

MINUTES
Ben Harrison Camp No. 356
April 12, 2025
Michigan Road Branch Marion County Public Library and Zoom

Call to Order: Commander Brian Mexin called the meeting to order.

Roll Call of Officers: 2025 officers present were Commander Brian Mexin; JVC and Treasurer, Mike Beck; Camp SVC and Council Garry Walls; Secretary, Graves Registration and Signals Officer Tim Beckman; Camp Chaplin and Council Jerry Thompson; Camp Council and Counselor Bruce Kolb; Camp Patriotic Instructor Lloyd Atterson; Camp Eagle Scout Coordinator John Bowyer; Camp Guide, Joe Beckman. In all, nine camp members were present, with one visitor and no Zoom attendees.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve the March 2025 minutes as distributed was passed.

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

Report of Sick Brothers or Families in Distress: None

Membership Application Received: Three new membership application were received from the same family: Michael Lynn Griffin, Clay Thomas Griffin, and David Michael Griffin. A motion was made by Mike Beck to accept these three into the camp membership and it was seconded by Bruce Kolb, motion passed. Congratulations to these three new members from the Griffin family!!

Initiation of New Members: None

Orders, Communications, and Bills: Commander Mexin informed the camp about General Order #13, 14, 15 and 16. He also reminded the camp about the upcoming Department of Indiana Annual Encampment on April 26th to take place at the Indiana Veterans home in West Lafayette. Mike Beck will be going up the day before to help organize and arrange the meeting location.

Unfinished Business:

* The remaining Eliza George Auxiliary No. 356 records were brought to the meeting and the members were given the opportunity to review these records. All the remaining records were deemed worthy of being disposed of.

* Civil War Nurse Project Lead: Commander Mexin will send out a notice to the camp to see if any members would like to take the lead on this project.

* Future of the Camp discussion: Lloyd Atterson shared his very informative perspective on fraternal organizations and membership. Anyone with ideas for strengthening the active membership of the camp, are encouraged to let the camp know.

New Business:

*Mike Beck informed the camp that he has found a two-sided adhesive from 3M that might work on affixing our medallions onto headstones. He will order a roll and test it out to see how well it holds and report back to camp.

*Joe Beckman showed the camp two other camp baseball cap colors he recently had made to see if any of the members would be interested. The new colors were well received by all members in attendance.

Upcoming Camp Meeting Dates and Dept. Events

April 26, 2025 – 139th Dept of Indiana Annual Encampment, Indiana Veterans Home, West Lafayette, 9AM

May 10, 2025 – Annual Cemetery Cleaning, Eagle Creek Cemetery, Westfield, Indiana, 9AM

May 26, 2025 – Camp Memorial Day Service, Flat Rock Cemetery, Flat Rock, Indiana, 11AM

July 19, 2025 – Camp Meeting, Zoom Only (Moved From July 12th)

For the Good of the Order:

None

Patriotic Instruction:

Brother Lloyd Atterson shared a very interesting story about the Reno brothers of Southern Indiana who not only made for themselves a life of crime but also engaged in the activity of enlistment bounty jumping during the Civil War - even using names of their neighbors!

Tim Beckman, Secretary

Brian Mexin, Commander

4/12/2025
Date