

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting of American Legion Auxiliary Colchester Unit #91, held on Wednesday September 19, 2019, at 3650 Roosevelt Highway, Colchester, Vermont.

Opening ceremonies were held and the meeting was called to order at 1806 by President-Deb Voyer. There were 8 members present. Roll call of unit officers was performed:

Present: President Deb Voyer, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Rhonda Mace, Secretary Barbara Liberty, Treasurer Shirley Patrick, Chaplain Mary Berthiaume, Historian Elaine Mackenzie, Sgt. At Arms June Lais, Corrine Myers

Roll call of past presidents was performed: Elaine Mackenzie was present

Minutes of the August 21, 2019 meeting were read and stand as read / corrected.

#### Reports:

Treasurer's report was read and reviewed by Shirley Patrick.

- The ending treasury balance is 12,067.58.

Bingo report read and reviewed by Deb Voyer

- A bake sale occurred during BINGO and the proceeds will go to the Relay for Life effort

President's Report:

- Thanked committee members for helping with the water station for the VT Remembers Race. 5 members participated

Membership:

- Elaine Mackenzie read and reviewed the membership to date.
- We did not reach 100% for 2019 and so far we have received 70 of 335 membership renewals for 2020 which puts us at about 21%

Leadership:

- As requested by Dani Manny (Chairwoman) Elaine MacKenzie informed all present that the ALA Academy is available online and encourages all to check it out-[www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)

### Service to Veterans:

- Rhonda Mace, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, encouraged all to participate or donate to the Relay for Life event that is scheduled to take place at Davis Auditorium on 11/9/2019 from 12-6. An FYI-3% of Veterans in Vermont have a cancer diagnosis. Money raised during this event stays local to support local cancer patients and their families.
- Rhonda will resend the link to the event for all who may wish to sign up or donate.

### Unit correspondence:

- Read by Barbara Liberty, Secretary read correspondence:
  - a thank you note from Corrine Myers for our support while she was out of commission and healing
  - A request for financial support from the Special Olympic organization-dismissed

### Unfinished Business:

- Deb Voyer, President updated the committee about the COTS Move in Kits that the committee talked about creating and distributing at the last monthly meeting. Sheets with samples of kits were passed around for member review.
- Corrine Myers reviewed the process and expectations of the RADA Knife fund raiser. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the committee will continue to support this fund raiser through this fiscal year.
- Any ALA member is welcome to review the products-there is a paper catalog as well as online access at <https://radakitchenstore.com>.
- Any checks should be made out to Corrine Myers.

### New Business:

- Rhonda Mace, 1<sup>st</sup> VP requested committee support to dedicate money raised (including tips) at the September and October ALA dinners and October ALA breakfast.
  - Rhonda will create a table card for all to read so that patrons understand their support counts in the community.
  - The committee unanimously agreed to support this effort
- Rhonda Mace, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, updated the committee on the status of the online version of the ALA 91 newsletter.
  - She shared the format and put out a request for ideas to support its success.

- Rhonda will manage all aspects of the online document at this time.
- Elaine MacKenzie, Historian, met with Candace, the Military Kids VT point person and reviewed logistics for the ALA 91 Christmas Party.
  - The party will be held on 12/22/19 from 1-3 pm
  - There will be activities for all children
  - There will be a maximum attendance of 90 people
  - Children participants between the ages of 0-12 years old will receive a gift
  - The Guard has requested a resource table and it all committee members agreed to this request
  - Rhonda Mace, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, agreed to be the chairperson for the Christmas Party Committee and she will set up a meeting to start the discussion.
  - The following individuals expressed interest in being on the committee: Elaine MacKenzie, June Lais, Barbara Liberty, Shirley Patrick, Mary Berthiaume, and Rhonda Mace.
- Deb Voyer, President, reminded all that the Fall Conference would be held on 10/26/19 and it is slotted to be a costume party.
  - The committee has been asked to provide small jewelry boxes and shirt boxes. All committee members have been asked to donate if able.
  - The committee will make a \$60 donation to the Ways and Means committee in support of their raffle prize
- Past President Parley Dinner
  - Will be held the Monday 11/18/19 and will be a pot luck dinner
  - The monthly ALA 91 meeting will open, be suspended and then resume after the dinner.
  - A Memorial Service for members who passed in 2019 will be held
  - Membership certificate will be presented

Announcements:

- Chapin Orchard Military Event
  - Committee members were asked to pencil this event in their calendar in case the Guard needs assistance. All agreed if assistance needed members could help with short notice.
- Deb Voyer, President, reminded the Committee that the ALA turns 20 in May 2020 and there will be a celebration. This event is being managed and planned by Mary Berthiaume.

Closing ceremonies were held, Mary Berthiaume, Chaplain, led the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 1919. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Liberty, Unit 91 Secretary.