



**AMERICAN LEGION
Post 176 Springfield
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 10, 2023**



1. Call to Order, Salute, Prayer, POW/MIA, Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Adjutant
3. Commander's Comments
4. Presentation: Coach Vax
5. Reports
6. Unfinished Business
7. New Business
8. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment

Voting Legionnaire Name and Title	
Kevin Gaddis, Commander Present	General Comments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quorum 23 - we have a quorum 2. Presentation to Coach Van - 33 years coach for legion baseball 3. Commander and Randy presented Coach Vax with plaque and wife with flowers 4. Thank you everyone for coming. Late start, thank you for everything you're doing 5. January 2023 is start of new year, happy new year everyone 6. Think we have a Healthy thriving Post 7. Ever growing memberships 8. A lot of Post activities 9. Formed a financial committee, they are working on building a budget, we will have it soon 10. Membership and activities keeping our Post together 11. Largest Post because it's worth being a member, people want to be a member of this Post 12. Membership committee doing a great job. They also recruit from Post 141. We have an aggressive membership team 13. Our events are focused on veterans, families and children 14. Breakfast with Santa was very successful

15. We have both scheduled and unscheduled events.
16. Last month new members 2002 and 1924 renewal
17. Signed up 5 new members in one event
18. Social quarters is our center of gravity for new memberships
19. We have 67 Korean veterans - this year and last year we collected for those who did not/could not renew.
20. January is my 8th month as Commander.
21. Things aren't going as fast as hoped. But we are going in the right direction. Very fortunate to have this EXCOM. 3rd Vice puts a lot of time into events, 2nd Vice takes time from his job to take care of youth programs
22. EXCOM is good but it's the volunteers that make it work.
23. We have a virtual platform to have meetings, there will be a time when you will be able to attend meetings and events via Zoom
24. Have state of the art equipment and infrastructure to do Zoom. Person who paid wants to remain anonymous. Just have to work out the logistics
25. Last February we formed a Dentz committee trying to set rules in place to manage the Dentz spending
26. Thanks to committee and EXCOM for working together to get this done
27. Don't think we'll agree on everything but everyone still has the Post's best interest in mind
28. Last month the Judge Advocate posted the proposed Dentz Fund Standing Rule

Motion to accept Dentz Fund Standing Rule as posted on the website last month (Jay, Chaplain second)

John: committee formed by General Membership vote for definition of charitable, and the rules; Did not agree to the Judge Advocate. Once we got did not agree to it. Working for you, the membership, to protect the Dentz fund.

Want to see something in place that prevents an unauthorized withdraw, requested an independent 2nd signature outside the EXCOM

Rex – the 1st year member-at-large will be the second signature

Commander appreciates the work that was done this year. end of the day we are all legionnaires and doing what is best for the post.

Charlie – need section 2, amended to say the Dentz Fund Committee did not agree

Strongly urge to vote no on motion.

Finance Officer - understand what John is saying, the fund is to help veterans

Tony – what’s the current balance - current \$731,867

Joe - appreciates John’s committee. Recommend approve as it is and can add later

Angela - 1 person has veto power? No

Gary - how is the funds invested – by Edward Jones

Commander called the question -

Yeas - 45

No’s 13

Abstention – 5

Motion carried

Motion to stand down the standing Dentz Committee and thank them for what they’ve done (Joe, 2nd by many)

Discussion

Who will manage the funds – Finance Officer, finance committee, and Edward Jones

No funds expended without the General Membership approval

Commander - Calling the question

Yeas - 49

No’s - 3

Abstention - 8

Motion carried

Dennis Madtes, 1st
Vice Commander

Present

VA&R, Membership

1. Very active in growing the Post.
2. 24 new members to read tonight - 3 transfers and 21 new
3. On our way to 1532 total members

Motion to accept new members in mass

Motion carried

Motion to accept as members

Motion carried

4. Pat - thanks for bringing new members in - we are the best

DRAFT

Randy Wheeler,
2nd Vice
Commander

Present

Children & Youth

1. Coach Vax presentation
2. Oratorical tomorrow night in banquet hall. Looking at 3 maybe 4 contestants
3. Winner and 1st runner up for district
4. Boy Scouts - hosting the pond wood derby. Gracious enough to give them the banquets hall for free, still \$150 short to pay for trophy

Motion to donate \$150 to pay for trophies

Motion carried

5. Gary - refurbishing gun approved \$2000 back in October
6. Due outs: checked out tire replacement/repair cost – only response \$2400 for Alban Tire Company
7. Scott - Tires in horrible shape, 50-60 yrs old, possibly of getting tires elsewhere
8. Someone at the job fair said could do it a place
9. Solar lights - one's included in \$2000 amount, additional \$400 for the quality.

Motion to replace the tires and rims for \$2400

No second - **motion nullified**

Motion Pay \$400 for the updated solar lights

Concern about theft – they are concreted in ground

Illuminate the gun. Lights inside the chain.

