

MINUTES

Ben Harrison Camp No. 356

November 11, 2023

In-Person (Speedway MCL Cafeteria) and Zoom

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

Roll Call of Officers: 2023 officers present were Commander Bruce Kolb; Treasurer, Mike Beck; Secretary, Graves Registration and Signals Officer Tim Beckman; SVC and Camp Council, Garry Walls; JVC, Camp Chaplain, and Camp Memorials Officer, Brian Mexin; Camp Council Jerry Thompson; Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator, John Bowyer; Camp Color Bearer and Camp Guard, Joe Beckman. In all, seven brothers were present in-person and one via Zoom.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve the October 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 [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: No Report

* Cemetery Cleaning and Restoration Committee: Mike Beck was contacted about possibly having the camp conduct a gravestone dedication for a newly installed Civil War veteran headstone located in the Peterson Cemetery, Montgomery County. The veteran's name is Robert Boots, who was a member of the 11th Indiana. There are also four other Civil War veterans buried in this cemetery that do not have headstones. The possibility of having a dual dedication in 2024 for this headstone and the Last Union Veteran of Montgomery County was discussed.

Orders, Communications, and Bills: Commander Kolb informed the camp about General Orders #6 and #7, and Department Order 2023-2.

Unfinished Business: Commander Kolb briefed the camp on the proceedings of the Mid-Year Department of Indiana Encampment which took place on November 4, 2023.

New Business:

*The camp discussed the purchasing of two gold-finished adjustable flag poles from the American Legion. A motion was made by Garry Walls to approve this purchase, which was seconded by Brian Mexin, motion passed.

Election of 2024 Camp Officers

The following members were voted into office, for the year 2024, by a unanimous vote of the camp:

Camp Commander: Brian Mexin

Senior Vice-Commander: Garry Walls, PCC

Junior Vice-Commander: Mike Beck, PCC and PDC

Secretary: Tim Beckman, PCC and PDC

Treasurer: Mike Beck, PCC and PDC

Camp Council 1: Garry Walls, PCC

Camp Council 2: Bruce Kolb, PCC and PDC

Camp Council 3: Jerry Thompson, PCC

Upcoming 2023 Camp Meeting Dates and Dept. Events

November 18th – Remembrance Day Parade, Gettysburg, PA

December 9th - Meeting in-person and virtual

December 16th – Wreaths Across America Ceremony, Williams Creek Cemetery, Indianapolis, IN.

For the Good of the Order: None

Patriotic Instruction: Brian Mexin gave a brief talk on the history of Veterans Day

Tim Beckman, Secretary

Bruce Kolb, Commander

11/11/2023
Date