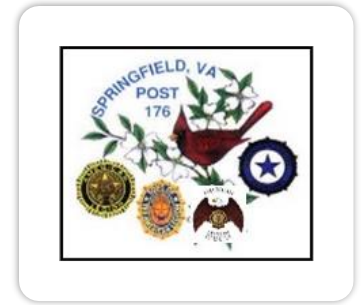




AMERICAN LEGION
Post 176 Springfield
EXCOM Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 23, 2024



1. Call to Order, Salute, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call: Adjutant
3. Commander's Comments
4. Presentation(s):
 - a. Robin Kelleher- Hope for The Warriors
 - 1) Briefed on the origin, history and current mission of Hope for the Warrior
 - 2) Mission is to take care of families so they can take care of the veteran
 - 3) Community connectiveness is essential
 - 4) 80% staff are veterans and spouses
 - 5) How can hope for the warriors help the American Legion so those young troops coming out understand the Legion is here for them
 - b. Commander - invited Robin to present at the GMM
 - c. Chaplain - you're involved with mental health - are you also involved with Be the Once Campaign. Robin - not at this time, however mental health is very important to us
 - d. Commander - discussed getting away from big ticket donations, this is the type of organization that would benefit tremendously
 - 1) Top 3 of all non-profit charities for charity navigator
 - 2) Karla - Robin hired a Child Watch so people can have someone watch the children allowing the veteran and family to go to their appts, etc.
 - e. Royes will touch base with Robin about Bridge Walk
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:

Voting Legionnaire's Names and Positions	
<p>Kevin Gaddis, Commander</p>	<p>General Comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thank you for the collaboration 2. Rowing oars in the right direction all working together
<p>Mona Espinosa, 1st Vice Commander Excused</p>	<p>VA&R, Membership</p> <p>Dennis reported</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1667 members, goal for 24-25 has not been released, the Commander will be at the meeting and will know 2. 40% already for this year. National increased dues, but depart and post 176 did not. Still \$40 3. Commander - National increased dues \$5 per member from each post. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. We did not pass that on to our members b. If Department increased their dues, we would have had to increase ours c. We're fortunate to be able to absorb the difference d. Going to Indianapolis for a membership meeting. Will know how much going up. Usually raised 3%. e. Processed over 200 memberships this weekend, that's the size of some posts. 4. Jack - question - with all the names that are read at the GMM of new members and transfers, can we get at least one new member to come to the GMM. 5. Any suggestions – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. We can ask when they sign up b. Maybe an incentive, a lot comes through the SQ and the Cafe c. We need to do something to get them interested 6. Martie - do they automatically get the eBlast? Yes, their email is on the app 7. Kim - When someone signs up, she then emails about the eNews, and community outreach 8. We are a welcoming Post

	<p>9. Riders - every ride is a recruiting opportunity, hands out cards</p> <p>10. Fairfax is about 800-900, Vienna is about 500. Why do numbers matter, for every 50 members, we get a delegate at Department and National for voting</p>
<p>Randy Wheeler, 2nd Vice Commander Excused</p>	<p>Children & Youth</p>
<p>Jay Byrun, 3rd Vice Commander</p>	<p>Americanism, Calendar</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tailgates posted this week 2. July 4th was a successful event. Special thanks to JD and Linwood. Planned 150 and served over 200 3. Talking to Commander about a group, do a ride with run for the wall. It's a 501C, would like to bring their group here - 1000 riders, per Roy put forward a budget next year. 4. Jessica and Royes doing great with Bridge Walk
<p>Denise White, Post Adjutant</p>	<p>GMU Update – CPR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Slable Update – Microsoft 365 Licenses, there are some members who are not longer here on the list. We'll reevaluate and adjust accordingly 2. Want to downsize number of phone and fax lines to 5 and 1. Slable has minimum of 10 in contract. Since we don't need that many and they are holding us to the current contract which ends in August 2025, we are renegotiating the contract for one year 3. Security Cameras - 2 quotes, working on correcting the blind spots, and updating equipment
<p>Roy Burton, Finance Officer</p>	<p>Finance Budget Update</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We doing good 2. Gaming is down this month, overall profit for this month was a loss of 30,000, reduced because of gaming and because of the AC in SQ being down 3. July and August are usually slow 4. Asked for names for donations, did not receive any. Recommends Wreaths 5. Donations have to be a 5013C 6. Warrior Canine Connections and Hope for the Warriors are both on the list

<p>Martie Soper, Judge Advocate</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dining Out – 11/9 - planning for 1700-2100, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Offer opportunity to present awards. b. Legion family members and legionaries only c. The rules of the mess will be posted d. Getting advertising together e. Going to tighten it up a little, Commander will be in charge of grog bowl. f. Only selling 114 tickets 2. Do we want a guest speaker or just Commanders comments 3. Commander’s Dinner is 11/10 - maybe invite them. 4. Jessica is helping with menu 5. Tickets \$30, have to be 21 or older, start selling in Sept, need help with selling tickets 6. Royes is working with Martie - having a Color Guard 7. Royes is going to work on supporters from the bridge walk if interested in supporting 8. Jack - maybe have the family members also donate.
<p>Rev. Mark Arbeen, Chaplain</p>	<p>Post-Everlasting update, sick members No report</p>
<p>Barry Williams, Historian <u>Zoom</u></p>	<p>No report</p>