Is there insurance? Should fall under Post insurance

Already voted on \$2,000, it's \$400 more for the better lights with a longer warranty

yeas - 40

No's - 5

Abstention – 5

Motion carried

10. Invite everyone to the oratorical

<p>Jay Byrun, 3rd Vice Commander</p> <p>Present</p>	<p>Americanism / Calendar</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Covered events held during the winter 2. Listed some Spring events 3. Easter egg roll – Saturday before Easter - April 8th Easter. Carol Holler taking lead 4. 13 May Saturday - National Vietnam Welcome Home Celebration - get everyone involved 5. Riders have already donated \$500 for the pig for the pig roast 6. 25 June is Sonny’s Famous Fish Fry 7. Looking for volunteers to help with these events 8. Commander - Casino Night is this Saturday
<p>Denise White, Post Adjutant</p> <p>Present</p>	<p>No report</p>
<p>Karla Pfleeger, Finance Officer</p> <p>Present</p>	<p>Income/trends</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New Finance Committee – Finance Officer introduced new members 2. Joe presented the budget outline using slides, drafting annual budget 3. Proposing uses of funds 4. Reported account balances 5. Coil coming due soon, the cost is \$15,000 6. If at any time you want to see any financial information, see the Finance Officer 7. The Post has 21 employees – that’s the biggest expense
<p>Martie Soper, Judge Advocate</p> <p>Excused</p>	<p>Dentz Standing Rule</p>

<p>Rev. Mark Arbeen, Chaplain</p> <p>Present</p>	<p>Post-Everlasting update, sick members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Oct lost a Legionnaire - funeral put on hold. Now scheduled for this Saturday. Post everlasting will be sent out tomorrow. Please come out family needs support 2. Received a lot of phone calls over the holidays - very heartwarming getting to know members. 3. Some need spiritual and emotional support in addition to financial
<p>Scott Logan, Historian</p> <p>Present</p>	<p>No real report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1944 congress passed the first GI bill 2. 1942 Ford Motor Co bought the license to manufacture jeeps
<p>Kay Croll, Sgt-at-Arms</p> <p>Excused</p>	<p>Quorum</p>
<p>Ali Nikolai, Service Officer</p> <p>Present</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 request for assistance - received from a 91yo AF veteran. Recovering from 2 strokes, had to have 2 blood transfusions. 2. Looking for help with: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. \$414.07 for water b. \$341.52 for roof c. \$450 for garbage disposal <p>Motion for \$1205.59 to support veteran (Ali, seconded by many)</p> <p>Discussion-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Dennis - We have a cap of \$1200</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Marty - donate \$20</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Assigned a VA counselor? Not sure. Sent info to Joe. He will talk with the veteran and VA</p> <p>Yeas - 42</p> <p>Nays - 2</p> <p>Abstention - 1</p> <p>Motion carries</p>

<p>Executive Committee at Large</p> <p>Rex Cunningham, 1yr Present</p> <p>Floyd Cline, 2yr Present</p> <p>Joe Byrnes, 3yr Present</p>	<p>1st yr - No report Commander recognized cash team.</p> <p>2nd yr - Thanked everyone who has sent a get-well cards and calls.</p> <p>3rd yr - No report</p>
<p>Marty Pfeifer, Past Commander Present</p>	<p>No report</p>

Non-Voting Invited Attendees

<p>Carl Simchick, General Manager</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coil arrived last week - Trademaster surveyed site and is currently coordinating a crane to put the new coil on the roof and remove the old one, should be later this month or early next 2. So far, there are no leaks on roof 3. Cafe and bar licenses updated for 2023 4. Gathering document for taxes 5. Application for gaming submitted, included raffles on it, if you don't make over \$40,000 do not have to have a gaming permit 6. Need a zoom team looking for volunteers
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Mike Wolfe, SAL Commander	<p>Upcoming SAL events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Busy time for sal 2. Covered cost of \$800 so the funeral home would release the veteran for their funeral 3. 11th February will host the Chili Cook Off, there will be prizes and raffles 4. Planning the St Patty's Day event with a basket of cheer that will be raffled 5. Presented Post \$200 check to offset cost of office supplies
Tom Boltik, ALR Director	<p>Upcoming Riders Events</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thanks everyone who supported the tailgates 2. Wreath across America was a success 3. Blessing of bikes and poker run
Susan Hedrick, AL Auxiliary President	<p>Auxiliary Updates/Events</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commander read email from Auxiliary President 2. Per Auxiliary President, the Auxiliary looks forward to working with Legion family on upcoming events
Theron Patrick Absent	<p>Blood Drive</p> <p>No report on blood drive</p>

1. Unfinished Business: - no unfinished
2. New Business:
 - a. Rex - any information about the Presidents' Day march in February?
 - b. Rider will be participating, paid an admission fee
 - c. Charlie - 4 Chaplain Service will be 1st Sunday of February, at Post 177
 - d. Dennis Jones - briefed about Veterans Brigade
 - e. Commander - our Post was recognized for blood drive
 - f. 50/50 - \$127 donated to the Post
3. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment