



**AMERICAN LEGION  
Post 176 Springfield  
EXCOM Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, October 17, 2023**



1. Call to Order, Salute, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance (meeting started at 7:05pm)
2. Roll Call: Ex-Com 1<sup>st</sup> Year Member at Large, Mona Espinosa took roll call and established a quorum
3. Presentations: None
4. Commander's Comments
5. 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:
6. Adjourn (Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm)

Voting Legionnaire Name and Title	
Kevin Gaddis, Commander	Quorum (yes)  General Comments: Commander Gaddis announced the Department Commander's Dinner on 11/10. VIPs will be Department Commander, Sonny Dickerson and Department Membership Chair Scott Maddrea. Commander Gaddis also thanked Pat Peterson for membership and mentioned that he had fell and broke his leg.
Dennis Madtes, 1st Vice Commander	VA&R, Membership <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Thanked Pat Peterson for membership efforts and gave an update on membership numbers and mentioned that at a recent leadership meeting, it was expressed that membership is the priority of the Legion due to the gap of generations in members, etc.</li><li>2. We are at 66% in membership which is above our November goal already! We are at 1,099 members.</li></ol>

Randy Wheeler, 2nd Vice Commander	Children & Youth  Nothing To Report
Jay Byrun, 3rd Vice Commander	Americanism / Calendar  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 27 October – Pool Tournament at 5:30pm</li> <li>2. 26 October- Free Massages from member, Angela Garcia (10am-2pm)</li> <li>3. Trunk o Treat event needs cars for 10/22 from 4-6pm</li> <li>4. Thanksgiving: we need turkeys and hams</li> <li>5. Breakfast with Santa on 17 December</li> </ol>
Denise White, Post Adjutant  <b>Excused</b>	EXCOM Minutes From GMM 09/05/23:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tony – wanted to make a motion for the Post to contribute \$1,000 to purchase 3 more war tables: WWI, WWII Pacific and Peninsula of Korea</li> <li>2. discussed: beautiful war tables upstairs donated by pat Peterson <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. WWI, WWII Pacific, Peninsula of Korea</li> <li>b. Tables will cost approximately \$4,000</li> <li>c. Talked about contributions of \$1000 from each of the Post 176 Legion families.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Martie Soper, Judge Advocate, high-lighted Denise’s report and it was determined that the tables would be <b>tabled</b> for a continued discussion. Jay mentioned that the Riders were concerned about space in the social quarters. Some thought the new tables were better suited for the café. Mona asked about whether or not the tables come with a warranty; given the prices they should come with some type of warranty.</li> </ol>
Roy Burton, Finance Officer,	Income / Expense Trends - Actuals versus 2023 Budget  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Roy explained the handouts he provided presenting the income/expense trends for 2023.</li> <li>2. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice asked about gaming expenses and Roy explained gaming trends.</li> <li>3. Mark Arbeen mentioned that if the general membership approves the post budget, then we should not have to get approval to spend on certain things as long as we are sticking to the budget. (It was stated by several folks that membership approval should only be needed if money is reprogrammed.)</li> <li>4. Roy mentioned that we are required to hit “charitable donations” numbers and should consider how we want to apply that.</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roy will work on the proposed budget and present in November.</li> <li>Judge Advocate, Martie Soper, mentioned she liked the idea of itemizing the budget going forward for transparency.</li> </ol>
<p>Martie Soper, Judge Advocate</p>	<p>Requesting \$2,000 for the Dining-Out</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Martie mentioned that if you buy a ticket, please keep it as you will need this at the dinner to show what meat you would like with your meal, raffles, etc.</li> <li>Tickets are \$25. 150 tickets available to Post 176 members. The event is for those 21 years and older.</li> <li>Kevin mentioned that Grover gaming would make a donation for the \$2,000 for the dining-out. Martie will be given petty-cash until Grover gives us the \$2,000.</li> <li>Dennis made a <b><u>MOTION</u></b> to request \$2,000 for the Dining-out from the Ops Fund. Mona made a second for the motion. There was some discussion. (6 voted in favor, 2 opposed, and there were 2 abstentions). <b><u>MOTION PASSED.</u></b></li> </ol> <p>House Rules/Code of Conduct</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A copy of both documents was provided to all at the ExCom meeting</li> <li>Comments from ExCom:</li> <li>Who is the enforcer of the House Rules? It should be the Commander, General Manager, and Bartender on duty.</li> <li>It has been brought to our attention that construction workers working on the garage across the street are drinking in our parking lot after they get off work.</li> <li>Please send comments to Martie by November Ex-Com meeting.</li> <li>Jay asked if the House Rules had been sent to the kitchen and bar staff for review. Martie said no, but she will send to the General Manager for such action.</li> </ol>
<p>Rev. Mark Arbeen, Chaplain</p>	<p>Post-Everlasting update, sick members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Went to VA in DC and wore his 176 cap; encourages others to do so and recruit and engage with veterans.</li> <li>Two burials in Arlington last week that he supported as Chaplain.</li> <li>He will be supporting funerals at Arlington because they are short.</li> </ol>
<p>Scott Logan, Historian</p> <p><b>Excused</b></p>	

