



**AMERICAN LEGION  
Post 176 Springfield  
General Membership Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, May 7, 2024**



1. Call to Order, Salute, Prayer, POW/MIA, Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Adjutant
3. Commander's Comments
4. Presentation(s)/Remarks
  - a. 17<sup>th</sup> District Commander Shirley Buchanan
    - Thank you, Commander Gaddis, for allowing us to join your meeting
    - Briefly discussed Be the One campaign
  - b. 17<sup>th</sup> District Senior Vice Commander Jeff White
    - Discussed membership - over 100% = 1652, largest Post in VA
    - Membership is important coming to events, active in the social and business of the Post
5. Reports
6. Unfinished Business
7. New Business
8. Closing Prayer, Salute
9. Adjourn

| <b>Voting Legionnaire Name and Title</b> |  |
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| Kevin Gaddis, Commander                  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Elections today</li> <li>2. General membership has final decision on everything</li> <li>3. Karla - thank you for the newsletter and for the eBlast</li> <li>4. Great events this month - not getting into detail               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Aux had a great event with child of month</li> <li>b. Riders had poker run</li> <li>c. Sons had Cinco de Mayo and Kentucky Derby</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Support our post always</li> <li>6. Mike F - Thank you for what you are doing with baseball program</li> <li>7. Introduced 17th Commander Shirley Buchanan and 17th Senior Vice Commander Jeff White</li> <li>8. Social Quarters is a draw to people who end up joining. We are a welcoming Post</li> </ol> |

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| <p>Motions from EXCOM</p>                | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Motion for Phillips to remove equipment from Atlas room. Denise, Mona second = Motion carried</li> <li>2. Motion for the Post to donate \$1,000 to the Child and Welfare Foundation (CWF) in honor of April being Children and Youth month. Donation to be made out of gaming charities fund. Mona, Second by Joe = Motion carried</li> </ol>   |
| <p>Dennis Madtes, 1st Vice Commander</p> | <p>VA&amp;R, Membership</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Only one member we're going to discuss</li> <li>2. VA&amp;R submitted to Adjutant, standing by for edits</li> <li>3. We're at 1652. Goal was 1632</li> </ol> <p><b>Motion</b> to accept transfer Mike, Marcie 2nd</p> <p><b>Motion carried</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Pat Peterson wrote letters to each WWII veterans to let them know we're thinking about them and the Post is paying their memberships</li> <li>5. We pay Korean War veterans as well</li> </ol> <p>Commander - Membership does buddy checks, Pat and Dennis do buddy checks<br/> Found out we are down to 8 WWII veterans from 16, Korean War veterans down almost half</p>   |
| <p>Randy Wheeler, 2nd Vice Commander</p> | <p>Children &amp; Youth</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Boy's State <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 25 candidates selected with some alternates</li> <li>b. Randy, Ms Locke and Mr Brooks continue to interview</li> <li>c. Sent check to Boys State for \$25,000 to pay for them</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Tier 1 sponsor of Central Springfield Little League</li> <li>3. Couch Doug is back for the 2nd year, going to have a younger team</li> <li>4. Mike F. sent Commander all the info on the baseball teams, Karla will send out to members</li> <li>5. High schools we have are Lake Braddock, Lewis, Hayfield, Edison</li> <li>6. Season opener against Fairfax. Post <a href="http://176.org">176.org</a> has a baseball link with a lot of info</li> </ol> <p>Commander - one of the busiest Vice Commander</p> |

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| <p>Jay Byrun,<br/>3rd Vice<br/>Commander</p>                   | <p>Americanism / Calendar</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 8/17 Bridge Walk – Sgt-At-Arms will discuss</li> <li>2. 6/23 Sonny’s Fish Fry from 1500-1800</li> <li>3. July 4th on Thurs, have a BBQ starting around 1200</li> <li>4. Memorial Day coming up - Chaplain will discuss</li> <li>5. Mother’s Day this Sunday - 0800 - 1400</li> <li>6. Commander Gadson will be here Monday to discuss his book</li> </ol>                        |
| <p>Denise<br/>White,<br/>Post<br/>Adjutant</p>                 | <p>EXCOM Minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CPR Report - volunteer hours are in, will accept for one day</li> <li>2. Received reports from the Vice Commanders</li> <li>3. Discussed 2 motions from EXCOM</li> </ol>  |
| <p>Roy Burton,<br/>Finance<br/>Officer,<br/><b>Excused</b></p> | <p>2024 Revenue &amp; Expense Trends<br/>Commander - doing a great job</p>   |
| <p>Martie<br/>Soper,<br/>Judge<br/>Advocate</p>                | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. House Rules - Vote<br/><b>Motion</b> to accept House Rules as posted on website - Martie, Jay<br/><b>Motion carried</b></li> <li>2. Upcoming dining our will be 11/9. Looking for volunteers</li> </ol> <p>Commander - been along time since we’ve had a competent JA. We now have House Rules, Code of Conduct, SOPs etc.</p>   |
| <p>Rev. Mark<br/>Arbeen,<br/>Chaplain</p>                      | <p>Post-Everlasting update, sick members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Annual Memorial Day event will be held on May 27 at 11:00 am. Joint event with the VFW and Order of the Purple Heart</li> <li>2. Guest Speakers - John and Colleen - Colleen was caregiver for John and then John had to become caregiver for Colleen</li> <li>3. Reception immediately following speakers.</li> <li>4. Will be held indoors this year</li> </ol> |
| <p>Scott Logan,<br/>Historian<br/><b>Excused</b></p>           |  |

