



Gifts for Yanks Committee Meeting

Saturday, September 7th, 2019

Department of Ohio HQ - Delaware, Ohio

1. Open

Gifts for Yanks Committee opened in regular form at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 7th, 2019 at Department HQ. Invocation given by Ken Ellis (4th). The GFY Committee assembled Committee binders and we asked to bring binders to every GFY meeting and to give keep the binder in good condition for their future successor.

2. Appoint Secretary - Holly Lewis (10th)

3. Roll Call

District	Name	Present	Absent/Excused	Voucher
1	Chester Kendzierski	Present		Yes
2	Paul Maurer	Present		Yes
3	Robert Steggemann	Present		Yes
4	Ken Ellis	Present		Yes
5	Darrell Bishop, Chair	Present		Yes
6	Daniel Goodman	Present		Yes
7	John Barnhart		Absent	N/A
8	Robert Schmoll	Present		Yes
9	William Keller		Absent	N/A
10	Holly Lewis	Present		N/A
11	Floyd Burk	Present		Yes
12	Jerry Laird		Absent	N/A
13	Stanley Popek	Present		Yes
14	Robert Burgess		Absent	N/A
Total		10	4	

4. Guest

Roger Friend, Department Commander
Shirley Maurer
Jermaine Ferguson, Department GFY Coordinator



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5. Chairman Opening Remarks

- a. Chairman Bishop thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Chairman Bishop also noted that it was a good fundraising year and thanked everyone for their efforts.

6. Department Commander Remarks

- a. Commander Friend briefly addressed the committee. Commander Friend gave the committee an update about his VA site-visits and thanked the committee for their hard work.

7. Review/Accept Previous Meeting Minutes

- a. Floyd Burk (11) moved to accept the minutes from the previous committee meeting. Robert Steggeman (3) seconded. No discussion. All in favor (10-0).

MOTION CARRIED

8. Review/Accept Rules of Committee and GFY Program Guidelines

- a. Ken Ellis (4) moved to approve the Rules of Committee and GFY Program Guidelines. Robert Schmoll (8) seconded. No discussion. All in favor (10-0).

MOTION CARRIED

9. Unfinished Business

- a. Holiday Gifts Selection for 2019 is finalized. Jermaine, Department GFY Coordinator presented the holiday gifts to the committee.
- b. The final donation report was presented to the committee. The report lists all post within the district and the amount donated. The Committee asked Department Coordinator to sort new report in Post order. This report will be sent out every month starting October 1st.
 - i. Ken Ellis (4) asked how SAL, Auxiliary, and private donations will be credited to the post? Department Coordinator is task to provide a solution to accurately credit post for all contributions by the entire American Legion Family. Department Coordinator will also notate donations by District, County, and Private donors.



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- ii. Stanley Popek (13) asked how individual donors recognized? Department is tasked to send a thank-you letter and an GFY eyeglass cloth. Donations will be notated in a “private donor” report if they are not affiliated with a post or district.

10. New Business

a. 2020 Holiday Gifts

- i. Department Coordinator asked the committee to task our VAVS representatives to speak with the VA VAVS Coordinators to gain insight for holiday gifts.
- ii. Chairman Bishop recommended that The Department send all VA and OVH facilities a letter asking for recommendations.
- iii. In committee discussion, shoe horn, back scratcher, day planners, cushions, watch, tote bags, collapsible laundry bags, breakaway lanyards, gifts cards, were suggested for 2020 holiday gifts.
- iv. All feedback for 2020 holiday gifts must be submitted to Department HQ by February 1st.

b. 2019-2020 Budget Review

- i. The budget sheet needs to be restructured to reflect CBOCs by size of operation to make better budget recommendations.
- ii. All special projects monies have been issued by Commander Roger Friend during his site-visits.
- iii. Ken Ellis (4) noted that our budget set for holiday gifts was significantly less than fundraised amount. Ellis suggested that we start next year’s budget with the surplus. Chairman Bishop explained that the money is restricted and will rollover to next year’s budget.



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c. Finance Update

- i. \$199,000 in total donations for FY 2018-2019.
- ii. Chase Account has balance of \$153,310.33
- iii. Ameriprise account has just over \$350,000.00

d. American Legion Coin Raffle

- i. Chairman Bishop and Jermaine will work together to design the raffle tickets.
- ii. Tickets will be sold at Mid-Winter; 3 tickets for \$5. Winners will be drawn at the Department Convention.

e. VAVS Fund Guidelines

- i. Discussion on what our VAVS representatives can spend money on and if there is a need to create guidelines or continue to allow them to spend their budget at their own discretion. Chairman Bishop asked the committee to give this question some thought and to bring ideas to November meeting.

f. Marketing Material

- i. Department Coordinator presented the committee with marketing materials which included one Honor Roll poster, a kick-off fundraising letter, GFY pamphlets, and GFY program handbook. Department Coordinator asked the committee to decide if the district chairs should disseminate information to post or if Department should mail materials out to every post.
- ii. Ken Ellis (4) moved to permit Department to mail out marketing materials to all post. Holly Lewis (10) seconded. Under discussion, Chairman Bishop suggested that we add 10 pamphlets to the package with a note with contact information to order more. Jermaine, Department Coordinator told the committee that he could get the mailing out within the next week. Chairman Bishop suggested that the letter start with a greeting from The Department Commander and the GFY Committee. The committee also

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stated that the Post needs to put Post # in memo line. Ellis (4) called the question on the motion. All in favor (10-0).

MOTION CARRIED

- iii. Robert Steggeman (3) moved to purchase a GFY table cloth to be on display at Mid-Winter and Department Convention. Seconded by Paul Maurer (2). All in favor (10-0).

MOTION CARRIED

g. Fundraising Plan

- i. American Legion Coin Raffle is estimated to bring in a profit of \$6,000.
- ii. Fundraising goal is \$200,000
- iii. Ken Ellis (4) moved for the committee to purchase ball cap with Department logo to present to individuals to present a donation of \$15 or more at Mid-Winter and Department Convention. Paul Maurer seconded. Under discussion, 150 winter caps and 150 summer caps were decided. Ellis (4) called the question on the motion. All in favor (10-0).

MOTION CARRIED

- 11. Closing prayer was given by Ken Ellis (4). Meeting closed in regular form at 12:16 p.m.

Submitted By:

Holly Lewis, Secretary

Darell Bishop, Chairman