



**AMERICAN LEGION  
Post 176 Springfield  
EXCOM Meeting Minutes  
February 15, 2022**



1. Call to Order, Salute, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Adjutant
3. Commander's Comments
4. Presentation(s):
5. Reports:

<b>Voting Legionnaire Name and Title</b>	
Marty Pfeifer, Commander <b>Present</b>	General Comments: See written report. <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Formed search committee for General Manager (GM). The committee will provide an update</li><li>2. Formed a committee to consider revisions to the Dentz fund. The committee will provide an update</li><li>3. George Washington's birthday parade will be on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> from 1 PM to 3 PM</li><li>4. Memorial service for past 17<sup>th</sup> District Commander is February 22<sup>nd</sup></li><li>5. Continue to make repairs to the aging facility</li><li>6. Four Chaplin's Ceremony was held on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Kevin and Charlie</li><li>7. A special Surf and Turf Valentine's dinner was held on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Thanks, Karla, Erica, and the staff.</li><li>8. The Chaplin conducted a graveside service for a member at Quantico. Post members attended.</li><li>9. The Spring Conference is scheduled for March 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> at the Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk.</li><li>10. The 17th District Spring conference will be on March 20th</li></ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. The 17th District will host the Department Convention at Dulles 7/14-17<sup>th</sup></li> <li>12. The Superbowl party was a success. Thanks to 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Matt for coordinating this event and members who contributed</li> <li>13. Please read the 17th District Communicator. The link is on the Post 176 website and in the E-News</li> <li>14. Acknowledge the Legion family for their contributions to Post 176</li> <li>15. Remember our motto - forward together</li> </ul>
<p>Kevin Gaddis, 1st Vice Commander</p> <p><b>Present</b></p>	<p>VA&amp;R, Membership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Still doing well, still largest</li> <li>2. Goal of 1480 members, currently at 1399 - 94.33% of goal, highest in the district</li> <li>3. 88 new members, 999 renewals, and approximately 16 transfers</li> <li>4. Numbers are constantly moving</li> </ul>
<p>Michael Farabaugh, 2nd Vice Commander</p> <p><b>Present</b></p>	<p>Children &amp; Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Working with 5 High Schools for Boy's State</li> <li>2. Also have one individual interested who is homeschooled</li> <li>3. Boys Scout's paperwork complete, next is approval of the process and an investigation</li> </ul>

<p>Matt Hedrick, 3rd Vice Commander</p> <p>Present</p>	<p>Americanism, Calendar</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Honor flight in April, in planning stage, possibly 55 -50 people: 25 veterans, 25 guardians, will have more accurate information about 2 weeks out from the event <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Would like to see some riders</li> <li>b. This HF is from all over versus one state</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. If you want an event, it has to be on the calendar. Conflicts with Blood Drive, will work it out</li> <li>3. Email Carl, Matt, Commander, if want to have an event to make sure it gets on the calendar</li> <li>4. House Committee met on 2/09 - discussed Superbowl, the Honor Flight, and coming up with some March events. Will discuss in more detail once meets with the Commander</li> <li>5. Auxiliary comment - suggests that when people put flyers around for events, they need to put organization and POC on them. Aux has been getting phone calls but they don't know everything on the event calendar.</li> </ol>
<p>Denise White, Post Adjutant</p> <p>Present</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Someone asked about the minutes, why they are not on the website</li> <li>2. Commander spoke to the individual; they are all set</li> </ol>

<p>Carl Simchick, Finance Officer,  <b>Present</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review previous monthly income/trends</li> <li>2. For the 1st 14 days we are doing well - 65%-70% better than where we were last month.</li> <li>3. Hall rental has picked up</li> <li>4. Maintenance repair costs went down on building</li> <li>5. Overall doing quite well</li> <li>6. Commander - important to understand, numbers are a snapshot. We're able to pay bills and that's what's important</li> </ol>
<p>Donald Quarford, Judge Advocate  <b>Present</b></p>	<p>Update on By-Laws</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bylaws on website,</li> <li>2. One sentence is in contention</li> <li>3. Commander <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Recommends contacting Jim direct</li> <li>b. If we keep changing, we'll miss the 30-day deadline</li> <li>c. Membership can make a decision if necessary.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<p>Rev. Mark Arbeen, Chaplain  <b>Excused</b></p>	<p>Post-Everlasting update, sick members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Commander - Mark did a good job at the Quantico service.</li> </ol>
<p>Scott Logan, Historian  <b>Excused</b></p>	<p>No Report</p>

