

MINUTES

Jewish War Veterans Post #54

March 11, 2018

Commander Bruce Mayor called the meeting to order at 10:05am

Members present: Larry Malis, Leslie Turner, Mark Turner, Howard Goldstein, Bruce Mayor, Steve Braverman, Harv Bogolub, Jordan Trafimow and Scott Zonis.

Commander Mayor next welcomed Post 710 Commander Jerry Field who was also in attendance.

February minutes were approved after the following changes were made: change the spelling of Jeff Sacks and add "Tony Blair" before "will be speaking".

Commander Mayor next described his attendance, along with 6 other Illinois Department members, to the Holocaust Museum Awards banquet held at the downtown Chicago Hyatt Regency. Also in attendance were Governor Bruce Rauner, Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Former Mayor Daley, Jay Pritzker, Jesse Jackson and about 2000 others. The Jewish War Veterans in attendance all received personal recognition and acknowledgement.

Bruce next reviewed the Illinois Department meeting including Department Commander Nussbaum's meeting with legislative assistants, results of the National executive council meeting and correspondence.

Also reviewed were the results of the Veterans Assistance Council meeting. A key point was the raising of funds for an honor flight.

Quartermaster Turner reported we had \$1800.65 in our account with some members not yet having renewed their memberships.

There was no Senior Vice Commander report and Commander Mayor is still seeking a Junior Vice Commander

Old Business

After some discussion, the Military draft resolution was pulled. Another, broader, resolution may be raised at a later date.

An extensive discussion regarding the cleaning, repairing and maintaining of the monument at Oak Ridge Jewish cemetery led to the need for further review. Bruce will be following up with some contractors and the cemetery to obtain bids. There were suggestions to use the monument as a means to attract other volunteers (students and others) as well as a potential fund raising vehicle. These will be pursued after we get a better handle on pricing.

The Jewish folk festival is June 10th at the forest preserve in Morton Grove. This is a great opportunity to try and attract new members. All Post 54 members are encouraged to attend the festival and volunteer to work the Jewish War Veterans booth. It was agreed that Post 54 and Post 710 would jointly share a booth near the Departments booth.

New Business

Another extensive discussion was held regarding poppy and wristband sales for Memorial Day. It was ultimately agreed that there was too much competition around Memorial Day and Post 54 would conduct our poppy and possibly wristband sales on July 1 in front of the Lombard Jewel and Schmaltz's Deli - both of whom we need to approach and receive approval. We will also offer poppy and wristbands on the last day of Sunday School (May 6). Poppy sales may also take place at the Jewish Festival.

Scott Zonis talked about the work he is doing at CKI, a synagogue in Elgin, where he is promoting Post #54 to other members of his congregation. A mailing recently went out to all members describing Jewish War Veterans in general and the work we are doing in Post 54.

Jerry Fields spoke about Vet-Tec, the work he is doing with various veterans organizations and how we can help. He also thanked Post 54 for being at the forefront of many changes with the Department of Illinois. Jerry also mentioned that three members of Post 54 will be attending an IDF event on 4/23.

Howard Goldstein spoke about a new sub-committee that has been formed at Hines VA's VAVS group for veterans organizations who are having trouble attracting new members to share what has and has not worked for them.

The next meeting will be held April 8th at Etz Chaim. Post 54 is sponsoring the Tumlar that morning.

There will not be a May meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45.