



Post 552

American Legion Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2023

Meeting Called to Order: __6:02____pm

Officers Present:

Commander	Kent Vanhorn
1 st Vice	Mike Hill
2 nd Vice	Jeff Mullis
Adjutant	Doug Benzel
Finance Off.	Mark Seamon
Chaplain	Bill Bartle
SergeantatArms	Jim Vanderploeg—Absent

Other members: Dave Schmidt, Jim Winn, Ray Higgins, Jim Halbert and Bill Heard

Guests: None

Reading of the Minutes: Minutes of the March meeting were read. With the correction of “18-month money market fund” to “18-month CD” the minutes were approved.

Committee Reports:

Finance: The T-bill has matured and been placed into an 18-month CD. A small amount has been placed into a Worthybond fund. Prior to both the UBS CD and the new CD maturing we will review appropriate financial instruments at our October 2024 meeting. Balance sheet and budget have been provided to the officers by the Finance Officer.

Membership: We have 113 members of our 132 goal renewed for 2023. This is 85.61% of our goal. The District average is 76.18%. This places us as number 5 in the District. A

delinquent list has been produced and those members notified by email. Mark and Doug will be calling them as well.

Boys State: The Commander reported that 3 boys have been selected for Boys State by our Post. Two were interviewed by the Commander and Jack Porath, and the third by the Commander. All were found to be very outstanding. Their names are Charlie Hutchison, Charlie Grebing and Harold Gildehaus. They have been asked to give a presentation to the Post after the Boys State convention. Originally two were approved in the budget. To support the third, Mike Hill and the Commander each provided \$100 at the meeting. Bill Heard has promised a check for \$100 and Jim Winn has already provided \$100. A motion was made by Bill Bartle, seconded, and unanimously approved for the Post to provide the additional \$200 needed for the third boy.

Sick Call: Bill announced that Jim Vanderploeg is recovering well from his accident.

Unfinished Business:

Website: We are trying to get more visibility for our Post via the internet. Searches for "American Legion near me", "American Legion Pacific Beach" and "American Legion San Diego" do not result in seeing American Legion Post 552. Activation of one of our Post domains with a webpage could be used to redirect to www.vfw5985.com. The Commander will investigate with Jack Porath on ways to do this. He would like to see connectivity with the ALA and SAL and current events about our Post. He will also check with National and the District on reasonable ways to support website development. This subject was tabled until next month.

Election Nominations: No new nominations were made for our May election.

New Business:

Membership Stories: Ray Higgins knows there is lots of history that could be told about our members. He volunteered to develop a repository of stories. He was tasked to define how these stories would be used, the format and how they would be posted before collecting information.

Memorial to Departed Post Members: Bill Bartle recognized the passing of Phillip Prather on April 1, 2023. He was a member of this Post, and a member of the American Legion for 32 years.

Good of the Order: Dave Schmidt presented the Commander and Mike Hill with a Springfield 1898 rifle that can be displayed on the premises.

Meeting was adjourned at ___7:20 pm_____