

MINUTES
Ben Harrison Camp #356
March 9, 2019

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

Roll Call of Officers: Present were Commander and Patriotic Instructor Jim Floyd; Sr. Vice-Commander, Memorial Officer, and Camp Council Member Mike Beck; Jr. Vice-Commander, Signals Officer, and Graves Registration Officer Tim Beckman; Secretary/Treasurer and Historian Jerry Thompson; Chaplain Robert Winters; Guard Dave Wilson; Eagle Scout Coordinator and Camp Council Member John Bowyer; and GAR Records Officer Bruce Kolb. In all, fourteen brothers, a prospective member, and a guest were in attendance.

Secretary's Report: There was one correction to the minutes. John Flood was the name of one of our guests last month, who gave an update on Bethel Cemetery. The minutes stand approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Commander Floyd would like to create an analysis report on our finances and needs the past treasurer reports. The treasurer's report stands approved as read.

Brothers in Distress: We are draped in honor of the passing of Janice Mae Corfman, Past National President of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Applications Received: We received the applications of Christopher Gray, who derives his membership from his great-great grandfather George Frederic Freyman, who served as a private in the 20th Ohio Infantry; and of Paul Followell, who derives his membership from his great-great grandfather Joseph Nelson Yakey, who served as a 1st Sgt. in the 122nd Ohio Infantry.

Mission: Restore Bronze Indiana: Raymond Brown, a disabled Army Vietnam Veteran, gave us a presentation about his mission to restore bronze military markers and headstones. He has restored all the Medal of Honor markers in Indiana and is now working on restoring Civil War headstones.

During the remainder of the lunch break, Brother Beck gave a presentation on the six Indiana governors who served in the Civil War.

After lunch, we continued with:

Initiation of New Member: With due ceremony, Paul Followell was welcomed into the camp. Reports from Committees:

* No Updates: There were no updates from the Camp Baseball Cap Committee or the Cemetery Cleaning and Restoration Committee. We will be cleaning stones in Greenlawn Cemetery in Franklin on May 11. Brother Beck is now in charge of this project.

* Confederate Memorial and Monument Committee: This project is now complete.

* Community Public Relations Committee: Brother Wilson is working on this and has a list made.

Orders, Communications, and Bills: Lisa and Landon Blackwell are leaving the Auxiliary and Camp due to other obligations that prevent them from attending our meetings. Brother Wayne Sharp will now become Color Bearer.

Unfinished Business:

* Commendation: Commander Floyd presented a Certificate of Commendation and a Ben Harrison medal to Raymond Brown for his restoration work.

* Charlie Hughes: We still need to set the date to place an SUV CW Grave marker at his grave.

* Memorial Day: We are honoring Captain Richard Burns. Commander Floyd provided a thumb drive with his service and pension file to Sister Thompson, who will prepare our ceremony brochure.

*No updates: There were no updates on the Kimmel Park G.A.R. Monument in Vincennes, the Indiana Monument at Vicksburg, the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Evansville, and the Thomlinson Hall in Indianapolis. Those in charge of those projects gave brief summaries to our new member and visitor.

* William A. Clark Headstone Installation: We need to verify the location of his grave. We have learned that he was buried near a well in the cemetery.

* Bethel Cemetery Relocation: The remains will be moved to Concordia Cemetery sometime this summer or early fall.

* Camp Objectives: Commander Floyd displayed a computer dashboard showing Camp attendance from 2012 - 2018.

* Mid-Winter Encampment: The church is confirmed for our meeting. Now we need to decide what will be served for the meal.

* Meeting and Presentation Schedule: Commander Floyd reminded us of the 2019 schedule.

New Business:

* G.A.R. flag marker / flower bed: Brother Bowyer shared the history of this marker. He would like to add a plaque honoring Samuel Henry, a local man who was killed in the Civil War.

* Upcoming Events: Commander Floyd listed the upcoming events from March to November.

* Other New Business: Brother Winters will let us know when we can reserve tables for the Midwestern Roots Conference. Brother Kolb will have the governor sign a proclamation honoring May 30 as Indiana Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Day.

Good of the Order: Several brothers brought items for Show and Tell. Commander Floyd brought several bullets from Gettysburg. Brother Sharp shared a map of Greenlawn Confederate Cemetery. Brother Kolb brought a marker verifying parts of the rail that Abraham Lincoln split. Brother John Copeland brought several items related to the 70th Indiana.

Patriotic Instruction: Commander Floyd shared a video entitled "Medal of Honor Recipient Hershel 'Woody' Williams Visits Gettysburg."

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

Jerry Thompson, Secretary

Jim Floyd, Commander

Date