



Post 552

American Legion Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2024

Meeting Called to Order: __6:00____pm

Officers Present:

Commander	Kent Vanhorn	
1 st Vice	Mike Hill	
2 nd Vice	Bill Marsh	Absent
Adjutant	Doug Benzel	
Finance Off.	Mark Seamon	
Chaplain	Bill Bartle	
SergeantatArms	Jim Vander Ploeg	

Other members: Brian Compton, Bill Heard and Dave Schmidt

Guests: None

Reading of the Minutes: Minutes of the January meeting were displayed on the screen for members to read and were approved as written.

Committee Reports:

Finance: The Commander displayed the balance sheet and budget summary for January. No corrections were made.

Membership: The Post has 129 members for 2024 with a 118 goal. This equals 109.32% while the District average is 87.80%. We are number two in the District. The San Diego Post is number one with 110.07%.

Sick Call: The First Vice advised that Jim Winn is experiencing health issues and will not be able to complete the cabinet installation in the hall. Jim may need help in getting to his doctor appointments so volunteers are welcome.

Unfinished Business:

Fundraisers: Bingo is scheduled for March 23. Bill Marsh is working a flyer with Liz Segre for the event.

The Commander suggested we think about a taco night, maybe associated with a guest speaker. Mike knows of a military chef school that could supply trainees to help. Jim Vander Ploeg offered to support this effort.

Guest Speakers: Bill Heard recommends Holly Shafner (as a speaker) that promotes the San Diego Honor Flight, taking veterans to Washington, DC each year. Bill will pursue this with Holly. Also, Dennis Schoville, who is a highly-decorated Army helicopter pilot that served in Vietnam, can be contacted as a speaker.

Post Membership Cards: Bill Marsh produced cards that can be given to members wishing to join our Post. They were distributed and the remaining ones are behind the counter in the bar. These have a QR code that will take the user to our website.

VFW-American Legion Facility Agreement: Mike Hill and Kent have spoken twice about a new agreement to provide a framework. The Commander has structured a draft agreement and provided it to our committee. Once feedback is received, he will make changes and provide it to the VFW Commander (Mike). Both organizations will vote on the final agreement before signature.

New Business:

District 22 Report: The Commander attended the District meeting on February 11. Most discussion centered around Boys State and baseball.

Boys State: John Flaherty heads up Boys State for the District. The Post plans to submit three selectees for this year. The Commander has emailed counselors at Mission Bay High School requesting they provide us with applicants. The interview process will occur in the first two weeks of March and our submission is due to the District by March 22. Mark is providing the monies that are due now—(\$500 for Boys State and \$275 for transportation for each selectee).

Brian Compton suggested Point Loma High School be part of this process. He will identify guidance counselors and a junior ROTC point of contact to Kent.

Baseball: The MBHS Cobra's new coach is Kenny Hood. The season begins in June, so we will provide sponsorship money for them before that time.

Dues: National is raising dues for the 2025 year to \$50. To make sure we continue to receive the most funding for each member it is important to raise our dues. Doug made a motion that we raise our dues to \$50 beginning July 1. It was seconded by Bill Bartle and unanimously approved.

Good of the Order: None

Meeting was adjourned at __7:05 pm_____

/s/Signed February 16, 2024

Adjutant