

MINUTES
Ben Harrison Camp #356
March 11, 2017

Call to Order: Commander Floyd called the meeting to order.

Roll Call of Officers: Present were Commander Floyd; Sr. Vice-Commander, Memorial Officer, and Camp Council Member Beck; Jr. Vice-Commander, Signals Officer, and Graves Registration Officer Beckman; and Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian Thompson. In all, six brothers were present.

Secretary's Report: The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was approved as read.

Brothers in Distress: We questioned how Brother Winters is doing. We need to contact him.

Dues Update: All but three members have renewed their membership. Brother Thompson will call the three members this afternoon.

Old Business:

* General Orders: Commander Floyd read General Order #15.

* Cemetery Updates: The program and presentation are ready for Memorial Day at Crown Hill. The grave is located in section 16 on the side near section 15, so we will park between those two sections. The program was sent to Crown Hill to be added to their website and they have sent it to his descendants who live in Michigan. The Thompsons also drove by the Wingate cemetery this morning where we had a rededication ceremony several years ago and it looked like it was in good condition from the road.

* Gravestone Errors: Brother Beckman reported they originally did not want to correct the errors, but after some debate was able to convince them to correct it with the proper paperwork. Brothers Beckman and Kolb are working on this together. We also discussed if there is a protocol when they served in multiple regiments to determine which one should be listed.

* Minors: Commander Floyd will talk to Post 500 about their policy about minors.

* Crown Hill: The mayor has now asked the VA to stop the Crown Hill Cemetery project. He would prefer the woods become a city park instead.

* Patriotic Report: Since our patriotic instructor is in a nursing home, we started working on this report which is due by April 1.

* National Encampment: This year's encampment will be August 10-13 in Lansing, Michigan. Brothers Kolb, Beck, Beckman and the Floyds plan to attend.

* Cemetery Cleaning: Brother Beck discussed our cleaning project in May. We have twenty-six graves to clean and some need to be lifted. Brother Bowyer was supposed to contact the Boy Scouts about helping us that day. Brother Beck will give a presentation on this next month.

* Monuments in need of Cleaning: Brother Beck reported that the Women's Relief Corps monument in Martinsville on the courthouse lawn needs cleaning. The nearby eighteen-pound Parrott gun also needs cleaning. We might clean both of these as part of an upcoming project in Morgan County. He will give an update on this next month.

New Business:

* Ball Caps: We sold our last ball cap this week. We discussed whether we want to purchase more of them. We may advertise both the ball caps and our Ben Harrison medals in the Legion.

* Job Change: Commander Floyd has accepted a new job and hopes it will not interfere with attending our meetings.

* Visitor Follow-up: Sister Thompson will connect our last month's visitor with Brothers Beck and Beckman to help him learn more about re-enacting and finding his ancestor's records.

*Patriotic Instruction: Brother Beck shared about Camp Colt at Gettysburg where tank training occurred and where a hospital was erected for returning soldiers with Spanish Influenza could be quarantined.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with appropriate ceremony.

Jerry Thompson, Secretary

Jim Floyd, Commander

Date