<p>Royes Gernandt, Sgt-at-Arms <u>Zoom</u></p>	<p>Quorum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bridge Walk - fantastic team working on. Jess is doing great. 2. List of items that were in the email 3. Rain date - 24-29 Nov, just getting back so okay 4. Invitations to Kathy Tran all set and Senator Mark Warner on - sent an invite 5. Joint event - with Ft Belvoir, American Legion, Chamber of Commerce 6. Does the Commander want to approve each vendor - yes Commander will review the list. Between Jessica and Regina looking over and will send over to Commander for final review 7. The parking lot will be mapped out. There will be a logistics map. There'll be a QR code so you can see where each vendor is 8. Drop off table and chairs on Friday and picked up on Monday - 20 tables and 100 chairs, need table cloths, asking vendors to bring tables and table cloths. Vendors should bring their own table 9. Parking - waiting to see if we can get permission to use new parking deck, will have parking for members and those who need handicap parking, - this is something that will be settled during planning meetings 10. No impact to Post - cafe will be open, only members can be served 11. Safety - direct traffic 12. Most should be discussed during planning meeting, 13. SQ - have to be a member to serve 14. Auxiliary - will have poppies and a new member tent
<p>JD Gibson, Service Officer</p>	<p>Recent Veteran support provided</p> <p>No report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the SO have a budget? Yes - Annual budget 2. Will get with Roy 3. Consider donating from Feb - July what wasn't spent to Hope for the Warriors. Explained budget 4. Winter more need than in the summer

<p>Executive Committee at Large</p> <p>Joe Byrnes, 1yr Excused</p> <p>Jack Moar, 2 yr</p> <p>Dennis Madtes, 3yr Zoom</p>	<p>No report</p> <p>No report</p>
<p>Marty Pfeifer, Past Commander</p>	<p>No report</p> <p>Commander:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marty is in 2nd year as District Vice Commander 2. Dennis is in 2nd year Department Chaplain 3. Commander received Commander of the Year
<p>Lindon Dixon, National Executive Committee</p> <p>Excused</p>	

Non-Voting Invited Attendees

Charlie Mooney,
General Manager

1. Men’s room fixed, had to take it off the wall, snake and put back up
2. A/C fixed in SQ - insurance covered
3. Wall game machine Rex brought up, between the 3 we had, it did just over \$16000, about 8 boxes of tickets left. Boxes are \$150 each so suggest hold onto machine for a few more months and revisit
4. Went to Home Depot to get weed killer for the parking lot

Kim Palmer,
AL Auxiliary President

1. Girls State – first time since 1966 one of our girls elected Governor, inviting them to their 1st meeting in Sept.
2. Krystal Bransky nominated Unit Member of the Year, she does not know yet
3. Membership went from 126 to 168, up 123%
4. Scheduled tailgates, first is on 9/15
5. Leadership will continue to meet over the summer, to discuss the upcoming events, etc.
6. Cause and momentum - keep going forward

Jessica –

1. Bridge Walk, more community based, secured a few shuttles, 2 food trucks that will serve 200 each
2. Narcan training, animal shelter giving dogs away, Health Dept will be here doing vaccinations, schools here signing up kindergarteners.
3. Read letter from Franconia District Supervisor Rodney Lusk to the Board Chairman, inviting 4 schools
4. Ask the riders if they could outline where they can contain the kids, only right lane will be closed
5. Biggest thing is bridge cleanup, reached out to VDOT and Fairfax County Government.
6. Need to clean up the Legion, coordinate with Tara, as we get closer to the event.
7. Media coverage, Channel 4 and others
8. Fairfax County is putting out on social media. All communication is going through Lusk’s office
9. Politics are not allowed - no tables setup.

	<p>10. No solicitations</p> <p>11. Elected officials are okay</p>
<p>Linwood Jones, SAL Commander</p>	<p>1. Sept 21st is Pig Roast</p> <p>2. Barry, our Historian, son Brice Williams was a Boy's State Senator</p> <p>3. Barry has been traveling with his daughter received full scholarships to numerous colleges and universities - Notre Dame, Duke, Wake Forest, Tenn, to name a few</p>
<p>Tom Flach, ALR Director</p>	<p>1. Are on the cusp of 50 actual riders and additional supports</p> <p>2. This Saturday is the anniversary where we signed to end the Korean War</p>
<p>Theron Patrick</p>	<p>Blood Drive Update</p> <p>8/13 next blood drive</p>

1. Unfinished Business
2. New Business
3. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment
4. Executive Session (if necessary)
5. Annual Board of Incorporation Meeting (if necessary)