



AMERICAN LEGION
Post 176 Springfield
EXCOM Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 21, 2023



1. Call to Order, Salute, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Adjutant
3. Commander's Comments
4. Reports
 - a. Non-Voting Invited Attendees:
 - General Manager
 - Auxiliary
 - Sons of the American Legion
 - American Legion Riders
 - Theron Patrick – Blood Drive

Non-Voting Members may remain at the EXCOM Meeting as observers only after providing their reports, or they may leave.

- b. Voting Members:

Voting Legionnaire's Names and Positions	
Kevin Gaddis, Commander	<p>General Comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Keep bob loach in prayers, on hospital rm 234 va medical CTR, moved to rehab for recovery, wife name Elise2. We will go into Executive Session after the reports3. Corporate Board meeting is rescheduled due to the Executive Session4. Floyd's position is open, per the Bylaws I am appointing Mona Espinoza. She is a recent transfer with experience in EXCOM positions.5. Mona -was very active at Post 24, 3rd vice, running for 3rd year as Department Children and Youth

<p>Dennis Madtes, 1st Vice Commander</p>	<p>Membership</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Membership at 101% 2. 5 yrs ago we were at 1280 and sinking 3. We have to be careful of increasing members because this increases our quota
<p>Randy Wheeler, 2nd Vice Commander</p>	<p>Children & Youth</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Asking for Boy's State panel members 2. Very proactive with Boy Scouts, etc. 3. 1st time in a while we had an Oratorial 4. We had the best report in District
<p>Jay Byrun, 3rd Vice Commander</p>	<p>Americanism, Calendar</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Washington Tattoo <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2 April at 1600 b. Fife and Drum, Dancers c. Right in front of the Post, - free event, bring a lawn chair, anyone knows where we can get portable bleachers d. School of children doing warm up e. Starting at 1400 will be in cafe with disabled children, Sons gave \$1000 to give the kids drum sticks, etc. f. BBQ hamburgers and hot dogs g. Hope for good weather, back up in ballroom h. Rain or shine 2. 7 May Vietnam Veterans event starts at 1300 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. guest speakers, presentations, etc. b. Possibly a BBQ with a pig c. Currently waiting to hear from Mission BBQ d. Getting Vietnam swag 3. Notes for Auxiliary need help, will talk offline and provide any assistance we are able 4. Bicycle Tour for Police - Post voted to donate \$500, because the Riders and Legion will give \$500, VFW matching and donating \$1000

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Planning a Military Dining In in November, time TBD. JA is chair, looking for a volunteer from each service. Per JA – it will not be a sleepy hollow event 6. Memorial Day is deferred to Chaplin 7. Special Forces always does Oktoberfest 8. Commander - Thank You Jay! For everything
Denise White, Post Adjutant	<p>Consolidated Reports</p> <p>No report</p>
Karla Pfleeger, Finance Officer	<p>Finance Committee Budget Update</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emailing Finance Committee 2. Meeting next week
Martie Soper, Judge Advocate	<p>No report</p>
Rev. Mark Arbeen, Chaplain	<p>Post-Everlasting update, sick members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Everyone who has supported Floyd, his wife thanks you 2. Wake and funeral was supported by every Legion family, thank you. It shows how much we care about each other 3. Working on Memorial Day event
Scott Logan, Historian	<p>Annual Report Status</p> <p>No report</p>
Kay Croll, Sgt-at-Arms	<p>Quorum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visit by VA person who represents ATLAS, wants to keep it active. 2. -also wanted to talk to VO about handling 3. Women's Social open to all women from 12 PM -2 PM on Sunday. 3 speakers, Kay, Martie and Denise 4. A few years ago, the Post had 2 VSO's. Not anymore, in addition, we have website and phone challenges, if anyone complains remind them this is extra special duty. Can provide a handout with a roadmap of how they can do the claim, if needed 5. Commander - Thank you for all you've done as SAA! You've done a great job. Even though you are stepping down, we hope you'll stay involved!

<p>Ali Nikolai, Service Officer</p>	<p>Recent Veteran support provided</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. WE have an individual who wants to become certified VSO, Dennis requested he gets in touch with him, he has packet from the Department he needs to use 2. Closed out the UniteUs referrals we received <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. One was taking classes with VA b. The other was referred to Stafford Post because he is from there 3. Sent funds for rent payments 4. Helped Vet with bills, the Vet had another stroke, in hospital, has more medical bills and got behind, Ali paid for a repair to be done with her credit card, \$440 5. Limit is \$1200, membership agreed to help and it's come to more 6. Received a referral for female vet who hospitalized, on disability, in need of hospital bed. If anyone knows if someone has one, will pass it along - received the request from UnitUs. She doesn't have a brain injury case manager. Per JA VA should be able to offer a bed
<p>Executive Committee at Large</p> <p>Rex Cunningham, 1yr</p> <p>Vacant, 2yr</p> <p>Joe Byrnes, 3yr Excused</p>	<p>1st Yr</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussed recommendation for ECAL vacancies 2. Working on finding a new lead, reorganize team 3. Although stepping down, staying involved with Cash Team 4. Commander - Thank you Rex for all you've done, you've done will always be remembered <p>2nd year - Mona Espinosa new appointment no report</p>
<p>Marty Pfeifer, Past Commander</p>	<p>No report</p>

Non-Voting Invited Attendees	
Carl Simchick, General Manager	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Received new lockers - damaged in shipment, refused. The new ones should be here Fri or Sat 2. Request from Charlie for updated lawn equipment - batteries no longer hold charge, etc. Commander agrees with recommendation 3. Put in Ballard to stop people from backing into patio. Cemented in concrete
Susan Hedrick, AL Auxiliary President	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working on reporting - due 4/1 2. Dentz Fund Committee met, has given money to 6 VA hospitals 3. Donated to Department Presidents Project, Organization MK 9 Service Dogs 4. Special events participated in - Memorial Day, 911 and Veterans Day with legion and also contributed with turkey dinners and Christmas breakfast, last year Auxiliary did Fri night spring dinner with silent auction, this year second annual event, in ballroom on April 14th. Legion doing Friday night dinner will be steak or fish, Auxiliary invited Ruth Ann Brown and her husband, AB Brown, Past Department Commander, Frank Hillard and his wife. They are coming. RSVP for Auxiliary Department President, sent to 3rd Vice and spoke to Karla about help to basically, get tables out, have tablecloths, and the Heritage Girls will be doing center pieces, have received a lot of donations, cost TBD, see flyers and on eNews, looking for 12 tables of 6, inviting District Auxiliary President and her 1st and 2nd Vices. Hoping all District commanders come. 5. Commander - great event, 24 hours ago commander found out about joint event, Auxiliary needs to get with 3rd vice 6. Susie did, lead, legion is providing food 7. Commander make it a success - better coordination 8. Auxiliary's next 2 meeting in the cafe, reached out to the Director of Riders to let them know. Will put laptop with microphone in room ahead of time
Mike Wolfe, SAL Commander	<p>No one present</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Great St Patrick's Day fundraiser 2. Cinco de Mayo event on May 5th

Tom Boltik, ALR Director	Upcoming Riders Events 1. Received message from Susie about meetings, all set 2. Getting ready for bike blessing on 4/22. 3. One of riders, fallen, coordinating riders to pay respect 4. Check sent for \$500 to police bicycle ride
Theron Patrick	Blood Drive

1. Unfinished Business

Rex - Elections

1. 4 opening: 2 Members-at-Large (MAL), Finance Officer (FO) and Sergeant-at-Arms (SAA)
2. As of right now, 2 people interested in FO
3. No one to run for SAA's, Angela now wants to run for a MAL
4. 3 members running for MAL positions
5. Election is not progressive

Motion - Election be for member at large for 2 and 3 year and that Hoss become member at large for 1st year. Rex

Discussion:

Chaplain - asks to JA is it legal and in bylaws to do that

JA - Article 6 Section 6, Commander appoints vacancy

1st Vice - unintended consequence of motion on floor can possibly change positions,

every ballot is open for individuals, Mona is 2nd year MAL, until June

Commander - do we need a motion?