Royes Gernandt, Sgt-at-Arms <b>Excused</b>	
Ali Nikolai, Service Officer <b>Excused</b>	
Executive Committee at Large  Mona Espinosa, 1yr  Joe Byrnes, 2yr  Angela Wilder 3yr	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Yr:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This week is National Buddy Check week, Oct 16-20. Don't forget to do your Buddy Checks, not just this week but every day. Reach out to veterans and others in our local communities who may need help. A Facebook post was made on our page for this as well.</li> <li>2. Veteran's Day Event scheduled for 11/11 at 11am <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Randy mentioned that the Scouts want to be involved in the program</li> <li>b. Pat Locke will be the Guest Speaker</li> <li>c. William, Bugler from Bugles Across America will be playing the Service songs at the end of the program</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Yr: No Report</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Yr: need correct email: <a href="mailto:angelajoneswilder@gmail.com">angelajoneswilder@gmail.com</a> returned</p>
Marty Pfeifer, Past Commander	No Report

Non-Voting Invited Attendees	
Charlie Mooney, General Manager	<p>Building Status</p> <p>Operations Status</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wanted to know if the Post was doing a New Year's event because someone was interested in renting it. (Jay said go ahead and rent it out.)</li> <li>2. There is a leak in the roof that is being worked on.</li> <li>3. Randy McCoy is in the process of changing all the locks.</li> <li>4. Liberty Mutual will be cancelling our insurance at the end of the year. They will no longer be covering social organizations or organizations</li> </ol>

	<p>that sponsor other organizations (such as other VSOs, Scouts, etc. that we have under us).</p> <p>5. The walk-in needs a new defrost system.</p>
Linwood Jones, SAL Commander	<p>Upcoming SAL events:</p> <p>No Report.</p>
Tom Boltik, ALR Director <b>Excused</b>	<p>Upcoming Riders Events</p> <p>Jay mentioned the Riders have a tailgate this Sunday</p>
Kim Palmer, Auxiliary President	<p>Auxiliary Updates/Events</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> there was a meeting (30 members attended).</li> <li>2. Meetings are now the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.</li> <li>3. They have 6 new junior members.</li> <li>4. 11/19 next Aux tailgate.</li> <li>5. 11/5 District Aux meeting at Fairfax.</li> <li>6. 10/22 Trunk O Treat, will have a table for people to sing cards for our member who is deployed.</li> <li>7. Fall Conference next week in Williamsburg.</li> <li>8. Will be handing out Poppies on Veterans Day.</li> </ol>
Theron Patrick <b>Excused</b>	<p>Blood Drive</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Commander mentioned the next one is in December.</li> <li>2. 176 is representing when it comes to blood drives in the Department. Keep it up!</li> </ol>

6. Unfinished Business

7. New Business

a. Hall Rental - Karla

1) Challenges will be discussed at the October EXCOM

- a) Karla asked the ExCom to read through the Hall Rental policy documents she sent out and to provide feedback in two weeks before next ExCom meeting, so she can have time to consolidate comments and present to the ExCom in November for review.

b) Martie will work with Karla and Erica on comments.

- b. Randy Wheeler mentioned that the Toys for Tots trailer needs to be moved so Scouts can do their service project. Charlie will discuss options with Randy.

8. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment