read a letter from the Grand Rapid's Veteran Home requesting a donation for the annual carnival which is normally \$100.00, Al Abels made a motion to increase our donation to \$500.00, seconded by Dave Hall, motion carried.

Frank Sheperd reported we also got a letter from Department that we are no longer under the trustees and are back on track.

Also, the Department sent out a copy of the appointments to the 2013 Convention Committees. Jerry Schmidt is Chairman of the Child Welfare and Drug Education Committee, Thrift Store Committee is Bill Roush, and Frank Shepard is on the Dept. Newspaper Committee. The State and National Cemetery Committee is Jackie Carmichael. Jerry Schmidt reported he hand carried a letter to the Department Adjutant at the convention, to fix the mix up between Jackie Carmichael and Jonny Cash.

Membership Committee: No Report

Service Officer: Jerry Schmidt reported he has had several phone calls from veterans and that he was able to help the veteran over the phone. He reported that He and Frank Sheperd had helped a widow, named Annie Champion, with trying to get her roof fixed.

Schmidt also requested from the Membership what exactly are "Their" requirements for a guideline as to who we will help and why and what it takes to get an approval. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that there must be an approval of at least 3 officers, before we can help someone.

Legislative Committee: no report.

Hospital Report: Tom Lightbody reported that they had a good bingo and that the hospital is running fine.

Cemetery: No report

Americanism: Bill Roush reported he was still trying to get pictures from the school to send to Department.

Unfinished Busn: Jerry Schmidt brought up that we needed to let Frank Sheperd know that it was voted on at a prior meeting, that the chapter would pay for Ed Holden and Jerry Schmidt to attend the convention. Jerry has been paid, but not Ed, Jerry explained that the reason it wasn't in the minutes was because he had shut off the tape machine for elections and forgot to turn it back on until after that vote had been taken and chapter busn. had moved on.

Frank Sheperd made a motion that the chapter should pay the expenses (excluding anything that the Department will pay for) for any chapter member that is appointed by Department to sit on a convention committee, seconded by Jerry Schmidt motion carried.

New Busn: Dave Martin reported that the Calhoun County Commission has cut the budget for Veterans Affairs Committee's Burial Fund by \$35,000 which is a non-funded man date for the state of Michigan. And after they took away the \$35,000.00 they gave the County Administrator a big pay raise! They also

want to hit the Committee for another cut, and if the committee doesn't accept it, they are going to cut the girl in the County Veterans office to 32 hours a week. Also there are NO VETERANS on that commission! Plus they want to start to charge any veteran a fee to use the services of the County VSO's which is against Federal stature! He asked each and every member to stop this. The Vet Committee is going to start up a petition to by-pass the County Commission.

Jerry Schmidt reported that the Battle Creek 4 Get Me Not drive will be the last weekend in August the 24th and 25th. We will meet at the Pancake House at 8am. Bill Roush said we had 5,000 flowers.

Jerry stated our next meeting would be August 21, 2012.

Good of the Order: John Cash stated we need a new wreath. Bill Roush said he would check into find a place to buy a new one and report next month.

Cash also asked to for someone to step up and take over one of his offices/committees. No one volunteered.

Meeting was adjointed.