

MINUTES
Ben Harrison Camp No. 356
December 10, 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, Jerry Thompson, and Jim Floyd; Camp Chaplain Brian Mexin. In all, nine brothers were present in-person and three via Zoom.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve the November 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: Commander Kolb informed the camp that he talked to Brother [REDACTED] and that he is having pain in his feet. No report of any other sick or distressed members. Prayers go out to all who are sick or in distress.

Membership Application Received: The camp received a new member application from Jay Martin Stephens. A motion by Jim Floyd was made to accept Mr. Stephens into the order and it was seconded by Jerry Thompson, motion passed.

Initiation of New Members: Brother Stephens was initiated into the order with proper ritual. Congratulations to Brother Stephens!!

Installation of the 2023 Ben Harrison Camp Officers: The 2023 Ben Harrison Camp elected and appointed officers were installed into their office by Department Commander Jim Floyd, with proper ritual. Congratulations to all of the 2023 Ben Harrison Camp Officers!

The 2023 Ben Harrison Camp Elected and Appointed Officers

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

Camp Chaplain: Brian Mexin

Camp Patriotic Instructor: William Gillispie

Camp Color Bearer: Joe Beckman

Camp Guide: Andrew Kolb

Camp Guard: Joe Beckman

Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator: John Bowyer, PCC

Camp Signals Officer: Tim Beckman, PDC

Camp Historian: Andrew Kolb

Camp Civil War Memorials Officer: Brian Mexin

Camp Graves Registration Officer: Tim Beckman, PDC

Camp G.A.R. Records Officer: Bruce Kolb, PDC

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. He discussed the possibility of having a brass medallion made for the purpose of marking these graves. These medallions could be attached to the stone with epoxy.

Possible wording on the medallions was discussed. It was agreed that the wording should be the “Last Union Veteran Buried in this County” on the top with the dates “1861-1865” on the bottom. Commander Kolb will secure a quote and report back at the February 2023 camp meeting.

- * Camp Baseball Cap Committee: The committee reported that the camp still has 27 caps in inventory.
- * Cemetery Cleaning and Restoration Committee: Mike Beck reminded the camp of the upcoming Wreaths Across America ceremony that will take place on December 17th at the Williams Creek Cemetery. 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. Brother Beck will start looking at possible cemeteries to work in for the camp annual cemetery workday in May, 2023.
- * 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. The plaque was ordered and the Department of Indiana has cut the check to the vendor. Estimated time for installation of the plaque onto the stone is spring of 2023 (when the weather warms up enough). The camp still has money in the treasury earmarked for this monument. Other possibilities for this monument included having a time capsule installed at the site, as well as having memorial bricks for sale to place around the monument.

Orders, Communications, and Bills: Commander Kolb informed the camp about General Orders #11, #12, and #13.

Unfinished Business:

- * Garry Walls informed the camp that he and Brother Tim Beckman, on February 19, 2023, will be attending the meeting of the Greene County Historical Society, to discuss a possible Memorial Day ceremony to take place in Bloomfield in May 2024
- * Garry Walls reported that he attended the Gettysburg Remembrance Day Parade with Brothers Alan Teller and Tom Schmitt in November.

New Business: None

Upcoming 2022 Camp Meeting Dates and Dept. Events

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

January 2023 – No Camp Meeting

February 12, 2023 – Lincoln Day Ceremony – Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, IN

February 18, 2023 – Camp Meeting

For the Good of the Order: None

Patriotic Instruction: None

Tim Beckman, Secretary

Bruce Kolb, Commander

12/10/2022
Date