

DANIEL R. OLSEN AMERICAN LEGION POST 594 POST MEETING MINUTES May 16, 2023

The regular post meeting was held in the conference room at Cedarvale Lanes in Eagan. A social hour was held from 1815-1900, with regular post business beginning at 1900, and concluding at 2030.

Moment of silence in memory of Edward B. Hinker, USA, 1st Calvary Division, Japan, (1946-1948)

Old Business:

- Core leadership group met on April 18, 2023. Eagan Rotary members were present to discuss ways Post 594 can support Rotary's efforts to connect with and honor veterans. Discussion around upcoming events and fundraisers. Minutes are available on the Post website at <u>www.post594.org</u>.
- Color Guard presented the colors at the Eagan High School boys baseball home opener on 4/22/23.
- Street clean-up was completed on 4/29/23. An article on this effort was published in the Sun Times.
- Post 594 support of the Hastings Veterans Home is suspended for the foreseeable future. The Auxiliary will continue sending birthday cards.
- Veterans Day on the Hill was held on 3/30/23 and attended by Commander Beierman. Topics included a veterans omnibus bill, property tax relief for surviving spouses, 9/11 service bonus availability for all resident veterans, and increasing the property tax value exclusion.
- There were no candidates for Boys or Girls State this year.

New Business:

- Treasurer's report: Adjutant Rayman reported there is \$9,729.82 in the Post account. Since the last regular meeting, net deposits were \$400.29 which consisted of \$250 from HyVee, and membership dues. Total withdrawals was \$710.29, including \$353.54 from Flag and Emblem for personalized post banner and table cover for upcoming events and fundraisers (primarily Funfest), \$165 to support Fisher House, and \$156 from Z's Diner for a post sponsored lunch following the street clean-up. Adjutant Rayman reported that the \$353.54 expense to Flag & Emblem was done in violation of the agreed upon unapproved spending limit of \$250. This was done due to the time sensitive nature of the order in order to have it completed and shipped prior to Funfest. Adjutant Rayman also indicated there would be additional expenses related to FunFest, but should not exceed the authorized amount. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurers report. Motion to approve carried.
- **Membership report**: Vice Commander Graham reported a renewal rate of 85% for 2023, falling short of a 100% renewal rate. Core leadership will review as we enter the new membership year.
- Fisher House: Danny and Cheryl Seanoa, Stewart Fobes, and Joe Dolan took care of the monthly breakfast at Fisher House and received many positive comments from families and organizers. An article and pictures were submitted to the Sun Times for publication.
- Memorial Day: May 29 will be a busy day for Post 594. We will have our annual cemetery memorial services at St. John's cemetery in Eagan beginning at 1000 followed by Christ Lutheran Church Cemetery in Eagan at 1020. We will then proceed to New Perspectives Assisted Living, 3810 Alder Lane, Eagan, at 1115 for a flag raising and brief service. We will have our annual Post Memorial Day Ceremony at the Central Park Memorial Plaza beginning at 1400, with keynote speaker, Mike Lotzer, USA, Chaplain for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. However, prior to our ceremony, local musician Luke Spehar will present a "Never Forget" concert at the Central Park Bandshell from 1230-1345. Luke's brother, Nick, was killed in Afghanistan, and the concert is a tribute to him and all who have given their lives in defense of our country. This is a new and exciting collaboration. We hope to make this part of our annual tradition.
- Fun Fest 2023: Planning is already underway in earnest for Eagan Funfest. Much of the operation will be the same as last year. However, we are working to improve the experience by adding decorations, games, a membership table and perhaps some Legion merchandise. Adjutant Rayman has already ordered a personalized banner and table cover for the event (as well as any future indoor or outdoor events). Other items to be collected include red, white, and blue plastic

table cloths, table and board games or cards, cornhole boards, and a large jar for donations/tips. Members should let POC Mike Peiffer, or Adjutant Rayman know if they can help in any of these areas. We will also be ordering Legion volunteer t-shirts, so prospective volunteers should let Adjutant Rayman know their shirt size so the order can be placed. A request for volunteers and detailed shift information should be going out soon.

- Von Hanson's Fundraiser: Duff Duffina presented some details for the VonHanson's fundraiser scheduled for August 12-13, 2023, and made an initial call for volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, a signup will be available at the July meeting. Between now and then, shift details and availability will be communicated to the post via email.
- Alcohol Training: Anyone planning to volunteer to serve alcohol at Funfest must complete alcohol training conducted by the Eagan Police Department. Training dates are scheduled for June 19, 2023, and June 26, 2023. The training will be held at City Hall beginning at 1800. While this training is only required every 2 years, volunteers are encouraged to attend even if you completed the training last year.
- Officer Elections. All Post Officer positions are available to post members. Incumbent officers have expressed a willingness to continue in their current positions. Commander Beierman asked if there was anyone present that was interested in running for any of these positions. There being no interest from those present, a motion was made and seconded to approve the reappointment of incumbent officers in their current positions. The motion was unanimously approved. Motion carried. Post officers for 2024 are:
 - Commander: Wayne Beierman
 - Adjutant: John Rayman
 - Vice Commander: Patricia Graham
 - Chaplain: Cindy Yanchury
 - Sergeant at Arms: Mike Peiffer
 - Post Service Officer: Rob Callahan

Unfinished Business:

- Auxiliary: Poppy sales will be May 19-21 at the Eagan Sam's Club. Volunteer shifts are still available. Contact Paulette Stark, *pastark@netzero.net*, if you can help out.
- Flag Inspection/Retirement: We continue to receive hundreds of retired flags from the community. A flag inspection event is scheduled for Monday, May 22, 2023 at Advent UMC. This will be conducted in conjunction with Scout Troop 449. A flag retirement ceremony will be held Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at Thomas Lake Pavilion. Post 594 Auxiliary will help coordinate a potluck from 1700-1800 with the retirement ceremony immediately following at 1800.
- **Communications/Media**: Constant Contact, the paid group email and text service approved by the Post is yet to be finalized. Likewise, the Post account for Signup Genius is yet to be finalized. Both of these will be critical in our ongoing communications efforts, particularly with many events and fundraisers occurring between now and November.

Upcoming Events:*

- Blood Drive: The Post sponsored blood drive is 5/19/23, 0830-1500, at the Eagan Civic Arena. POC is Mike Peiffer.
- Flag Inspection: 5/22/23, 1900, Advent United Methodist Church, Eagan
- High School Military Recognition Ceremony: 5/25/23, 1700, Eagan High School
- Memorial Day Concert and Post Ceremony: 5/29/23, 1230-1430, Eagan Central Park *All of these events are posted on the event calendar on our website, <u>www.post594.org</u> and on our Facebook page, <u>www.facebook.com/EaganPost594</u>.
- Flag Retirement Ceremony and Potluck: 6/14/23, 1700, Thomas Lake Park Pavilion

Next Meeting: July 18, 2023, 1900, Cedarvale Lanes