

VFW Post 6258 Membership Meeting June 10, 2021

Halifax Town Hall, Massachusetts

Presiding Officer: Commander David Walsh

Meeting 7:00pm to 8:00pm

This meeting ends our very successful 2020-2021 year!

Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance – Chaplain Dave McPhillips gives opening prayer and moment of silence for our departed comrades and for those missing in action and held as prisoners.

Installation of Officers: Commander **Dave Walsh**, Senior Vice Commander **Warren Buzz Smith**, Junior Vice Commander **Stephenie Jones**, Quartermaster **Dave Walmsley**, Chaplain **David McPhillips**, Judge Advocate **Bill Finn**, Surgeon **Christina Bolman**, Trustee (3) Year **John Dorney**, Trustee (2) Year **William Finn**, Trustee (1) Year **Bruce Thomas**, Adjutant **Vin Burdziuk**, Service Officer **Stephenie Jones**, Officer of The Day & Communications Officer **Bruce Thomas**

REPORTS FROM THE COMMANDER: (Dave Walsh (a) Welcomes New members: Brendan McNeeley (USA), Alan Cunningham (USA), and Michael Collins (USMC). Welcome back to the brotherhood you left many years ago. May your experience be a long and rewarding adventure.

QUARTERMASTERS FINANCIAL REPORT: (a) Dave Walmsley reported that our Poppy Drive generated \$4,434 which was added to our General Fund for a total of **\$10,485.92**. (b) That's the total of our General fund and Relief Fund. (c) It was mentioned that the bank gives us a quarterly dividend for having accounts with them.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER: (a) Buzz Smith talked about the National Park Service and the Volunteer Day on the USS Cassin Young. Our Commander and the DAV Commander George Pontes will work together on the date to get together July 13th or the 20th (Tuesday). Ship will be closed to the public so we will have the ship all to ourselves as volunteers. We will not be doing painting as it will be too hot so we will do projects inside. The plan is we will meet in Weymouth at the van / bus that George Pontes will get. That way we can park in the Navy Yard. 3 ½ to 4 hours of work. They will supply the lunch and the drinks. Then we will tour the areas of the ship tourists don't see. (b) On the Purple Heart Towns Weymouth just got theirs done. Just waiting to get the signs done. Now just waiting for Halifax, Kingston, Plympton, Hanson and Pembroke. The proclamations are all approved and signed. And, we are waiting to see the proofs for the signs. The signs for the ships in Boston was \$33 dollars each. Waiting for the Park Service to approve the ships USS Constitution and USS Cassin Young. Also, the USS Cassin Young has a Facebook page if you want to know more about the ship.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER & SERVICE OFFICER: (Stephenie Jones) I am still on Duty. If you need any help or have any questions you have my email address and phone number.

CHAPLAIN: (Dave McPhillips) For your information I write an article for the Council of Aging in Pembroke. Last month it was about your Bonus. If you've been in any conflict, you get a bonus from the State of Massachusetts. For instance, if you were a Vietnam Era Veteran and you actually didn't go to Vietnam you still get a Bonus. Stephenie has a list in her book of all the bonuses. I was surprised so many people came to see me who have never applied for their bonus. She has a phone number you can call to see if your eligible in getting the bonus.

ADJUTANT: (Vin Burdziuk) Reported he printed more Post 6258 business cards for us to give to Veterans as a recruiting tool as it has our webpage info and Membership Form with FREE 1st year to join us.

SURGEON: (Buzz Smith) (a) Talked about presumptives to the Agent Orange and Burn Pits. Current Veterans exposed to Burn Pits they are making (3) new presumptives: asthma, bronchitis, and sinusitis. You can check the VA Website for more information. (Hypertension is being considered as a presumptive).

COMRADES IN DISTRESS: (a) Jim Ingargiola WW2 Vet who fought in Iwo Jima (age 96) was going to be here tonight but had to be with the family and granddaughter tonight. (b) Joe Marsden our member who lives in Halifax Estates is doing better. (c) Bob Dugan had Covid is doing much better. (d) Dennis Olson is doing alright and his wife is doing better from her neck surgery.

OLD BUSINESS: (a) Field of Flags in front of Town Hall 30x60 feet had nice compliments. Would like to thank Dave Walmsley, Stephanie Jones, Bruce Thomas, Vin Burdziuk, Bill Finn, Peter Carlson, Hank Wood, Paul Ecker, Hank Moniz (and of course our Commander Dave Walsh was there). We also had families stop at the flags and have pictures taken with the kids. (We had a little over 500 flags). (b) We had a very successful Poppy Drive at Walmart in Halifax May 29-May 31. Walmart has been very good to us. Friday Walsh and Hammond. Saturday Jones and Finn, Saturday afternoon Thomas and Carlson, Sunday Burdziuk and Buzz Smith, Sunday afternoon Mike Gray. (c) We picked up 5 new members from the Poppy Drive. (d) We assisted a family in Plympton. House was burnt to the ground and they lost everything. We assisted them through the Plympton Fire Department with financial aid. (e) Congratulations to all you comrades for participating in making us an ALL STATE POST in May. We now met all qualifications to become an ALL AMERICAN POST again. (f) Our members have also participated with the Food Pantry. And have given out food to needy Veterans. (g) We have participated in the Patriots Pen program. (h) Teacher of the Year. (i) We chose the Top Medical Technician.

NEW BUSINESS: (a) Dave Walsh and Dave Walmsley will attend the State Convention Friday and Saturday. (b) Trustees will meet briefly in July. (c) Veteran of the Year Award will be awarded in September. We will meet during the summer to discuss award. Commander and Quartermaster are not eligible for the award. (d) **STATE OF THE POST** was read to our members before adjournment. (e) Special recognition goes to our Quartermaster David Walmsley, (f) Thanks to our Trustees Bruce Thomas, Bill Finn, John Dorney who help us out in our financial area. (g) Thanks to our Adjutant Vinnie Burdziuk. (g) Thank You Bill Finn for being a Trusted Advisor. (h) Thank You Stephanie our Junior Vice Commander and Service Officer for always helping us out. (i) Thank You David McPhillips for being our Spiritual Advisor and assisted as Service officer as needed. (j) Thank You Buzz Smith who served our Post as Surgeon. (k) We are solvent financially. (l) Next Veterans Day we will have a raffle for our Military Blankets. This year we will do Coast Guard Blankets and VFW Blankets. (m) Motion on the floor from Dave Walmsley for (2) Plaques to be presented to Harmony Liquors and John the Barber. They have been supporting our Post since 1995. Would like 2 plaques per supporter. One is displayed at the business the other displayed at their home. (It was Approved).

REQUEST FOR ADJOURNMENT: 8:00pm <> FINAL SALUTE TO THE FLAG and Closing Prayer

Kevin, Quartermaster from Bridgewater Post 2125 <> The 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm we host a free dinner for Veterans and First Responders. There is no alcohol involved. The program was started from Florida by a mother whose LCpl son has died. It's a safe place for Vets / First Responders to go have a Free Dinner. Its a simple dinner such as Chicken Parm and Spaghetti.

VFW Post 2125, 40 Orange Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324