

MINUTES
Ben Harrison Camp No. 356
November 12, 2022
In-Person (Speedway MCL Cafeteria) and Zoom

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

Roll Call of Officers: 2022 officers present were Commander Bruce Kolb; SVC, Treasurer, Mike Beck; JVC, Secretary, Graves Registration and Signals Officer Tim Beckman; Camp Council Garry Walls, and Jerry Thompson; Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator John Bowyer; Camp Chaplain Brian Mexin. In all, seven brothers were present in-person and three via Zoom.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve the October 2022 minutes as distributed was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was distributed and read by Mike Beck.

Report of Sick Brothers or Families in Distress: Brother [REDACTED] fell on his shoulder and might have a rotator cuff issue. No report of any other sick or distressed members. Prayers go out to all who are sick or in distress.

Membership Application Received: None

Initiation of New Members: None

Reports from Committees:

* Commander Kolb informed the camp of his intention to mark all of the graves of the Last Union Soldiers that reside in the donut counties surrounding Marion County. Some discussion occurred about getting our own Last Soldier markers produced, and when installed, the camp might be able to conduct multiple ceremonies during one day.

* Camp Baseball Cap Committee: No update.

* Cemetery Cleaning and Restoration Committee: Tim Beckman briefed the camp on the Williams Creek Cemetery work day that took place on October 15th. The new military stone for Robert Tingle was installed and the private stones for Robert Tingle and his wife along with the stone for their daughter was also repaired/reset. In addition, the stone for Isaac Burk was turned and reset. Mike Beck reminded the camp of the upcoming Wreaths Across American ceremony that will take place on December 17th at the Williams Creek Cemetery.

* Civil War Memorial Monument and Oversight Committee: No update

* Community Public Relations Committee: No update

* Sultana Monument Committee: Commander Kolb updated the camp about the Sultana Monument. He is still waiting to hear back from the Veterans Memorial Museum in Fort Wayne about the project, but he feels that they will approve the project. The plaque will be mounted on an upright marble military stone that is currently in the possession of Brother Tom Schmitt of Fort Wayne. The stone had an error on it and it was going to be discarded. A 12x18 bronze plaque will be installed on the front of this stone over the wording. The Department of Indiana, at the Mid-Year Encampment, approved to pay for the cost of the plaque.

Election of the 2023 Camp Officers

The following members were voted into office, for the year 2023, by a unanimous vote of the camp:

Bruce Kolb – Commander

Garry Walls – SVC

Brian Mexin – JVC

Tim Beckman – Secretary

Mike Beck – Treasurer

Camp Council 1 – Garry Walls

Camp Council 2 – Jim Floyd

Camp Council 3 – Jerry Thompson

Orders, Communications, and Bills: Commander Kolb informed the camp about General Orders #9 and #10, and the Department Order 2022-6 from Department Commander Jim Floyd.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

* Garry Walls informed the camp that he has not received any response from the cemetery officials of Little Eagle Creek Cemetery, so we will probably not be working in that cemetery next May.

* Garry Walls is also working on a Memorial Day ceremony for his Civil War ancestor in Greene County (near Bloomfield). It now appears it will not take place in 2023 but he is hopeful that it will take place in 2024.

* Camp Commander Kolb suggested that we honor Graham Morey on Memorial Day, 2023.

* John Bowyer informed the camp that he is will be attending an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Shane Thomas Rutherford Spurrier, in Pendleton, on November 13th.

* John Bowyer also informed the camp that he has purchased several memorial bricks, at the Legion Post in Pendleton, in honor of Civil War ancestors and groups.

Upcoming 2022 Camp Meeting Dates and Dept. Events

November 19th – Gettysburg Remembrance Day Ceremony and Parade, Gettysburg, PA

December 10th - Camp Meeting in-person and virtual

December 17th – Wreaths Across America Ceremony, Williams Creek Cemetery, 11:00AM

For the Good of the Order: None

Patriotic Instruction: Commander Kolb gave an interesting 10 question quiz on the Gettysburg Address. Prizes were handed out to the two top scores.

Tim Beckman, Secretary

Bruce Kolb, Commander

11/12/2022
Date