<p>Kay Croll, Sgt-at-Arms</p> <p>Present</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. VSO Training opportunity at the end of the month, no expense, we can put in E-News to see if people want to attend. Not sure of the process</li> <li>2. Carl will look up email with the process from Dennis when we started VSO</li> <li>3. Representatives from DC VA, are starting a project to get enough iPads donated for the senior living facility - who do we talk to about soliciting donations. Are they a non-profit? We don't support gov, need more information, i.e. tax-exempt status, and dollar.</li> <li>4. Per commander - chances are until we get Dentz fund straightened out we won't be making donations</li> <li>5. Department has a new Service Officer – whose is requesting a report with more information. Our VSO numbers should be reported up through the district.</li> <li>6. Per the Commander - the VSO numbers will be included in the consolidated post report (CPR)</li> </ol>
<p>Ali Nikolai, Service Officer</p> <p>Present</p>	<p>Recent Veteran support provided</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chance to review the request for Unite Us referral.</li> <li>2. Conducted an interview with veteran in need of assistance. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Motion</b> to approve \$704.98</li> <li>b. Motion seconded</li> <li>c. No discussion</li> <li>d. Motion carried</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

<p>Bob Loach, 1yr Present</p> <p>Rex Cunningham, 2yr Present</p> <p>Floyd Cline, 3yr Present</p>	<p>Executive Committee at Large</p> <p>1yr - no report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On GM - vacancy posting out, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Getting responses, currently have 4 applicants,</li> <li>b. Closed on 25th.</li> <li>c. Recommendations for salary - did some research, lower than expected</li> <li>d. Recommending \$56,000 with potential for \$12,000 in bonus.</li> <li>e. Need EXCOM to write elements to bonus. The amount has to be on clear cut on what the expectations are for bonus.</li> <li>f. There are many options. If needed, we can have a special meeting with this as the only topic.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>2yr - no report</p> <p>3yr - no report</p>
<p>Dennis Madtes, Past Commander Excused</p>	
<p><b>Listed below are non-voting invited attendees</b></p>	
<p>Interim General Manager Present</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. So far not alot of big repairs,</li> <li>2. HVAC is coming in soon</li> <li>3. Door closures are due in in March,</li> <li>4. Still having issues with BUN coffee maker,</li> <li>5. Thanks to Floyd for his donation.</li> <li>6. Mike did work to try to waterproof cafe</li> <li>7. Some issues with members who haven't been treating post well.</li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Throwing beer bottles from cafe, drain blocked with beer bottle,</li> <li>b. Need to treat this like our home and police ourselves and others.</li> </ul>
<p>Susan Hedrick, American Legion Auxiliary President</p> <p>Present</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Auxiliary inquired about the temperature upstairs, very cold, cannot hold meetings in Atlas room and Auxiliary office can't be used because it's too cold</li> <li>2. Been very busy, last meeting had the District President and District Secretary come to their meeting</li> <li>3. Our unit asked to provide food for a member's memorial service</li> <li>4. Commander is invited to Auxiliary leadership meetings</li> <li>5. With the convention in July, Auxiliary's last meeting is in May. Auxiliary will be participating in convention too. District has asked all units to provide unit baskets</li> <li>6. Next event is an April Spring Fling dinner on 4/08 - in preliminary stages</li> <li>7. Had action plan for Valentine's day, will just edit. Have action plans for all their events. Everyone involved is well aware of event.</li> <li>8. Commander has asked Auxiliary to participate in Honor Flight.</li> <li>9. Lastly, Auxiliary would like an update on the minutes. Who is the third</li> </ul>

	<p>member on the committee and will there be a resolution soon on the Auxiliary package?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Commander: has not appointed a 3<sup>rd</sup> member to the committee</li> <li>b. Not sure when will have an answer</li> </ul> <p>10. Future minutes, requesting minutes from Adjutant. How far meeting in advance will be ready by next meeting.</p> <p>11. Will be ready at the next EXCOM meeting.</p> <p>12. Just to be clear - No resolution yet, the Auxiliary leadership is very interested.</p>
<p>Kevin Gaddis, SAL Commander Present</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Chili cookoff went very well</li> <li>2. Next event for sons is 3/17 St Patrick's Day</li> <li>3. Let's talk about communication - if have any issues talk to the person, call them, face to face, or email. We don't have to wait for the next meeting. Just talk. We said we would communicate, coordinate, collaborate.</li> <li>4. Carl - On chili cook-off, need to give a check back. Is someone missing their money?</li> </ul>
<p>Craig Hendrickson, American Legion Riders Director Present</p>	<p>Upcoming Riders Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hope to have 15 riders for parade on Monday</li> <li>2. Working towards blessing of bikes and poker run on the 25ht of March. Will know turnout as gets closer due to weather</li> </ul>

