

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1, Wheeling
August 2024 Meeting Notes
Meeting Date/Time: 08/06/2024 @ 7:00 PM

Meeting called to order by President Michelle Powell

Prayer led by Chaplin Martha Bloomfield

Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble recited by all members.

Auxiliary Mission Statement recited by President Michelle Powell

Roll Call of Officers:	PRESENT	NOT PRESENT
President- Michelle Powell	X	
1 st Vice- Melissa Stegman	X	
2 nd Vice- Denise Wycherley		X
Secretary- Courtney Clark	X	
Treasurer- Paula McCroskey	X	
Chaplain Martha Bloomfield	X	
Sgt at Arms- Marcia Bolner	X	
Historian Sandy Koontz	X	

Other Members Present: None

Total Present: 7

Total Voting Members: 6

SECRETARY:

Minutes from July 2024 meeting were read by Secretary Courtney Clark.

Motion made by Sandy Koontz to accept minutes. Motion seconded by Marcia Bolner.

Discussion: None. In favor 6, Against 0, Motion carried.

TREASURER:

Finance Report for July 2024 provided by Treasurer Paula McCroskey.

Written report submitted and placed in meeting notes binder.

General Fund Beginning and End Balance \$2,531.87

Zero Deposits and Zero Expenditures

Poppy Fund Beginning and End Balance \$343.55

Zero Deposits and Zero Expenditures

Motion made by Courtney Clark to accept July 2024 treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Melissa Stegman. Discussion: None. In favor 6, Against 0, Motion carried.

President's Report

Sarah Delong at VA Clinic in Bethlehem

- Michelle spoke with Sarah who suggested gift cards to Staples.
- Michelle purchased gift cards (in the amount of \$105.00) at Kroger for Target so children can get school supplies and clothes
- Michelle delivered gift cards to VA Clinic on 07/22/24

Constitution & By-Laws

- Michelle received correspondence from Lisa Cadwallader that she sent the unit's Constitution and By-Laws to the Department but Michelle has not received any notice that the Department has accepted or signed them.

Keys

- Post 1 Home Corporation Board of Trustees agreed to provide keys to the building for the voted on Auxiliary officers (Pres, VP, Sec and Treasurer).
- Michelle advised if a person did not want a set of keys they did not have to take them.

Department President

- Michelle attended a Zoom meeting with Department President Laura Clark.

Membership

- Unit 1 did meet the 2023-2024 membership goal of 23.
- The 2024-2025 goal is 26 members.
- National sets the goal for WV and then the Department sets the goal for each unit.
- There will be a membership workshop in September. It will be held on a Friday and Saturday. Michelle will not be able to attend as her vacation days are limited.

Dues

- Cash/Checks were received for Michelle Powell, Courtney Clark, Donna Shook, Kaylee Ross, and Riley Ross

Sick Call & Relief

Former Department of WV Adjutant Miles Epling has retired from his office.

- Tom Hicks will take over the position.

Old Business:

Alamis Membership System

- Paula contacted United Bank and the bank would need a list of items to start a second account including Title of Account, Names of Signers, SSN and information contacted on driver's license.
- The bank would then send out cards for signers to provide their signatures.
- Motion made by Courtney Clark to create a new/second account at United Bank for purposes of membership and paying dues to the Department. Motion seconded by Melissa Stegman. Discussion: None. In favor 6, Against 0, Motion carried.

Family Picnic & First Friday

- Held July 5th and there was 75 people in attendance. There was good food and fellowship.

Chef & Company Open House

- Held July 9th and there was about 300 people in attendance. Several positive comments were received about the building remodel/improvements.

1st District Picnic

- Held July 28th at Benwood Park
- Michelle Powell, Melissa Stegman, Paula McCroskey, Brenda Minch, and Lisa Strama attended.

Military Child Table

- Items received include a potted plant, spade, baseball glove, and ball.
- Items still needed include ballet slippers, family pictures, birthday cake, tablecloth and flag.

Fundraising Committee

- Met July 16th and discussed options for events in 2025.
- Steak Fry on 04/04/25 @ 6 PM
 - o Average expense is \$5,000 upfront, 200 guests at \$30 ticket
 - o Melissa said that is achievable when most things are donated
 - o Martha Bloomfield added Moundsville Post 3 made \$10,000 on their Steak Fry which proceeds went to a member.
- Kroger Gift Card raffle
- Legion Birthday Ball
- Christmas Party
- Melissa Stegman shared there are free advertising options through the radio, green tab, and newspaper

Auxiliary Department Means & Ways

- July winners include Lois Sine-Hoffman \$25, John Powell \$25 and Melissa Stegman \$25

New Business:

Post 1 @ Wild Things Game

- August 17th @ 5:30 PM, Game at 7:05 PM. \$30 per person. RVSP to John Powell. Payment is due by July 15th.

1st District Fall Conference

- October 20th at Byrd Center in Pine Grove, WV
- Registration is 9:00-10:00 AM. Members will leave at 7 AM.

Tax Exempt

- Michelle attended a Zoom meeting on July 25th with National Auxiliary officers from 12-1 PM.
- The Unit's status was revoked on 05/15/2012.
- Sandy Koontz will contact accountant Gompers about options.

- If unit obtains status, there will be \$600 fine plus additional costs if the unit seeks assistance from an accountant.
- Bank statements from 2012 will need to be provided with application. Michelle and Marcia recalled membership and records being available from 2015.

Spirit- Department Newsletter

- Finance committee plans on raising yearly due for 2026 by \$2.00.
- Motion made by Courtney Clark to increase local unit's dues to \$35 if/when the Department of WV votes/passes to raise dues by \$2.00. Motion seconded by Melissa Stegman. Discussion: None. In favor 6, Against 0, Motion carried.
- The increase to \$35 would give the local unit \$8 from each paid member.

First Friday

- Will be held September 6, 2024.

Committee Reports: Not requested.

Correspondence: None

Anything else to come before the unit

- Paula McCroskey, treasurer, resigned from her position immediately due to a situation with her husband in Post 1.
- Motion made by Sandy Koontz to change United Bank signers from Michelle Powell, Denise Wycherley, and Paula McCroskey to Michelle Powell, Melissa Stegman, and Courtney Clark. Motion seconded by Marcia Bolner. Discussion: None. In favor 6, Against 0, Motion carried.

Next Meeting: September 3, 2024 @ 7 PM.

Closing Prayer/Benediction: Chaplin Martha Bloomfield

Closing Statement: President Michelle Powell

Adjourned by President Michelle Powell at 7:57 PM

Quarter Drill for Education

Notes Taken: 08/06/24

Typed: 08/07/24

Courtney L Clark
Auxiliary Unit 1, Wheeling
Secretary

Michelle Powell
Auxiliary Unit 1, Wheeling
President