



**AMERICAN LEGION**  
**Post 176 Springfield**  
**General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**May 3, 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>	<p>General Comments: See written report.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Formed a committee to review the standing rule for the Dentz fund</li><li>2. Continue to make repairs - Mike will update later</li><li>3. Breaking down how much we spent:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Social Qtr repairs<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) replace the HP AC coil</li><li>2) rented HD AC equipment</li><li>3) repaired the safe lock mechanism</li><li>4) repaired the sunset awning</li></ol></li><li>b. Café<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) fixed the roof</li><li>2) refrigerator replaced</li><li>3) replaced freezers</li><li>4) Dishwashing system</li><li>5) Installed new coffee maker</li></ol></li><li>c. Purchased 100 new chairs for café and banquet room</li><li>d. Brought elevator up to standard</li><li>e. Repaired JarTrek and upgraded terminals</li><li>f. Replaced aging computer hardware</li><li>g. Installed water filter on ice machine</li></ol></li></ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>h. Purchased 2 new grills</li><li>i. Purchased a propane storage cage to be in compliance with fire code</li><li>j. Installed a new automatic door opener</li></ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. Finalizing Boy's State selection</li><li>5. 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice, Matt, working on Memorial Day ceremony</li><li>6. Taxes for 2021 filed</li><li>7. Provide information for the CPR to Adjutant</li><li>8. 17th District will host the Department Convention at Dulles Hilton July 14th – 17th. The next planning meeting will be on 4/23 at 1000 at Post 180 in Vienna</li><li>9. Jim has resigned as editor of the eNews and as webmaster. The general manager (GM) and finance officer (FO) are filling in. We are looking for volunteers with WordPress content system (CMS) experience</li><li>10. I've noticed discrepancies in the guest sign-in book in the social quarters (SQ). Be sure to sign guests in properly. This is an ABC requirement</li><li>11. Hosted the Honor Flight on April 12th. Thanks to 3rd Vice for doing the planning. The Auxiliary contributed deserts and served. Mike Wolf, SAL, set up a static display, and Riders provided a cordon. Thanks to Café staff and all who participated</li><li>12. Thanks to the Legion family organizations (Riders, Son's, and Auxiliary) for helping contribute to our post</li><li>13. Please read the 17th District Communicator for March, located on Post 176 website and in the E-News</li><li>14. Post elections are tonight. Rex, the committee chair will provide the process later in the meeting.</li><li>15. Congratulations to the membership team for bringing us over 100%</li><li>16. Remember our motto -Forward together, we're a volunteer organization, everyone's contributions are valued.</li></ol>
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Kevin Gaddis, 1st Vice Commander Present	VA&R, Membership: 1. 18 new members since last meeting - 17 new, 1 transfer 2. <b>Motion</b> to accept in mass <b>Motion</b> carried 3. <b>Motion</b> to accept members <b>Motion</b> carried
Michael Farabaugh, 2nd Vice Commander Present	Children & Youth No report
Matt Hedrick, 3rd Vice Commander Present	Americanism, Calendar 1. Spring dinner on the 8th - dept commander and adjutant present and other dignitaries 2. Honor Flight - 15 veterans, COO, photographer, and video crew 3. Of the 15, 7 related to each other, 4 brothers, 1 sister, 1 brother-in-law, 1 cousin, and a niece from West Point 4. One veteran was a Last Chance Veteran - someone with a terminal illness with less than 1 year to live 5. Thanks to everyone who helped with the event 6. Memorial Day Ceremony May 30th - Joint with VFW, looking for volunteers.
Denise White, Post Adjutant Present	CPR No report
Karla Pfleeger, Finance Officer, Present	Review previous monthly income/trends Making ballots, come back to
Donald Quarford, Judge Advocate Present	No report

Rev. Mark Arbeen, Chaplain <b>Present</b>	Post Everlasting update, sick members 1. A lot of people contacted about sick members 2. ECOM member lost his brother – we sent a card
Scott Logan, Historian <b>Present</b>	No Report
Kay Croll, Sgt-at-Arms <b>Present</b>	1. 150 present - 76 will be the majority 2. We have a quorum 3. VSO - introduced Patrick Mills, complicated claim see Patrick, does a great job
Ali Nikolai, Service Officer <b>Present</b>	Recent Veteran support provided 1. Service desk - helping one post member with cemetery arrangement 2. 2 referrals from UnitUs - one ceiling repair, approval from EXCOM to help ceiling repair 3. Attending SO retreat this month 18-21 May, Kay or Patrick can help
Bob Loach, 1yr <b>Present</b> Rex Cunningham, 2yr <b>Present</b> Floyd Cline, 3yr <b>Present</b>	Executive Committee at Large 1st - no report 2nd – Making ballots, come back to 3rd - no report
Dennis Madtes, Past Commander <b>Present</b>	No Report
<b>Listed below are invited attendees</b>	
General Manager, Carl Simchick	1. Still waiting to get on the schedule for the repair of valves of fire suppression system and to do the test 2. Still waiting for parts on HVAC

<p>Susan Hedrick, American Legion Auxiliary President</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very busy -April did double the reports for the Department than last year because we were able to combine efforts with the approval of the Commander.</li> <li>2. Thanked Commander for helping complete reports and programs for this year</li> <li>3. In May we will be dealing with poppies distributing 2 times this month. Information will be in the ENews and to different groups</li> <li>4. Friday before Memorial Day is national Poppy Day, we will have a table at Friday dinner and have a cake</li> <li>5. We will also be distributing poppies at Memorial Day ceremony</li> </ol>
<p>Kevin Gaddis, SAL Commander</p>	<p>This Thursday for Cinco de Mayo</p>
<p>Craig Hendrickson, American Legion Riders Director</p>	<p>Upcoming Riders Events</p> <p>Participating in many poker runs and the state legacy run</p>
<p>Theron Patrick</p>	<p>Blood Drive</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Last blood drive collected 53 units</li> <li>2. June 14, 2022, still open slots</li> </ol>

1. Old Business;
  - a. Facilities Committee: top 3 projects
  - b. Roof and HVAC Repairs – covered previously
  - c. Dentz Fund Committee Update - sent 1st draft to EXCOM
  - d. 2022 – Elections - Rex
  
2. New Business:

- a. Charlie briefed TAPS - Travesty Assistance Programs for Survivors, looking for military members to assist and mentor. Visit [taps.org](http://taps.org). Consider volunteering.
- b. Joseph Burns - VFW
  - 1) Request to membership to donate \$500 to match VFW's contribution to the VSO
  - 2) Assisted a total of 96 vets, currently 62 pending claims
  - 3) Patrick pays for everything out of his pocket
  - 4) Some go to maintaining the website dues
  - 5) Started a domain and pays \$9 a month, it comes shared drive, of course, the information is destroyed after claims are processed
  - 6) He also pays for a scheduling tool at \$13 a month; adobe pro at \$16 a month
  - 7) He has invoices
  - 8) VA has refillable forms, so shouldn't pay out of pocket for the forms

**Motion** to put \$500 toward VSO office

**Motion** carried

Request to read the motions for donations discussed at the EXCOM to General Membership

**Motion** to give the same amount as last year

- 1) Donations last year
  - a) Legion Baseball - \$3,751
  - b) Boys State – \$4,000
  - c) John Lewis High School \$500
  - d) 5 Service Branches
  - e) \$2,500 to 8 organization
  - f) \$5,000 to Legacy Run
  - g) \$24,000 of donations from Post Operating Funds

**Motion** to take out of Dentz fund

**Motion agreed to** - money comes from Dentz fund

Legion baseball

**Motion** to donate a maximum \$5,000, to be revisited in the future

**Motion agreed to**

Boys State

**Motion** to cover 20 boys at \$400 = \$8,000

**Motion agreed to**

John Lewis High School

**Motion** to give \$500

**Motion agreed to**

5 Services Branches -

\$2,500 to charities that support the branches

Last year donated \$20K total:

Fisher House

USO Warrior Family Center at Ft Belvoir

Hope for Warriors

Child Welfare fund (part of Legion)

Army Emergency Relief

Air Force Aide

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance

Navy/Marine Corp Relief

**Motion** to support 4 organizations for \$2500 each

Army Emergency Relief

Air Force Aide

Coast Guard Mutual Assistance

Navy/Marine Corp Relief

**Motion agreed to**

**Motion** to donate \$2500 to Fisher House

**Motion agreed to**

**Motion** to donate \$2500 to USO Warrior Family Center at Ft. Belvoir

**Motion agreed to**

**Motion** to donate \$2500 to Hope for Warrior

1 opposed - 3rd member at large

**Motion agreed to**

**Motion** to donate \$2500 to American Legion Child Welfare Fund

**Motion agreed to**

**Motion** to donate \$5000 to American Legion Riders Legacy Run

9 years

4 opposed - Commander, 2nd, 3rd, 3rd member at large

**Motion agreed to**

Basing calculations on Dentz Fund balance - donating 5%.

## ELECTIONS

Rex, Election Chairman, briefed on the process

1. Each voting member was given a ballot
2. Each candidate will be given an opportunity to speak before voting for their position takes place
3. Each candidate will need a majority vote
4. The losing candidate will have the option of running for another office that has not been voted on yet
5. The helpers will collect the ballot and the counting team, located in another room, will accept and count each one
6. Once complete they will fill out the report, provide it to the Election Chairman who will bring it to the Commander or 1<sup>st</sup> Vice to read to the General Membership
7. Read nominees:
  - a. Commander
    - 1) Incumbent Marty Pfeifer
    - 2) Candidate Kevin Gaddis
  - b. 1st Vice Commander
    - 1) Candidate Dennis Madtes
    - 2) Unopposed
  - c. 2nd Vice Commander
    - 1) Incumbent Mike Farabaugh
    - 2) Candidate Randy Wheeler
  - d. 3rd Vice Commander
    - 1) Candidate Jay Byrum
    - 2) Unopposed
  - e. Adjutant
    - 1) Incumbent Denise White
    - 2) Candidate Charlie Buettner
  - f. Finance Officer
    - 1) Candidate Karla Pfleeger
    - 2) Unopposed
  - g. Chaplin
    - 1) Incumbent Mark Arbeen stands
    - 2) Unopposed
  - h. Sergeant-at-Arms



- 1) Incumbent Kay Croll
- 2) Unopposed
  
- i. Service Officer
  - 1) Incumbent Ali Nikolai
  - 2) Unopposed
  
- j. Judge Advocate
  - 1) Candidate Matt Hedrick
  - 2) Candidate Martie Soper
  
- k. Historian
  - 1) Incumbent Scott Logan
  - 2) Unopposed
  
- l. Exec at large -3 yr
  - 1) Candidate Bob Loach withdrew
  - 2) Candidate Joseph Byrnes

Note: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year automatically move up

The candidate from each opposed position spoke, then the General Membership voted

**Election Results**

Commander: Kevin  
 1st Vice: Dennis  
 2nd Vice: Randy  
 3rd Vice: Jay  
 Adjutant: Denise  
 Finance Officer: Karla  
 Judge Advocate: Martie  
 Chaplain: Mark  
 Historian: Scott  
 Sgt-at-Arms: Kay  
 Service Officer: Ali  
 ECAT: 1yr Joseph  
       2yr Rex  
       3yr Floyd

**Motion** to vote in unopposed at once  
**Motion** carried

- 3. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment