

**MINUTES**  
**Fred E. Hayes Post 57**  
**Department of Washington**  
**The American Legion**

**January 20, 2022**

**Stevens-Young Room, Grandview Community Center, Grandview, WA**

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order in regular form at 7:01 PM by Commander Gates. The Invocation was offered by Chaplain John Myers. The POW / MIA Empty Chair was recognized. The Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble was recited by all present.
2. **1900 Hour Toast:** The 1900 Hour Toast was offered by Mr. Davidson.
3. **Roll Call of Officers:**
  - Robert Gates, Commander
  - Dudley Brown, Vice Commander
  - Ricard Zook, Vice Commander
  - Jim Davidson, Adjutant / Finance
  - Vicky Gates, Sgt-at-Arms
  - John Myers, Chaplain
  - Warren Barmore, PEC-man
  - Curt Nealen, PEC-man**Guests:**
  - Auxiliary:
  - Other Guests:
  - Members:**
  - Excused:**
  - Attended by Teleconference:** Curt Nealen
  - Quorum     No Quorum
4. **Approve Minutes of December 16, 2021 Meeting:**  
***Mr. Myers moved with second by Ms. Gates to approve the Minutes of the December 16, 2022 Meeting. The Motion was approved unanimously.***
5. **Post Everlasting / Memorial to Departed Comrades:**
  - Resolution 57-2021-006 Robert "Doug" Hilmoe, US Navy, Vietnam Era (Appendix "A").
  - Resolution 57-2022-001 Lawrence Ferson, US Navy, Vietnam Era – former member (Appendix "B").
  - ***Ms. Gates moved with second by Mr. Brown to approve Resolution 57-2021-006 transferring Robert "Doug" Hilmoe to Post Everlasting and Resolution 57-2022-001 transferring Lawrence Ferson to Post Everlasting. The Motion was approved unanimously.***
  - Esther Zahn, member of Auxiliary Unit 57 was remembered.
  - A Memorial Prayer was offered by Chaplain Myers.
6. **Finance Report:** Adjutant Davidson reported the following:
  - Self Help Federal Credit Union Checking (General) account balance is \$564.17.
  - Self Help Federal Credit Union Savings (Programs) account balance is \$15,318.73.
  - Self Help Federal Credit Union CD (Investments) account balance is \$26,929.19.
  - Auxiliary Unit 57 Account Balance (in Savings): \$3,580.66.
  - BSA Troop Checking Account Balance: \$3,079.21.
  - BSA Troop Savings Account Balance: \$810.34.
  - The Budget / Profit-Loss statement was circulated. The current year-to-date balance is +\$2,126.69.
  - Auxiliary Budget / Profit/Loss – Current year-to-date balance; +\$3,580.00.
  - BSA Troop accounts will be reported each month since they are a program of the

Post and because the Troop and Post accounts were linked to provide easier access to online banking.

- The IRS Inclusion Letter for the IRS was completed and sent to Department to transmit to National.
- IRS 990-N filed electronically.
- The account registers were reviewed for income and expenditures.

***Mr. Brown moved with second by Dr. Barmore to approve the Finance Report. The Motion was approved unanimously.***

7. **Adjutant's Report:**

- **Membership:** The 2022 Goal is 80 members. Current paid membership is 61 (76.25% of Goal).
  - Transfer-Out: Chris Heinz to WY0013 effective 10/29/2021
- **Communications:**
  - Multiple communications have been sent by the Department Adjutant and Department Commander. There have been no communications from the 6<sup>th</sup> District Commander or the Area IV Department Vice Commander.
  - Thank you card from Sally Van Horn for Wreaths Across America.
- TACOM Rifle Inventory will be completed and sent to TACOM. Dr. Barmore asked how many rifles the Post has custody of from TACOM. The Post has ten 1903 Springfield rifles.
- The 6<sup>th</sup> District Spring Conference date has been set for April 2, 2022. If contacted, the Post can host the event if the Community Center is not booked.

***Dr. Barmore moved with second by Mr. Myers to approve the Adjutant's Report including the member transfer as recorded. The Motion was approved unanimously.***

8. **Unfinished (Old) Business:**

- **Penny-a-Day Campaign:** The schools yet to be confirmed and arrangements made with the City to conduct a street collection on Wine Country Way in Late February.
- **Graves Registration Committee:** As proposed at the December meeting, Mr. Davidson suggested a Graves Registration Committee be formed to improve collection of and recording of veteran grave locations at the Grandview Cemetery. Currently he and Sally Van Horn update maps as new graves are identified. He suggested other people be appointed to improve the process and record more data. He suggested that in addition to him and Ms. Van Horn, Mr. Vining and / or Mr. Myers of the Museum be added to maintain data. Also, he suggested Domingo Ramirez, who is associated with the Lower Valley Honor Guard, be added to announce when veterans are buried in Grandview. Finally, he suggested a photographer to provide headstone images to up-load to sites such as Find a Grave. ***ACTION: Commander Gates authorized Mr. Davidson to contact those individuals for service on such a committee.***

9. **New Business:**

- **Memorial Board:** Mr. Davidson reported the Memorial Board needs to be updated with new names. There is a need to locate a business that can engrave nameplates such as those currently in place. In discussion, several trophy shops were identified to seek assistance. In addition, names of current generation veterans need to be added. Member Jeanine Sullivan will be asked to compile names she is aware of from Grandview.
- **Work Party for Storage Room and Memorial Wall(s):** Mr. Davidson reported work party needs to be formed to reorganize the storage room and hang awards in the Memorial hallway. He asked members to indicate days of the week that would work for them to complete the task.

- **Request from Grandview Museum to honor former MIA:** Mr. Myers reported on a request from member Ray Vining to provide some sort of memorial, plaque or wreath to honor Navy Lt Paul Charvet, formerly missing in action from the Vietnam War who has now been accounted for by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. There is no information as of yet regarding funeral or burial location. Mr. Myers thought a small display at the end of a military showcase might work. Mr. Davidson reported that Auxiliary Secretary Nancy Davidson has made small wreaths honoring Lt Charvet that were placed at the Vietnam Memorial by Scouts when they were in Washington DC on different occasions. Mr. Myers will ask Mr. Vining if that will work. A portrait by Michael Reagan was also discussed, although those are intended for families. The Post does have one small portrait of KIA Matt Emerson on display in the Memorial Hallway.
10. **Balloting on New Applications / Renewal of Expired Members:**
- There were no new members, expired renewals or transfers since the last meeting.
11. **Service Officer:** Chief Service Officer Davidson reported the following:
- **Claims:**
    - One claim is in progress and in the hands of the VA.
    - Three claims are pending completion of paperwork.
    - No Health care requests are pending.
  - **Sick Call & Relief:**
    - Curt Nealen, recovering from surgery and updated attendees of his current status.
  - **Employment:**
    - No employment actions were taken during the last month, The Post Office is seeking employees as is the Walmart Distribution Center.
12. **Committee Reports:**
- **National Security (includes Homeland Security):**
    - **Blood Drive:** The March 2, 2022 blood drive has 23 donors scheduled out of 33 slots. There are no donors scheduled for the May 11, 2022 blood drive. The Red Cross's cancellation of the December drive has had a negative impact on recruiting.
  - **Americanism:**
    - Flags continue to be picked up from the flag box at City Hall and placed for cremation.
    - Flags for Legion Park will need to be purchased in the next month or so. The Space Force flag is now part of the package, but there are not enough poles to display it. Mr. Davidson suggested it be flown below the Air Force flag. Also, the Post will be purchasing a polyester POW/MIA flag for the park. The double sided flag is nearly \$100.00. There was discussion about adding two more poles to the military flag display to accommodate the Space Force flag and a Merchant Marine flag. This will be a substantial project. No action was taken.
  - **Community Service and Post Activities (includes Wreaths Across America):**
    - Sally Van Horn, Wreaths Across America Chairwoman sent a report on the financials for the program. It is anticipated that the Post will receive approximately \$2,400.00 in income from the program. The Bickleton ceremony, which was planned and conducted by Troop 643 Eagle Candidate Luke Binfet, was conducted in the afternoon of the ceremony day. Mr. Davidson noted it was cold, windy and brief.
  - **Membership and Publicity:**
    - The Department Commander has announced the replacement of the

Department Membership Chairman John Clark with Past Department Commander Gary Roach. Reasons were unknown, but backlash among members of the Department Executive Committee has caused Mr. Roach to resign.

- **Boys State:**
  - Anthony Campuzano, a senior at Grandview High School and delegate for the cancelled 2021 Boys State, has reapplied for the 2022 Boys State. A junior from Bickleton High School and a Grandview resident, Luke Binfet, is expected to apply. ***Ms. Gates moved with second by Mr. Brown to approve \$300.00 scholarships to the two youth to complete their registration. The Motion was approved unanimously.***
- **Children and Youth:**
  - Licensing for the Troopmaster software for Troop 644 was renewed for two years.
  - One Scout from Troop 643 has completed an Eagle Scout Service Project at Eastside Park (Horseshoe pits) and is working on completing his report. Another Scout is wrapping up his Eagle Scout Service Project (Bickleton Wreaths Across America ceremony). He will be completing his paperwork and finishing a required merit badge.
  - Rechartering is still underway and has been complicated by a glitch in the Rechartering web site.
- **Education:**
  - Vocational and athletic scholars are being identified.

13. **Good of the Legion:**

- The “Feed the Pig” piggy bank was circulated for the Child Welfare Foundation.
- The next Chamber of Commerce meeting is to be announced. Members are welcome to attend. Lunch is not required if held at a restaurant.

14. **Next Regular Meeting.** The next regular Post meeting will be Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM in-person and by phone.

15. **Adjournment:** With no other business before the Post, the Veterans Creed was recited, the POW / MIA Flag was retired, benediction was offered and the meeting was adjourned in regular form by Commander Gates at 8:17 PM.

James A. Davidson  
Adjutant

Robert G. Gates  
Commander

Date

**Appendix “A”**

**Resolution 57-2021-006**

Post Everlasting for Robert “Doug” Hilmoie, U.S. Navy, Vietnam Era

**Whereas**, It has pleased Almighty God, The Great Commander, to summon to the immortal legions our beloved comrade, Robert “Doug” Hilmoie, U.S. Navy, Vietnam Era, and

**Whereas**, We humbly bow to the will of Divine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of distinguished service to our country and outstanding contributions to American Legion comradeship; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, That Fred E. Hayes Post 57, The American Legion, Grandview, Washington, meeting on January 20, 2022, does mourn the passing of our comrade, Robert “Doug” Hilmoe, that we commend to all the works and to God the spirit; and be it further

**Resolved**, That in token of our common grief, a copy of this resolution transferring Robert “Doug” Hilmoe to Post Everlasting, The American Legion, is presented to the next of kin.

**Appendix “B”**

**Resolution 57-2022-001**

Post Everlasting for Lawrence Ferson, U.S. Navy, Vietnam Era

**Whereas**, It has pleased Almighty God, The Great Commander, to summon to the immortal legions our beloved comrade, Lawrence Ferson, U.S. Navy, Vietnam Era, and

**Whereas**, We humbly bow to the will of Divine Providence, while ever cherishing in our hearts the memory of distinguished service to our country and outstanding contributions to American Legion comradeship; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, That Fred E. Hayes Post 57, The American Legion, Grandview, Washington, meeting on January 20, 2022, does mourn the passing of our comrade, Lawrence Ferson, that we commend to all the works and to God the spirit; and be it further

**Resolved**, That in token of our common grief, a copy of this resolution transferring Lawrence Ferson to Post Everlasting, The American Legion, is presented to the next of kin.