**AMERICAN LEGION 436 ATASCOSA COUNTY**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: MARCH 19, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Commander Willie Leal called the meeting to order at,17:49 hours, at the Post 436 facility.

**OPENING CEREMONY:** Prayer by Chaplain Marcus Mills, POW/MIA Chair Ceremony, Pledge of Allegiance, reading of American Legion Constitution preamble conducted.

**ROLL CALL:** Quorum confirmed. Officers present: Commander, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Sergeant at Arms.

**READING AND ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes from February 19, 2025 meeting read and approved by motion from William “Wizard” Waymire and seconded. Motion passed.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Charlotte cheerleaders scheduled but canceled.

**INTRODUCTION OF PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS:**

* Laura Guerrero (Former VFW Aux member, now member-at-large) applied for membership.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

* **Financial (Feb 2025):**
  + Beginning Balance: $20,979.88
  + General Fund: $2,078.20
  + Bingo Fund: $6,528.05
  + Building Fund:$5,909.80
  + Apps Accounts: 3,193.42
  + Cash on Hand: $2,078.20
  + Ending Monthly Balance: $ 20,426.42
  + See Finance Officers, Monthly Financial Report
* **Bingo:** License is valid, renewal due September 20, 2026. Plaza Bingo moved to a new hall from Bandera Rd., sharing space/alternating sessions. Last check was $2,000.
* **Membership & Renewals:** Approved Laura Guerrero's application. Approved Steve "Catfish" Thomas's transfer. Approved applications/transfers for Robin Huereca, Leopoldo Grego, Pastor Marcus Mills, Ed Kittel, George Letz, and Paul Gibson.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued):**

* **House (Building & Maintenance):**
  + Digital Sign: Design concept with poppies presented. Reimbursement for poppies approved. Base/roof details discussed.
  + Maintenance: HVAC tech visit pending. Plumber needed. Electrician needed for bathroom signs/monitors. Security cameras pending purchase. Barn door completed.
  + Carry-over items: plumber, storage cover, security cameras (pending purchase), Ring doorbell install, electronic lock install (code=last 6 of member ID).
* **Gaming/Social Media:**
  + Now live (AmericanLegion436AtascosaCounty.org), still a work in progress. Features demonstrated. PO Box 434 confirmed, street address option available.
  + Game night coordination ongoing, reaching out to Atascosa Board Game group

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

* Broadband Upgrade: Approved upgrade to Rise Broadband 1 Gbps fiber ($50-$70/mo).
* Beautiful You Project: Update provided - many donations received, project impacting community positively. Parents appreciative. Drop-off locations confirmed. Need for male volunteers noted. Racks need maintenance.
* Facility Use (MDT): Team met last Friday, loved facility, will continue monthly meetings.
* Officer Elections: Announced for April meeting. All positions open.
* Conventions: District Conf May 3-4 (Cmdr, Patty, Stephanie, Baron attending). State Conv July 8-13 Austin (seeking delegates).
* Social Media: **Approved** opening official X (Twitter) account due to Facebook issues. Facebook appeal filed.
* Strawberry Festival Parking: Approved purchase of materials to paint parking lines for shuttle service. Shuttle coordination with ACOG ongoing.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE POST:**

* Sick Call: Stuart Nolton battling cancer/Parkinson's - prayers requested.
* Veterans Outreach: Discussed existing programs (vendor events, Tacos for Vets, peer groups, gaming) and future plans (Memorial Day Memory Garden). Open to new ideas.
* Meeting Snacks: Proposed starting snacks next month.
* Scholarship Fund: B. Honey Memorial Fund has ~$7,700. Applications available for two $1,000 scholarships. Info sent to schools.

**MOTIONS/MEMBERSHIP VOTING:**

* Motion made, seconded, passed to accept Laura Guerrero's membership application.
* Motion made, seconded, passed to accept Steve Thomas's transfer application.
* Motion made, seconded, passed to accept group of new members/transfers (Huereca, Grego, Mills, Kittel, Letz, Gibson, and Pena).
* Motion by FCO (Patty Hewitt), seconded by Richard, and passed to reimburse Stephanie Barr $76.86 for sign poppies.
* Motion by FCO (Patty Hewitt), seconded by Wizard, and passed to approve Rise Broadband upgrade.
* Motion by Adjutant (Stephanie Barr), and seconded by Baron Behrle, passed to open X (formally Twitter) account.
* Motion made, seconded, passed to purchase materials for parking lot striping for Strawberry Festival Bus stop.

**UPCOMING EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

* Next Meeting/Officer Elections: April 16, 2025 (Assumed 3rd Wed).
* District Conference: May 3-4, 2025.
* State Convention: July 8-13, 2025 (Austin).
* Memorial Day Event: Planning underway (Memory Garden).
* Strawberry Festival: Dates assumed April 11-13, 2025 (Shuttle service discussed).

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 19:54, after memorial service.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Post 436 Adjutant*