

Meeting Date: 2018.05.19 May meeting.

American Legion Brown-Guest Post 30 met at the *Paris Elk's Lodge* at 10am.

Those present included Commander Don Karasek, Vice Commander / Adjutant Mike Hanlon, Judge Advocate Keith Brown; members: Amy Burton, H.E. (Bud) Mackey, Jr.; and 1 Guest.

The commander called the meeting to order; Acting Chaplain Mike Hanlon made the invocation, the members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the American Legion Preamble.

Keith Brown read the April 21st minutes. Amy Burton moved the minutes be accepted. Bud Mackey seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Don Karasek read the Financial report. Bud Mackey moved the financial report be accepted. Keith Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Unfinished business:

- The commander opened the floor for nominations (for elections in June). The following nominations were made and accepted:
 - Commander: Don Karasek
 - Vice Commander: Mike Hanlon
 - Chaplain: Mike Hanlon
 - Service Officer: Amy Burton
 - Financial Officer: H.E. (Bud) Mackey, Jr.
 - Historian: Amy Burton
 - Webmaster: Keith Brown
 - Sergeant at Arms: H.E. (Bud) Mackey, Jr.
 - Judge Advocate: Keith Brown
 - Bud Mackey moved that nominations for Adjutant and Hubmaster be tabled and nominations be closed until the June meeting. Amy Burton 2nd the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

New business included:

- The Memorial Day ceremonies will be held on 28 May. Thaddeus Jones will received a commendation letter signed by the President for his exemplary volunteer service.
- Amy Burton reported that pain may be regarded as a disability. She also mentioned that many service members with overseas assignments may have been exposed to toxic environments due

to burn pits; and that state-side service members may have been exposed to Agent Orange and contaminated water (even on military bases).

- Keith Brown reported he'd updated the Post's website with links to the TRICARE and Burnpit websites.
- The membership discussed the Post's By-Laws and Constitution, and whether they were sufficient for our needs or if they should be amended.

We reviewed (a) the duties of the various officers [By-Laws: Article III], (b) the management of the Post [By-Laws: Article II], (c) actions required in the event of a vacancy of office [Constitution: Article V, Section 7], (d) the definition of a quorum [By-Laws: Article VIII, Section 5], (e) the amendment process [Constitution: Article].

Our concerns are (i) despite a large nominal membership, active members who attend meetings are few and often barely satisfy the requirement for a quorum (4 members in good standing); (ii) filling a vacant office requires a 15 day prior notice to all members (written notice **not** required; and in some circumstances the Post may founder due to a lack of continuity of leadership); (iii) amending the constitution requires a 15 day prior **written** notice to all members and such amendment must not conflict with the National or Department constitutions; amending the By-Laws requires a 15 day prior **written** notice to all members.

No action was taken.

Keith Brown made a \$20 cash donation.

Acting Chaplain Mike Hanlon made the benediction.

Commander Karasek adjourned the meeting.