

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ship 1774 Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 10 March 2020

The meeting was called to order by Ship's Captain Jack Porath to conduct any and all business to come before the Ship. Following were conducted:

- Opening Ceremonies were held beginning 1800 hours which included the reading of Special Dates of Remembrance for this month.
- Roll call of officers was held and total attendance was seven shipmates.
- There was not a District 1 representative nor a Past Captain present.
- New and transfer applications were read and approved for processing.
- There were no changes to the minutes of the last meeting; thus, they are approved as written.
- Paymaster report was provided as audited and questions were answered.
- There was no Service Officer Report.

Committee Reports:

- **Membership.** The Captain has continually provided that our youth are slow to recognize the benefits of joining and that they are busy managing or starting their family and career. It was reiterated also that membership has a lot to do with keeping what we have fought for, all wars and generations. Membership is important as it retains our voice with our Nation's leaders, helps protect our earned benefits, and propels us to the future. Membership dues is \$45.00 per year. **Life Membership is strongly encouraged as it is very cost effective and ensures continuous membership.** The first payment for the 12 month pay option is \$45.00 (with 11 additional payments; the cost is age based). The Captain again reiterated that Life Membership is a much better option than maintaining Annual Membership status. If you are currently a yearly paid member, you can change to Life status and pay a monthly installment over a 12-month period or make other arrangements. The renewal date of annual pay members is the initial date of the dues' payment. There is a continual fight in Congress concerning benefits, and belonging to a veterans' organization such as the VFW helps when Congress checks the membership stats. High membership = strong voice!
 - **Buddy Poppy** (Captain) – Our next distribution date will be in the month of May. The locations will be determined based on participation.
 - **Youth Development** (Scouting, JROTC, PP, VOD, etc.). On 23 May, the JROTC luncheon will be held when we will provide a medal and certificate for a worthy cadet.
 - **Citizenship/Community Service** (Law Enforcement, Firefighter, EMT, Lifeguards, Teacher, Community Events) (Captain). For the sacrifices and extreme high-alert of our police officers, keep them in your prayers. All of the award nomination forms are on the website.
 - **House** (Captain). The details of events presented at the meeting are separately published and posted on the bulletin-board and web site. All were encouraged to volunteer when requested.
 - **National Home for Children** (Captain). Life Membership (\$50.00) helps the children. Current members and those who are wanting or selected to join need not be members of the VFW to be awarded a membership. Know anyone who is worthy?
 - **United Veterans Council.** Monthly meeting of the United Veterans Council, to which anyone can attend, are held at 0930 for the dates as announced. See website: www.sduvc.org for the meeting minutes and other information. Chuck Syktich normally attends the meetings.
- All prayed to remember the National Home for Children.

UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:

- Poker Tournament held on 22 Feb 2020 was discussed. This will be an annual event and is a good way to raise needed funds while those who attended has lots of fun.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The distribution of funds raised by the Poker Tournament was discussed and decisions made per the vote of the membership. A discussion was also held regarding the finances of the American Legion Post 282 and how that impacts the Ship 1774 and other organizations resident in the facility.
- Nomination of officers was held with final nominations and election at the April 2020 meeting. Those nominated for office are: Captain Jack Porath, Executive Officer Roger Rotter, Navigator OPEN, Paymaster Mike Martin, and 3 Year Trustee Bob Marlow (Larry Farley moves to 1 Year Trustee and Sam Aleto moves to 2 year Trustee). The appointed officer positions are: Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Adjutant, Service Officer, and OOD/Guard. Advise the Captain or another officer if interested in a position.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- When you change your address or email account, let us know.
- Free Legal Clinics at VFW Post 3787, 3rd Saturday each month 0900-1300. Schedule appt by calling 858.433.0525 or via email (helpvets@hrtroops.org): VA Claims, Family Law, Landlord-Tenant, Wills and Trusts, Criminal Record, etc..

CLOSING ceremony was held and the meeting adjourned at 1903 hours.

/s/ Signed 10 Mar 2020
J. R. PORATH
Captain and Recorder