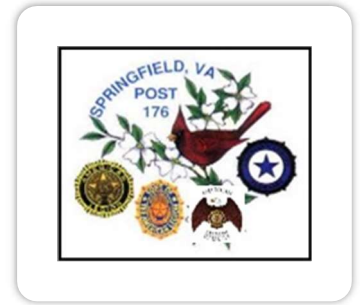




**AMERICAN LEGION
Post 176 Springfield
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 6, 2024**



1. Call to Order, Salute, Prayer, POW/MIA, Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Adjutant
3. Commander's Comments
4. Presentation(s)
 - a. Robin Kelleher – Hope for the Warriors- Cancelled to May due to illness
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">1. Thank those who showed up for Four Chaplain's ceremony in Fairfax. It was well done and we were best represented2. The 19th is President Day's 275th anniversary and the parade – we hope to have a strong presence for marchers and riders, meet at Post 243. Elections are coming up In May, Mona will be running them this year. Please let Mona know if you are interested in running for a position4. Ali is staying on for another year, longest member of the EXCOM - 18 yrs5. Portsmouth - Spring Conference is 29 Feb - 3 Mar. The National Commander, National Auxiliary President and National Sons Commander will be there6. Super Bowl is coming up – we're going to have a tailgate7. On a side note, Mona is going to the Super Bowl – won tickets

Dennis Madtes, 1st Vice Commander	<p>VA&R, Membership</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mona in training for membership 2. We are at about 1575 members at close of this meeting 3. Goal 1632 4. At 96.5% currently 5. 126 new members this year 6. Sent 450-500 emails to remind members to renew 7. Read list of 5 transfers and 10 new members <p>Motion to accept in mass, Dennis, 2nd Theron</p> <p>Motion carried</p> <p>Motion to accept to Post 176, Dennis, 2nd Hoss, Bob H.</p> <p>Motion carried</p>
Randy Wheeler, 2nd Vice Commander Excused	<p>Children & Youth</p> <p>Commander briefed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feb10 at 1000 is the Northern Regional Oratorial. We're hosting it in the banquet room 2. 5 Districts in northern region. There are only 3 contestants Whoever wins will go to Portsmouth and who wins there will complete for National
Jay Byrun, 3rd Vice Commander	<p>Americanism / Calendar</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SB tailgate – will be the best tailgate of the year because it's joint - Legionnaires, Auxiliary, Sons and Riders 2. If you're interested in volunteering, please see Jess, 3. We're serving starting 1630 until 3rd quarter 4. April 1st the Fife and Drum Corps with the Highland Dancers are coming, Riders are sponsoring the event, more to follow

Denise White, Post Adjutant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EXCOM Minutes - each member will report what was discussed. There weren't any motions 2. CPR report has arrived - 1st report due 4/24 3. Need everyone's volunteer hours 4. Reportable hours are May through April.
Roy Burton, Finance Officer,	<p>2024 Revenue & Expense Trends</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reviewed January's revenue and expenses 2. Received a letter from the IRS, looking for 3 additional forms from 2019 - 2022. 3. Krystal and Roy have reached out to the accounting firm to start the taxes for 2023.
Martie Soper, Judge Advocate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Code of Conduct on the website, please review and we will vote on it in March 2. Working on the House Rules, have some edits, will bring back to the EXCOM in Feb
Rev. Mark Arbeen, Chaplain	<p>Post-Everlasting update, sick members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yesterday was a Veteran's funeral, 1st official service with both the AL and VFW. 2. After funeral went to cemetery with Military Honors and back to Post for food sponsored by Mission BBQ
Scott Logan, Historian	No report
Royes Gernandt, Sgt-at-Arms	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Working on the Bridge Walk, 2. Participants are Board of Supervisors of this District, our Post, and Ft Belvoir. So far, the Supervisor and our Post are onboard. 3. Once we hear from the rest of the parties, we can start planning
Ali Nikolai, Service Officer Excused	

<p>Executive Committee at Large</p> <p>Mona Espinosa, 1yr</p> <p>Joe Byrnes, 2yr</p> <p>Angela Wilder 3yr</p>	<p>1st yr –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elections coming up, please see Mona by April meeting 2. Only open position is Member at Large 1st yr 3. Going to SB, grateful was asked. Will represent Post 176 <p>2nd yr - No report</p> <p>3rd yr - No report</p>
<p>Marty Pfeifer, Past Commander</p>	<p>No report</p>
<p>Lindon Dixon, National</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will bring the National Commander here 2/28 1230 2. Riders escort to go to Portsmouth 3. National Commander will testify before Congress on 3/15. We have a bus to go. Will leave at 830, for Union Station, walk to Capitol. Testify before the Veterans Affairs Committee. 4. National raising dues to start 2025. Can pay for 3 years at current rate. 5. National Convention in NO in August. Want to go and didn't get a packet contact Commander, Linden, Mona, Dennis or Mark 6. Reason for a lot of transfers is we are very welcoming Post <p>Commander - Linden is a transfer from Post 129. He has held every position and brings a wealth of experience. He is also member of the National EXCOM.</p>

Non-Voting Invited Attendees	
Charlie Mooney, General Manager	<p>Building Status</p> <p>Post Operations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replaced dispenser on ATM in SQ 2. Ballroom remodel is done 3. Signed an agreement with Guardian. Cinda's was charging \$5580, Guardian charging \$1696 4. Snow plow company - over charged for 1st and 2nd service, took \$2000 off the invoice.
Linwood Jones, SAL Commander	<p>Upcoming SAL events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2/24 Chili Cookoff - 1600 judging, 1700 tasting and sampling for members 2. 1st \$150, 2nd \$100 3rd \$75, will also have a 50/50 raffle 3. Son's membership is at 95%, with 140 members 4. Acknowledged Past Commander, Jay Rodriquez
Tom Boltik, ALR Director	<p>Upcoming Riders Events</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We're riding in the Presidents' Day parade 2. Helping with tailgate 3. Helping with Fife and Drum 4. April 20th is our Poker Run, raffling S&W 9mm and cross bow 5. Using money from raffle to donate to charity for veterans causes
Kim Palmer, Auxiliary President	<p>Auxiliary Updates/Events</p> <p>2 Big Events</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 3/24 Women's Wellness Social Event, 1-4 pm in banquet hall <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Three featured speakers b. Department President will be speaking at event c. Will have vendors showcasing yoga, mental health, etc. d. More information will be coming out e. Karla will also advertise and help with speakers 2. 4/18 - Military Child Celebration, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Celebrate military children in our community

	b. Will have a panel with military children, will also have speakers
Theron Patrick	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wonderful year - last drive we received 70 units 2. Introduced Rosemary and Paul - continuous volunteers 3. 6 drives a year because have to wait 58 days between donating 4. Have done this for over 25 yrs 5. Working with Red Cross to increase the number of tables

1. Unfinished Business

2. New Business

Commander –

- a. Same 45 members, come to the GMM - thank you. You vote on things that are important to this post. You speak for the entire membership.
 - b. Time to report everything for this Post - need your volunteer hours for the CPR
3. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment