



**AMERICAN LEGION  
Post 176 Springfield  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, October 03, 2023**



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

Voting Legionnaire Name and Title	
Kevin Gaddis, Commander	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Robert "Bob" Eidsvoog passed away, member for numerous years,<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Past Post Commander, Past District Commander, he held numerous positions</li><li>b. Thanks to the Chaplin for getting things together, working with the family, will let everyone know as things progress</li></ol></li><li>2. Auxiliary may have a vote tonight to change the date of their meeting</li><li>3. Sunday 9/1- 1st tailgate, largest tailgate that we had, made more \$, than all Auxiliary tailgates we've had<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Short lived victory – then Riders came back and beat the Auxiliary's record</li><li>b. Good coordination between Legion family members</li><li>c. Thanks, Jay, for coordinating the events</li><li>d. Come support the family events</li></ol></li><li>4. Theron not here, last August broke his record, collected 64 units, next is 10/10. Come out and give if you can</li><li>5. At National Convention, Department received an award for blood donations. We're the only Post in 17th District that collects blood so we contributed greatly to that award</li><li>6. VA Department Commander's dinner is 11/10. We always pay for the Department Commanders hotel. This year I'd like to propose we also pay the membership chair's hotel.</li></ol>

	<p><b>Motion</b> is to fund, from the operations fund, the VA Commander and Membership Chairs hotel rooms not to exceed \$500 both</p> <p>Mona, 2nd by many</p> <p>Discussion - Clay asked if we afford - Roy yes</p> <p><b>Motion carried</b></p> <p>7. We have approximately 19 employees at post. Always give them a Christmas bonus. I'd like to discuss this year.</p> <p><b>Motion</b> to give 19 employees a holiday bonus between \$250 - \$500</p> <p>Denise, 2nd by Mona</p> <p>Discussion – we should adjust for inflation</p> <p><b>Motion carried</b></p> <p>8. We need to track volunteer hours for all we do</p>
Dennis Madtes, 1st Vice Commander	<p>VA&amp;R, Membership</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We've had 1089 renewed or new members</li> <li>2. A little over 65%, goal for Department is 55%, so we're a little ahead of the Department's goal</li> <li>3. Tomorrow is the early bird dinner. If have a 2024 Membership card, can attend for free</li> <li>4. 16 new members of Post</li> </ol> <p><b>Motion</b> to accept in mass, Hoss, 2nd by Martie</p> <p><b>Motion carried</b></p> <p><b>Motion</b> to accept 16 members to post 176, Mike, 2nd by Mark, Scott</p> <p><b>Motion carried</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Commander - thanked Dennis and membership team.</li> <li>6. Membership goal was increased to 1,632</li> </ol>

<p>Randy Wheeler, 2nd Vice Commander</p>	<p>Children &amp; Youth</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mack Brooks did a presentation on Academy X <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. His co-leader in Academy is Pat Lock</li> <li>b. They go into schools and brief Academy X</li> <li>c. Looking for help going to schools</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Certificate of appreciation - presented to Post for donation to Boy's State Scholarship</li> <li>3. Next week will start recruiting for Oratorical and Boy's State. Reached out to Auxiliary to do joint school recruiting for Girl's State</li> <li>4. Some from Boy's State have applied to West Point</li> </ol> <p>Mona -question: do you do any homeschool recruiting for Academy X</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Haven't but will get with Mona to discuss further</li> <li>6. Randy and Commander going to try to become counselors at Boy's State</li> <li>7. Girls' Scout Troop proposal <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. John Shokey &amp; Nick West briefed</li> <li>b. Approached us about sponsoring an all-girls troop for troop 1518</li> <li>c. Would like to increase the number of female Eagle Scouts from four</li> <li>d. Looking for volunteers to help with the Female's</li> <li>e. Create more opportunities for female. Female can't join males, maybe in 5-10 yrs. Now it's separate and distinct</li> <li>f. However, the handbooks are the same for both boys and girls</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>Motion</b> for Post 176 to charter Girls Troop, Denise, Jay 2nd</p> <p>Discussion - phone call to insurance company to see if it's a financial impact</p> <p>Response BSA sponsors insurance for outings, etc.</p> <p>Female leaders as well as male leaders</p> <p>2 abstention - Bob and Mark</p> <p><b>Motion carried</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Looking for Oratorical participants for December, have 3 or 4 confirmed</li> <li>9. Regional Oratorical will be competing here</li> </ol> <p>Randy thanked everyone for all the support</p>
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<p>Jay Byrun, 3rd Vice Commander</p>	<p>Americanism / Calendar</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tailgates going quite well</li> <li>2. Sunday will still have a tailgate even though there isn't a game., sponsored by the Post, full legion event, looking for help, if you'd like to bring dishes</li> <li>3. 10/22 Trunk or Treat from 1500-1800, need all the cars, it's for the kids</li> <li>4. Thanksgiving dinner here - more to follow, talk to managers at stores for donations, turkeys</li> <li>5. 12/17 Pancakes with Santa, more to follow, going to have a Photo Booth</li> <li>6. 12/3 Toy Drive for under privileged in this area</li> <li>7. Have a report for volunteer hours if anyone would like a copy</li> <li>8. More to follow for New Year's Eve</li> </ol> <p>Commander - Auxillary asks for anyone who is a dues member to come up to their meeting to vote</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Phone holder was donated, we are asking for \$5 donation to the House Committee fund</li> </ol>
<p>Denise White, Post Adjutant</p>	<p>EXCOM Minutes</p> <p>Reviewed motions</p>
<p>Roy Burton, Finance Officer,</p>	<p>Income / Expense Trends</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cash in Bank: \$131,645.22 as of 2 October</li> <li>2. 2024 Budget Development Timeline <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Presented template to EXCOM on 15 August - done</li> <li>b. Request feedback and input NLT 1 October - done</li> <li>c. EXCOM discussion at 17 October meeting</li> <li>d. EXCOM approval at 21 November meeting</li> <li>e. General Membership approval on 5 December</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Reviewing Charitable Donations Against Requirements <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Grover Gaming – 20% (~\$40K)</li> <li>b. Pull / Wall Tabs – 10% (~7K)</li> <li>c. Dentz Fund - ~ \$45K</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Line of Credit - \$150,000 – Burke and Herbert (B&amp;H) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Paid off old loan due 14 September 2023</li> <li>b. New Loan - Term: 24 months</li> <li>c. \$750 Closing Fee Waived</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Rate: WSJP + 1.50%, Initial 10% (auto pay discount 0.25%) 9.75%</li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Dentz Fund Balances – 29 Sep 23:</li> <li>b. Edward Jones Account - \$699,308, market down \$25,000 that's why we went down not because of spending</li> <li>c. Cash - ~\$35K</li> </ul> <p>6. To be used for charitable donations approved by general membership</p> <p>7. Question - Mack - do we have a goal for profits? Not at this time. Roy goal was put together 2024 will be a 3% increase to 1,576,000 budget. We own ATM's therefore we get the finance charge. Roy will do research on ATM</p>
Martie Soper, Judge Advocate	<p>By-Laws Discussion</p> <p><b>Motion</b> to accept bylaws as written and posted on the webpage, Martie, 2nd Dennis</p> <p><b>Motion passed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wrote 2 separate documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. House Rules Update</li> <li>b. Code of Conduct update</li> <li>c. Should be coming out soon currently in review</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Have tickets for Dinning Out on Nov 11th. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Will have raffles, closed event for the Post family members only, dress code is something with service</li> <li>b. Will be posting rules of the mess, 2 grog bowls, Martie is the emcee, President makes final decisions, will have dancing</li> <li>c. Will need help setting up between 1 and 4. Tickets will be on sale in Cafe during the day and Social Quarters in the evening. Only 150 tickets.</li> <li>d. Slide show of pictures, etc. of things we've done over the past year</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Rev. Mark Arbeen, Chaplain	<p>Post-Everlasting update, sick members</p> <p>No report</p>
Scott Logan, Historian	<p>No report</p>

Royce Gernandt, Sgt-at-Arms  Excused  Kay Croll Sgt-at-Arms	Kay - no report  Royes birthday. His family took him out
Ali Nikolai, Service Officer  Excused	
Executive Committee at Large  Mona Espinosa, 1yr  Joe Byrnes, 2yr  Angela Wilder 3yr	No report  Auxiliary is changing meeting. Dual members couldn't be in both place motion made to change so dual members can attend both  No report  No report
Marty Pfeifer, Past Commander	1. Thanks, Roy for working on budget 2. Remind everyone that covid has not gone away, recommend purchasing tests, offered to get protocol

Non-Voting Invited Attendees	
Charlie Mooney, General Manager	Building Status  Post Operations 1. Banquet Hall has a leak. Colbert roofing will be out to fix it 2. Getting a new cable box to watch more football 3. Whaley food, Scant food was doing the service for many years, sent the prices to Wagner and Wagner beat the prices so they will start servicing 4. Thanks to Randy to all the upgrades he's done for the Post

<p>Linwood Jones, SAL Commander</p>	<p>Upcoming SAL events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sons have been busy, thanks to Jess for all her support</li> <li>2. 9/17 Pig Roast -thanked all the family members for their support <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Planned for 120 this year had 132</li> <li>b. Last year made \$2550, this year made \$3029</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. 9/18 used leftovers from Pig Roast for tailgating – made little over \$450</li> <li>4. 10/01 had another tailgate, Mexican was the theme, 55 plates sold, made a little of \$600</li> <li>5. Thanks to Riders for helping out.</li> <li>6. Thanks to Karla for writing the newsletter</li> <li>7. Thanks to Paul for your service and dedication – he’s a Son that washes dishes every day</li> </ol> <p>Commander - thanked Linwood for revitalizing the Son’s</p>
<p>Tom “Notch” Boltik, ALR Director</p>	<p>Upcoming Riders Events</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 6 Riders rode the 200-mile trip to Riders State Rally</li> <li>2. Riders hosting 2 tailgates between now and next meeting. Auxiliary has a special meeting in Fairfax on the day they were supposed to, so we switched.</li> <li>3. Great Legion Family teamwork!</li> </ol>
<p>Kim Palmer, Auxiliary President</p>	<p>Auxiliary Updates/Events</p> <p>Commander briefed on behalf on Kim</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Voted - starting in November will be here, changed from 1st Tues to 4th Tues of month</li> <li>2. Contribute many desserts at the Pig Roast, also had a recruitment table</li> <li>3. Congrats to Linwood and his team</li> <li>4. 9/25 donated many articles of clothing, backpacks</li> <li>5. 2nd tailgate 10/15 at 1</li> <li>6. Participating in trunk or treat,</li> <li>7. Leadership team remain committed to service before self</li> </ol>

Theron Patrick	Blood Drive Not here
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## 1. Unfinished Business

**Motion** to donate \$500 from gaming use of proceeds fund to Winterhaven for clothing for homeless veterans, Kay, 2nd Martie

### a. Discussion:

- 1) Inappropriate to take money out of Dentz fund at this time,
- 2) Roy, we have balances in 2 places, last month took out \$35,000 in cash from Dentz fund
- 3) Ross - take out of the use of proceeds fund
- 4) Roy - there is more scrutiny when we take out of the Dentz fund, then other funds
- 5) No problem with it coming from operations, donations from operations that will not get the scrutiny that some get form the Dentz fund
- 6) Jim - Dentz fund should be dropped from the options and the finance officer defines where it comes form
- 7) VA not a charitable organization, Winterhaven is a charitable organization

### b. Vote - 1 abstention - Mack

**Motion carried**

## 2. New Business

## 3. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment