

MINUTES
Ben Harrison Camp No. 356
July 8, 2023
Zoom Only

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

Roll Call of Officers: 2023 officers present were Commander Bruce Kolb; SVC Garry Walls; Secretary, Graves Registration and Signals Officer Tim Beckman; Camp Council Jerry Thompson and Garry Walls; Camp Color Bearer and Camp Guard, Joe Beckman. In all, seven brothers were present via Zoom.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve the April 2023 minutes as distributed was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report was distributed and read.

Report of Sick Brothers or Families in Distress: Brother John Copeland passed away on July 1, 2023. His funeral is scheduled for July 10th and only close family will be there. Camp Commander Kolb sent a sympathy card to John's wife. Brother [REDACTED] continues to recuperate from back surgery. 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:

* Sultana Monument Committee: Commander Kolb informed the camp that the plaque did not cover the entire wording on the old gravestone that it was supposed to be mounted on. Brother Tom Schmitt was able to secure another granite stone to affix the plaque to. The plaque will be installed on the grounds of the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum in Fort Wayne. Timing for the official unveiling ceremony is still uncertain.

* Commander Kolb briefed the camp concerning the Last Union Veteran medallions. Several members have requested these medallions. In order to keep track of where the medallions are going, the camp has requested that each person ordering these medallions provide the name and location of the grave of the Last Union Veteran that they will be marking.

* Cemetery Cleaning and Restoration Committee: Tim Beckman and Garry Walls briefed the camp on the annual cemetery cleaning that took place in the Eagle Creek Cemetery on May 13th. Three stones were reset and cleaned and another seven stones were just cleaned. There are more stones to clean and reset, but the rest will have to wait until next year, as this is a 2-year project. Tim Beckman informed the camp that the stone from the VA, for Denzil L. Neville, who was a WWII veteran, was installed at the Williams Creek on May 20th. The small flat granite stone was temporarily installed on gravel, but will be placed on a concrete slab at a later date. Two of Denzil's granddaughters were in attendance and were very appreciative of our efforts to mark his grave.

Orders, Communications, and Bills: Commander Kolb informed the camp about General Orders # 21-27 and Special Orders #2 and 3, and Special message #7.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

* Garry Walls updated the camp about the proposed 2024 Memorial Day Ceremony honoring Capt. Bough, in the Grandview Cemetery, Bloomfield, Green County. This will take place on May 27th, 2024. The camp decided to start the program at 11:00AM.

* Tim Beckman informed the camp that he contacted the Crown Hill Heritage Foundation and inquired about whether the annual President Benjamin Harrison Birthday Celebration will be conducted this year at his grave in Crown Hill Cemetery. He will let the camp know immediately when he hears back from them.

Upcoming 2023 Camp Meeting Dates and Dept. Events

September 9th - Meeting in-person and virtual

October 14th - Meeting in-person and virtual

November 4th – Dept. of Indiana Mid-Year Encampment, Newburgh (East of Evansville)

November 11th - Meeting in-person and virtual
December 9th - Meeting in-person and virtual

For the Good of the Order: None

Patriotic Instruction: None

Tim Beckman, Secretary

Bruce Kolb, Commander

7/8/2023_____
Date