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| <p>Royes<br/>Germandt,<br/>Sgt-at-Arms</p>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 8/17 at 1000 Bridge Walk - signing covenant between Fairfax County and Ft Belvoir. Premier social event in Springfield. It signifies we are veterans and we contribute to the community.</li> <li>2. Gets the word out about veterans.</li> <li>3. Parade starts at FedEx, walks across the bridge and ends in our parking a lot.</li> <li>4. We have vendors, food, etc.</li> </ol>  |
| <p>Ali Nikolai,<br/>Service<br/>Officer</p> <p><b>Excused</b></p>  |   |
| <p>Executive<br/>Committee<br/>at Large</p> <p>Mona<br/>Espinosa,<br/>1yr</p> <p>Joe Byrnes,<br/>2yr</p> <p>Vacant<br/>3yr</p> | <p>1<sup>st</sup> Yr</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Child Welfare Foundation donation</li> </ol> <p><b>Motion</b> for the Post to donate \$1,000 to the Child and Welfare Foundation (CWF) in honor of April being Children and Youth month. Donation to be made out of gaming charities fund. Mona, Second by Dennis</p> <p><b>Motion carried</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The other Legion Families will also donate. We will receive a plaque in Sept because of the total we are donating</li> </ol> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Yr - no report</p> |
| <p>Marty<br/>Pfeifer,<br/>Past<br/>Commander</p>   | <p>No report</p>  |
| <p>Lindon<br/>Dixon,<br/>National</p> <p><b>Excused</b></p>  |   |

| <b>Non-Voting Invited Attendees</b>        |   |
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| <p>Charlie Mooney,<br/>General Manager</p> | <p>Building Status</p> <p>Post Operations</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fixed frig in SQ</li> <li>2. Chiller in SQ was replaced</li> <li>3. Working on getting the plumbing fixed for the sprinkler system</li> <li>4. Working on flat grill in kitchen. Pulling quick disconnect to see if it helps. \$12,000 only 4 years old. If that doesn't help will need to change control valves</li> <li>5. Elevator was fixed - someone dropped a tack and it was interfering with the door</li> </ol>  |
| <p>Linwood Jones,<br/>SAL Commander</p>    | <p>Upcoming SAL events:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thank everyone who supported the Son's during the Cinco de Mayo</li> <li>2. Next event is in September - the Pig's Roast.</li> <li>3. Son's election is next Tuesday.</li> </ol>  |
| <p>Tom Boltik,<br/>ALR Director</p>        | <p>Upcoming Riders Events</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Poker Run was last month - made a little over \$6200 to donate to charity</li> <li>2. Event coming up Ride to the Wall - Mission to remember POW/MIA's and the veterans</li> </ol> <p>Commander - 1st poker run, rode in a car with someone. Impressive, the precision, how professional, very organized, stress safety.</p>  |
| <p>Kim Palmer,<br/>Auxiliary President</p> | <p>Auxiliary Updates/Events</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sponsored a Military Child Celebration Sunday, April 14. Very successful <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Panel of 4 military children shared their experiences</li> <li>b. Thanks to the Son's, Riders and all the vendors and attendees</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Annual Poppy Day Drive starting May 24 which is National Poppy Day <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Secured 2 locations here in Springfield, the Giant Supermarket and Hard Times Café at Springfield Plaza for Saturday, May 25</li> <li>b. Handing out poppies at the Post's Friday Night Dinner Friday May 24</li> <li>c. Poppy donation can will also be located in our Post Social Quarters</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Making a donation to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation</li> </ol> |

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| Theron Patrick | <p>Commander - Theron doing great. He is also the Department Leader for the VA Legion Blood Drive</p> <p>Rosemary briefed –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thanks to the volunteers and donors - received over 70 units</li> <li>2. Next blood drive is 6/11. A few slots open</li> <li>3. Theron's reaching out to the other Posts to help them get started with their blood drives</li> </ol> |
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6. Unfinished Business

- a. Elections for Post 176 Officers for Legion Year 2024-2025 election (Mona & Rex)

- 1) No contested positions
- 2) Mona read the candidates and positions

**Motion** to accept the list nominations for Post `76 elected positions by acclamation, Mona, 2nd Bob

**Motion carried**

- b. Martie

**Motion** to change July meeting to 9th

EXCOMM will be changed to 23rd Martie, Dennis 2nd

**Motion carried**

Karla will send eBlast

- c. Progress update for Post 176 Honorary Life Member, 2024 (Rex)

- 1) At April GMM presented with 4 nominations for Post 176 Honorary Life Member

1. Pat Peterson
2. Eric Sonny Thomas
3. Martin Pfeifer
4. Randy Wheeler

- 2) Letters of were sent to the 10 honorary members. 2 members did not vote - Of the 4 only 2 of nominees received the required number of endorsements
- 3) Sonny Thomas and Marty Pfeifer.
- 4) During June membership meeting nomination letters for Sonny and Marty will be read. If accepted by the membership, they will be added to the Honorary Membership
- 5) Rex will review and revise the standing rule

7. New Business

8. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment