

Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Colchester, Unit 91 held on Wednesday, August 18, 2019 at 3650 Roosevelt Highway, Colchester, VT

Opening ceremonies were held and the meeting was called to order at 1805. There were 9 members present. President Deb Voyer opened the meeting with a prayer.

President Deb Voyer led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Auxiliary Preamble.

Roll call of Unit Officers was performed President Deb Voyer, 1st Vice President Rhonda Mace, Secretary Barbara Liberty, Treasurer Shirley Patrick, Historian Elaine MacKenzie, Executive Committee Member at large Margaret Rutledge.

Roll call of Past Presidents was performed: Dani Manny, Theresa Smart, Elaine MacKenzie and Margaret Rutledge.

Elaine MacKenzie made a motion to suspend the meeting until 1900. Rhonda Mace seconded the motion. The meeting was suspended so that all members could attend an interactive session offered by Tamara Martel from COTS. Tamara offered information about the Canal Street Housing, a facility that serves Veterans.

The meeting was reconvened at 1850.

Minutes from 7/17/19 were reviewed and accepted

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Deb Voyer reviewed all committees and where to find some easy to follow information about how to support each committee for successful outcomes.

Deb shared the information about the fund raiser for the Honor Flight New England-tickets are on sale for \$10 each. The goal is to raise at least \$600 to cover the cost of a Veteran's chaperone flight.

Theresa Smart made a motion for the Auxiliary to purchase 5 tickets for a total of \$50. Dani Manny seconded the motion. Discussion was had, and the motion was passed. Deb will also set up a jar to receive cash donations from patrons.

Deb Voyer offered information in support of committee success-several members received information packets specific to their committee as well as ideas on how to meet the intent of the committee. One example is to walk through neighborhoods thanking families/businesses/individuals for flying the American flag on their property.

Deb will meet with Michaela Cress from the Family Readiness Group of the National Guard

Deb will meet with Chelsea Wells from the Family Assistance group of the National Guard

Deb encouraged Auxiliary members to participate as volunteers for the VT REMEMBER RUN on Sunday September 8th. Deb will send details around this event and the Auxiliary support this week via email.

Mail read: Thank you note from scholarship winner-Brittany Como; thank you from the VT Food Bank for \$200 donation;

Rhonda Mace asked Auxiliary members to consider joining the Relay for Life event on November 9, 2019 at the Davis Center at UVM. The event is 12 noon-6 pm. Check out the web site or stay tuned for more information from Rhonda. This would be considered community service by all who participate.

Deb Voyer reminded all members to report their volunteer efforts so that she may keep the tracking sheet up to date. Discussion was had about how to define volunteer activities as some that are being monitored do not meet the rigors of the Auxiliary definition of volunteer.

Reminder to all that the District Workshop is scheduled for November 17, 2019; 11 am-3 pm. There is an event happening at the Barre Post on October 26th, more information to follow at the September meeting (9/18/19).

Deb Voyer publicly thanked Rhonda Mace for her incredible work while Deb was away.

All were reminded that the newsletter copies are available and that the minutes are posted on the web site.

REPORTS

Treasurer's report was read and filed by Shirley Patrick. The total ending balances: \$12,701.64

Membership report was read by Elaine MacKenzie- 341 of 357 members have joined leaving us well below 100%. Early bird dinner for those who signed up early will be held in October. More information will be offered at the next meeting (9/18/19)

She will forward the membership report documents to the Secretary for inclusion in the minutes.

BINGO report given by Maggie Rutledge

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rhonda asks for help in determining the menu for the meals in the month of September and October. Discussion ensued and good ideas were shared. Final menus will be posted in the bulletin.

Reviewed notes about Camp Takumta and Girl Scout support; these items were tabled for discussion at a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Deb asks for ideas for sharing Auxiliary information on TV running ads in the bar.

Deb spoke briefly about Combat Boots and Kitchen Spoons.

Louise will follow up with the disbursement of scholarship monies.

Discussion about the \$100/month for kitchen use/support. At this time, it appears we may continue with this donation/stipend. More discussion to follow.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Officers will attend a budget meeting on 8/26/19 at 1800 at the American Legion Post #91.

CLOSING CEREMONIES

Closing prayer led by Deb Voyer, President

Meeting adjourned at 2015. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 18, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara C. Liberty
Unit 91 Secretary