<p>Theron Patrick</p> <p>Excused</p>	<p>Blood Drive – February 8, 2022</p> <p>1. Commander commented - Theron did good job with blood drive, 59 pints collected</p>
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1. Old Business;

a. Facilities Committee: top 3 projects - Mike

- i. Trademaster, new unit has arrived, waiting for the installation to be scheduled, have to schedule crane and crew, reviewing rest of 2nd floor - discovered during reconstruction of Atlas room, used to be thermostat and damper controls, take a look at what has to be done to correct temp controls in the upstairs offices.
- ii. Elevator repair company incorrectly billed us for service contract. Upgrading to platinum service, they charged us for basic however we are still covered at platinum while they make the adjustment
- iii. Dishwasher in kitchen waiting on parts, already ordered, once they arrive it will be fixed
- iv. Parts for bar dishwasher and kitchen oven ordered, waiting on arrival.
- v. Bunn coffee maker installed and after 1 day failed, service tech discovered it was a quality control issue, found rust and calcium in tanks, will have a complete answer by Friday when will get another new unit. Bunn also having problems getting parts. It's a \$1300 coffee maker and this is 3rd unit we've had a problem with.
- vi. Sealed all the seams on the patio, one leak occurred after last snow, noticed one small crack. Will repair once temp goes above 40 degrees, just doing something temporary until we can fix correctly during the summer
- vii. Front doors will be installed March 13th
- viii. Gutter had a beer bottle, held all the dirt, etc
- ix. All scoopers, etc, repaired - all working properly - no leaks

- x. Received email last week, they have a project, have to reduce the size of Korean War monument country stones. Currently being placed on pallets - offered to give to post at no cost, includes transport to the post.
- xi. Commander asked each EXCOM member for input:
  1. Commander and Mike will go to DC to look at.
  2. Suggestion can put on wall that goes around parking lot, will decide where they can be put so they can be seen and honored - 22 countries, and 21 UN stones, 14 feet long
  3. Also talking to boy's scouts to see if can use as an Eagle count project.
  4. Generous offer, costly to set the stone
  5. Only post to receive offer
  6. Where going to store material? Take at least a yr to get going, cost - have to rent heavy equip, etc. if we decide to take and decide to use, then we're responsible for them
  7. Cool idea, cost is really going to be an eye-opener
  8. Group of Korean War veterans is a better contract than legion post
  9. Where would we even put it - line the walkway around the island, where would we put it to honor correctly, and cost
  10. Suggestions put the stone on the island
- xii. Based on discussion, we should turn it down. Send a nice response, thanks but not in position to handle project like that.
- b. General Manager Update - Bob updated. We've done what we can to get people interested. - hoping to get 10 people applying
- c. Dentz Fund Update - no one from the committee was present to brief.
  - i. Commander – there are 4 members on the committee: John Sawyer, Charlie Buettner, Theron Patrick, George Tesla, Clarence “Mac” O’Neill.
  - ii. Carl has given files from quick books, etc, provided bank statements and receipts from donations and, files found. Originally with Stanley Morgan before going to Edward Jones.

- iii. The committee provides an email to the Commander about once a week – currently working on 8 -9 things
  - d. Roof and HVAC Repairs – previously covered
2. New Business:
- a. Boys State and Legion Baseball –
    - i. 2 signature programs, depends on how many we want to send to Boy’s State, in past 26 to 28, this year \$400 per boy. No transportation cost this year. Each parent will be responsible for transportation. Depart on Father’s Day from Post 177. Cost could be \$10,000 to \$12,000 if we send what we used to. Post 162 is not healthy financially, if we picked up one boy from their schools, we would another \$1600. Need to decide if we want to send the same number or scale back. Also in past given money to a charity for each branch of the service, that money could potentially come out of Dentz fund. These are charities we supported in the past and that’s what the Dentz fund was set up for.
    - ii. Per Commander – reading the room, we will proceed as we have in the past and we will help Post 162.
  - b. Elections – Rex – Chair of the Committee
    - i. Coming up in May, on verge of meeting in March.
    - ii. Mandatory election in May, putting together a committee
    - iii. Any current member of EXCOM relinquishing their duties, let Rex know so they can find at least one candidate.
    - iv. In new bylaws, need to notify mass body looking for people, will make an announcement during March, by April meeting will have a draft list of people who are running then the nominees will be frozen
  - c. Commander – meet with Carl and Denise after meeting
3. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment
4. Executive Session: (If needed)