1st Vice - Mona is more than qualified to step into 1st year.

Commander - we had vacancy and filled it

Rex- Mona appointed for remainder of Floyd's term, Hoss can run

JA - recommends Rex recant the motion

Motion - to recant motion - Rex

Jay 2nd

Motion carried

2. New Business

Theron - Dentz Payback - moved to executive session

3. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment

Executive Session

Theron has brought up a motion to repay Dentz Fund

Proposed motion More than 2 years ago, \$115,000 was inappropriately taken out of the Dentz Trust Fund to pay off Post 176's mortgage. Motion is for the Post 176 Springfield, VA repay that \$115,000 with 5% interest over ten years

Discussion in EXCOM:

1. After doing some calculations and speaking with the FO, we've been paying charitable donations from operating funds versus Dentz fund
2. This will be presented to GMM
3. GM can agree or not, with EXCOMs recommendation
4. Propose the Dentz Fund pays the Post back for the operating funds expended that should have been paid from Dentz Fund
5. Wanted to use the Dentz Fund for operational costs during Covid, not for charity
6. Marty: unfortunately, can't see into the future, money paid based on experience, 5.25% investment rate of return over a period of time, have to make an assumption, most pension funds using 7-8%. Depends on how we look at it. Aren't going to know for years whether correct
7. Chaplain: don't like a motion like this, assumes the decision hurt the Post, it never hurt the Post, it was not done for personal gain, dragging this out, drags the pain out, can't continue this. Let's stop it now
8. Commander: voted at the GMM to end this issue, some people won't give it up
9. Historian: decision was made it was not appropriate, this is another dig
10. Commander: change the words, if you want to pay back, the word "inappropriate" needs to be taken out
11. Rex: will take proposal to GMM to vote on but we are coming up with EXCOM recommendation
12. Karla: don't know how much interest would have even earned, if we are not helping veterans, what is the purpose of the fund?
13. 1st Vice: we saved money, tanked when market tanked, would have lost that money because of the failing stock market at that time, there was a gain - we didn't loss it in the market
14. JA: elephant in the room is how is was executed, the execution of funds was done with one or two people writing the check. Trying to regain the trust of GM. Need to address some

of the things that have been brought. We have SOPs that the funds will be strictly approved, we have checks and balances in place

15. Adjutant: there are a few individuals holding on, the GM has the confidence because of the SOPs, finance committee, etc.
16. Commander: should be equally appalled because of the floors, doors, etc.
17. Marty - we can remain silent
18. Commander: Theron can bring up at the next meeting
19. 1st Vice: we need 66% for something to pass
20. Rex: Robert's rules of order, each individual will have 2 opportunities to speak. Speak 1st, then everyone else has an opportunity, 2nd opportunity to add anything and that's it
21. Historian: Chair can limit time of the debate
22. JA: spoke a little about the history of the topic, Karla provided great information about what has been used from the operational fund versus the Dentz funds. Let Theron know there is a new procedure that comes to EXCOM and where the funds coming from, will present yea's and nays'
23. Already provided funds from the operating funds
24. SAA: EXCOM recommendation to vote down - wording inappropriate, loss of value, money from operating funds

Motion - all in favor of Theron's proposal, Kay, Karla seconded

All opposed

Motion did not pass

Commander: don't want to pay back the Post, this is a counter, let's put it to rest

Chaplain: how much must be paid on charity

1st Vice: because of negative repercussions against Veteran's Associations - 20% Language Charitable Organization is 501C3 or 19. Allow us to spend 20% on us.

Marty: motions are concerned, whoever makes motion, cannot change their words

JA - to address Marty's concern.

Commander: will we have zoom meeting, JA will be overseas

General Manager: Infrastructure there, can Zoom, Jimmy Orono - IT guy. EXCOM can zoom in for April GMM.

1st Vice: if JA is not here, Adjutant will read from the minutes

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