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## Sons of the American Legion Squadron 297, Union, MO. Monthly Meeting Minutes –April-2026

Commander: Brad Parker

Finance: Virgil Weideman

1<sup>st</sup> Vice: Pete Colombo

Chaplin: Pete Ramsey

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Joe Colombo

Historian: Phil Rubach

Adjutant: Gordian Parker

Sgt. at Arms: Bill Hill

**Opening:** Meeting was held on the 21th day of March, 2026 and was called to order at 7:00 pm by the Commander.

### Members Present

Officers (5): Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander, Adjutant, Historian and the Sgt. at Arms.

Members: There were 8 at large members present for a total of 13 members at the April meeting.

The American Flag was in position and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all members in attendance, after which the meeting was open for business.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Commander thanked everyone in attendance for their continued support of the Sons of the American Legion.

**March Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made by Pete Colombo to accept the March meeting minutes as written (not read), 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Bruton. All in favor. No objections. The motion passed. This motion was made in lieu of the fact that all monthly meeting minutes will be posted on the Post 297 website for all members to read as of the January 2023 meeting. Old and New business may be read at monthly meetings pending needed reference.

**Financial Report:** The Financial Reports were read for business conducted from March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 thru April 21st, 2026. There were no notable corrections. The Commander called for a motion on the Finance Reports. A motion to accept the Finance Reports as reported was made by Pete Colombo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Livengood. There were no additional discussions and the motion passed. (All in Favor – No Objections).

### Membership Report:

1) The Adjutant reported that the Missouri Detachment of the American Legion is rising the state dues from 3\$ to 5\$. Gordy Parker made a motion to keep the squadrons annual dues at 35\$ regardless of the 2\$ per year increase by the state, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Phil Rubach. All in favor. No objections. The motion passed.

**Correspondence:**

- 1) A letter of thanks was read from the Missouri National Veterans Memorial for the Squadrons 250\$ donation.

**Old Business:**

- 1) The commander announced that the Women's Auxiliary is requesting volunteers for their May 15-16 Poppy Days event.
- 2) Pete Colombo gave an update on the new electronic sign to be installed outside, in front of the post.
- 3) The commander asked for volunteers for the Post's annual Memorial Day Celebration.

**New Business:**

- 1) A request for donation was made by the Missouri National Veterans Memorial to support the Memorial. Gordy Parker made a motion to deny the request in lieu of the fact that the squadron gives multiple times per year to this organization. Squad 297 will continue to donate upon future requests, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Danny Thompson. All in favor. No objections. The motion passed.
- 2) The commander announced that the Veterans Way organization is looking for volunteer board members. They currently have 4, they want 10.
- 3) The commander made a motion to donate 500\$ to the Girls & Boys State program, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dan Sansom. All in favor. No objections. The motion passed.
- 4) The commander announced the Heartland Hospice is looking for volunteers to spend time with veterans.
- 5) Pete Colombo made a motion to sponsor 2 holes at the annual Immaculate Conception Golf Tournament @ 125\$ per hole. (250\$ total), 2<sup>nd</sup> by Danny Thompson. All in favor. No objections. The motion passed.
- 6) Pete Colombo announced that the Post will have a booth at the City of Union's annual Founders Day event on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Donations to the Veterans Way organization will be taken at the booth along with a membership drive.
- 7) Pete Colombo announced that the City of Union is initiating a street banner (on light poles) program. More details forthcoming.
- 8) Pete Colombo announced that the post is trying to initiate a monthly veterans wellness day.
- 9) The Union Ambulance District is installing a baby box. Asking for donations.
- 10) Roger Gansmann's mother died. Dan Sansom made a motion to donate 100\$ for flowers & 100\$ donated to the Veterans Way Foundation for bedding in Mr. Gansmann's mother's name.
- 11) Member Haywood Fudd introduced a possible Sports Card Show at the post. Mission: get people to the legion. Spend money. Acquire new members.

**Closing Comments:** The Commander asked for any additional new business, at which none was reported at that time, he asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made to adjourn by Mike Livengood, 2<sup>nd</sup> Pete Colombo. Motion passed. (All in Favor - No Objections.).

The Commander thanked everyone for their attendance and support of the Son's Squadron 297, and wished everyone a great evening.

The Flag was retired, and the membership was dismissed. Meeting was closed at 7:36 pm.

A copy of the minutes was placed in the Squadron Historical folder.

