

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1, Wheeling
March 2024 Meeting Notes
Meeting Date/Time: 03/05/24 @ 7 PM

Meeting called to order by President Michelle Powell

Prayer led by Sandy Koontz.

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- Denise Wycherley		X
2 nd Vice- Sandy Koontz	X	
Secretary- Courtney Clark		X
Treasurer- Paula McCroskey		X
Chaplain Martha Bloomfield		X
Sgt at Arms- Marcia Bolner	X	
Other Members Present:		
Melissa Stegman	X	
Lois Sine Hoffman	X	

Total Present: 5

Total Voting Members: 4

SECRETARY:

Minutes from February 2024 meeting were emailed/mailed to members by Secretary Courtney Clark. Minutes were read by President Michelle Powell during meeting as Secretary Courtney Clark was not present. Motion made by Marcia Bolner to accept minutes. Motion seconded by Sandy Koontz, Discussion: None. In favor 4, Against 0, Motion carried.

TREASURER:

Finance Report provided by President Michelle Powell during meeting as Treasurer Paula McCroskey was not present.

General Fund Beginning Balance \$2,648.64

Deposit/s: None

Expenditure/s: None

General Fund Ending balance \$2,648.64

Poppy Fund Beginning Balance \$338.55

Deposit/s: None

Expenditure/s: None

Poppy Fund Ending Balance \$338.55

Motion made by Lois Sine Hoffman to accept treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Sandy Koontz, Discussion: None. In favor 4, Against 0, Motion carried.

Sick Call and Relief: Martha Bloomfield and her husband, Larry
President Michelle Powell spoke with Martha who reported Larry is doing better. Martha has been ill herself. A moment of silence was taken for prayers.

President's Report:

- Past Department President Paula Booth passed away 01/30/24. She held office in 2014-2015.
- Shinnston Unit 31 is endorsing Kim Mellie for Department 1st Vice President for 2024-2025 membership year.
- Frank B Bartlett Unit 7 is endorsing April Wilson Wallace for Department Chaplain for the 2024-2025 membership year.
- New Martinsville Unite 28 is endorsing Paulette Anderson for 1st District President for the 2024-2025 membership year.
- New Martinsville Unite 28 is endorsing Christy Bland for 1st District Vice President for the 2024-2025 membership year.

Membership:

Unit 1 has a new member, Melissa Stegman, in attendance. Her husband, Matt Stegman, is member of the Son's of American Legion Squadron 1. President Michelle Powell welcomed her and shared the unit is glad to have her present.

Old Business:

- Building Remodel
 - o President Michelle Powell informed members that the building updates include covered deck on the front of building, uncovered deck on side of building, bathrooms tiled, ladies bathroom has a makeup counter with mirrors and lights, kitchen was extended and includes newer/used appliances, Home Corp is in negotiations with Chef Adam Luiso for catering, ceiling tiles are black with new lighting, back storage room is now a meeting room with bar and tables, former grill in back is enclosed for storage and cooler, grill was moved to new covered area on the side of building.
- Mid-Winter Conference- Oglebay Park, Wheeling, WV, Feb 9-10, 2024
 - o President Michelle Powell and Secretary Courtney Clark attended the conference.

- Rosemary Thomas was the Auxiliary speaker and she trained members about leadership and improving listening and communicating skills.
- Unit won two awards for meeting membership goal
 - 50% by 12/15/2023
 - 75% by 03/15/2024
- Tax-Exempt
 - President Michelle Powell spoke with Jason at The Glessner Group before the Mid-Winter Conference. Jason told Powell that he filed the 990 and no response re: filing is good.
 - Powell spoke with National Judge Advocate Mark Seavey at Mid-Winter Conference and followed up with an email to him. Seavey checked into the unit's tax-exempt status and notified Powell that Unit 1 was not tax exempt. Unit's status was revoked in 2012.
 - Seavey had Powell connect with Kelly Harriet who emailed a list of what needs to be completed.
 - Unit could remain not tax-exempt
 - Complete 1024 form for new tax-exempt status
 - Powell gave Secretary Clark the form on 03/01/24. Clark will review and complete the form.
- Bank Account
 - Treasurer Paula McCroskey was not present at meeting therefore there is no update on the unit bank account transitioning from a business account to a Veteran's Organization account.

New Business:

- 1st District Spring Conference- Wheeling, WV, scheduled for April 20, 2024
 - President Michelle Powell requested members to attend and/or volunteer to help with registration and raffles.
 - Sandy Koontz offered to purchase patriotic crosses from Amazon for door prizes. Powell recommended to wait until April meeting after a total of participants is known.
 - Registration will be at 9 AM. Meeting will be at 10 AM.
 - Catered by Chef Adam Luiso.
- Creative Canvas Paint & Sip, Thursday, May 23, 2024 @ 6 PM
 - Projects are unknown and will be determined closer to event.
 - Roxanne Bruce will provide flyer.
 - \$35.00 per person
- Poppy
 - President Michelle Powell donated a red tablecloth for fundraising table.
 - Powell suggested a banner from Emblem Sales be purchased to attract people to stop at the table.
 - Poppy Day donations can be used for Legionnaires and Auxiliary members in need.

- Unit has purchased gift cards at Christmas and donated them to the VA in Bethlehem, WV.
 - Poppy Day will be near Memorial Day (May) and Veteran's Day (Nov)
- End of Year Reports
 - President Michelle Powell has started the 30 page report.

Committee Reports:

- Americanism- Lois Sine Hoffamn
 - No information/update. Lois called the wrong school and was told she would need to contact Ohio County School District re: request.
- Emergency Fund- Martha Bloomfield
 - No information/update. Martha was not present at the meeting.
- Constitution and By Laws- Michelle Powell
 - Michelle advised Standing Rules were submitted/approved and provided members a copy. Copy also placed in meeting notes binder.
 - Michelle advised the Constitution and By-laws were submitted but she has not received any information about approval.
- Children & Youth- Rend'ee Leech
 - No information/update. Rend'ee was not present at meeting.
- Community Service- Denise Wycherley
 - No information/update. Denise was not present at the meeting.
- Girls State- Paula McCroskey
 - No information/update. Paula was not present at the meeting.
- Membership- Courtney Clark
 - No information/update. Courtney was not present at the meeting.
- Poppy- Sandy Koontz
 - Sandy ordered a tablecloth, white with poppies, for Poppy Day. She has not found a banner that she likes.
 - Sandy spoke with Daryl and Isaac at Cabela's and scheduled Poppy Day on May 26th. Store opens at 9 AM.
 - Sign up sheet/schedule will be available at May meeting.
- Veteran Affairs & Rehab- Brenda Minch
 - No information/update. Brenda was not present at the meeting.

Correspondence

None

Good of Auxiliary

First Friday- April 5, 2024. Social hour is at 6:00 PM. Food is at 6:30 PM.

Location to be determined and shared through Post 1 All Call.

Next Meeting: April 2, 2024 @ 7 PM.

Location to be determined and shared through Post 1 All Call.

Closing Prayer/Benediction: President Michelle Powell

Closing Statement: President Michelle Powell

Adjourned by President Michelle Powell at time unknown
Quarter Drill for Children & Youth fund

Meeting Recorded: 03/05/2024

Typed: 03/31/2024

Courtney L Clark
Auxiliary Unit 1, Wheeling
Secretary

Michelle Powell
Auxiliary Unit 1, Wheeling
President