



AMERICAN LEGION
Post 176 Springfield
General Membership Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 01, 2024



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

Voting Legionnaire's Names and Positions	
Kevin Gaddis, Commander	<p>General Comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Good business practice having redundancy and resilience 2. Need a deep bench for our EXCOM. We need to have backups for critical positions. Will identify points of failure and assign backup. If someone goes out, we can continue operations 3. We work for the general membership. Everything we do is with the general membership's approval, you run the post not the EXCOM 4. Henry Dorton - 17th District Vice Commander <p>Zoom is up and running. This is the 2nd GMM with it up. Thanks to Kay and Stephanie for managing it</p>
Motions from EXCOM	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Motion to pay for the hotel rooms for 3 people attending the District Commanders dinner on Nov 10th. Scott McDrea, Gene Malinowski and Erica Eccleston. Jay 2nd Motion carries to bring to GMM 2. Motion to donate to the following charities. Barry, 2nd <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. George Washington Legacy Foundation Motion denied b. George Washington Masonic Temple Motion denied c. Links to Freedom - \$5,000 Motion approved b. Warrior Canine Connection - \$10,000 Motion Approved

	<p>c. Wreaths Across America, Quantico - \$5,000 Motion Approved</p> <p>d. Rose Hill Elementary School PTA Motion Tabled</p> <p>e. Yellow Ribbon Fund - \$10,000 Motion Approved</p>
<p>Mona Espinosa, 1st Vice Commander</p>	<p>VA&R, Membership</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 14 members to vote in: 5 transfers and 9 new members 2. 1st Vice read the names <p>Motion to accept in mass, 2nd Barry Motion carries</p> <p>Motion to accept new and transfer, 2nd Mark Motion carries</p>
<p>Randy Wheeler, 2nd Vice Commander</p> <p><u>Zoom</u></p>	<p>Children & Youth</p> <p>No report</p>
<p>Jay Byrun, 3rd Vice Commander</p>	<p>Americanism, Calendar</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 10/13 is trunk or treat, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Starts 1500 b. Group of special needs children will be here at 1400 2. Veterans Day Celebration 11/11 at 1100 3. Breakfast with Santa is 12/8 at 1000
<p>Denise White, Post Adjutant</p>	<p>Minutes</p> <p>Motion to accept minutes as posted Motion Carried</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vote on ATLAS room new name <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Names suggested: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Combat Corner

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2) The Loft 3) The Pillar Parlor (for four Pillars) 4) Dentz Room - is the new name for the ATLAS room by overwhelming vote 5) Be The One Room 6) Escape Room <p>b. Members selected Dentz Room</p> <p>Motion to change ATLAS room name to Dentz Room</p> <p>Motion Carried</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Retired Colonel Cheryl Creamer will present information on Visory Health Prescription Discount cards at the November GMM 3. Mass text messaging is available <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Members will be able to opt in by texting AL176 to #78859 b. The initial text will show as Grover Gaming
<p>Roy Burton, Finance Officer</p>	<p>Finance Budget Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A couple emergencies came up 2. A/C needs to be replaced <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Researching using gaming funds to fund replacing b. Have a few questions in with VA gaming. As soon as hear will bring it to the GMM 3. Bob – asked question regarding Boys State and 2nd Vice Commander budget we approved x and this says Y. How did you get that without approval from the GMM? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. FO - his overall budget was \$18,000. We used the overall budget for Boy’s State. EXCOM approved 4. Edward Jones and bank balance provided 5. Commander - We have a deadline for boys going to Boy’s State. There were other boys that wanted to go. It was a short timeline so we sent them. It qualifies for coming from Dentz fund so moving forward that’s what we’ll do.

<p>Martie Soper, Judge Advocate</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dining out is Saturday 11/09 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Looking for volunteers to help setting up at 1400-1500 b. Tickets for sale in SQ and Café c. Have a special speaker 2. If have anything for bylaws, please email them 3. Working on a binder for the Commander and JA position 4. Working on SOPs 5. Commander - thanks for working on the SOPs. Anyone should be able to step into any of the positions
<p>Rev. Mark Arbeen, Chaplain</p>	<p>Post-Everlasting update, sick members</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sgt-At- Arms not here, father passed away. He was a veteran 2. Commander - let's keep Royes in our thoughts and prayers
<p>Barry Williams, Historian</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On October 13, 1775 the Continental Navy was established 2. On October 18, 1923, The American Legion National Convention passed a resolution which led to what became the National Archives in 1934 3. October 17-18, 2007, The American Legion Riders became a national program. 4. The first of each month is recognized as "Be The One Day" to raise awareness on mental health issues and veteran suicide
<p>Royes Gernandt, Sgt-at-Arms Excused Kay Croll, Alt.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quorum - yes 2. Kay <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Temporary Sgt-At-Arms alternate b. Royes can use an assistant. If anyone is interested, please let Royce know 3. Commander -Royes is defacto Honor Guard. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Need a cadre of folks b. If capable of marching or are interested in participating with the Honor Guard, please let Commander know 4. Commander was previous Sgt-At-Arms at District and Post level

<p>JD Gibson, Service Officer</p>	<p>Recent Veteran support provided</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Homeless veteran - asking for help with a phone for \$39 and storage \$81 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Already vetted by veterans' family support b. Working with veterans' affairs supportive housing c. Would like to pay 3 months of his bills - phone and storage d. He's looking for a job 2. Bob - why don't we make it for 6 months 3. Members in GMM attendance agreed 4. Service Officer - we will pay for 6 months 5. Dennis - as a reminder don't pay the person 6. SO - aware pay directly
<p>Executive Committee at Large</p> <p>Jack Moar, 1yr</p> <p>Dennis Madtes, 2 yr</p> <p>Nathan Sauvageau, 3yr</p>	<p>No report</p> <p>No report</p> <p>No report</p>
<p>Marty Pfeifer, Past Commander</p>	<p>No report</p> <p>Question - who owns the data pertaining to Commander - we do</p>
<p>Lindon Dixon, National Executive Committee</p>	

Non-Voting Invited Attendees	
Charlie Mooney, General Manager	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Talked to Fairfax Cty about parking lot. Waiting to hear back. Going to redo part of the parking lot 2. Refrigerator replaced in SQ 3. Received one quote for the AC. \$35,000 which doesn't include crane to get it on the roof. Going to get 3 quotes
Kim Palmer, AL Auxiliary President	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tailgate Sept 15th – theme was Latin/Spanish. Thanks to all the volunteers 2. Next tailgate is Oct 20th at 1400 - Commanders vs the Carolina Panthers 3. Thanks to Aux members and Sal Jr.'s who helped with the Son's Annual Pig Roast 4. Our hearts and deepest sympathy to the communities facing the devastating challenges brought by Hurricane Helene in North Carolina and beyond 5. Commander - we're in tailgate season, generates a lot of comraderies 6. When we have events, please come support the post
Linwood Jones, SAL Commander	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 10th annual pig roast - over 110 guests show up. Thanks to all who helped and who supported the event. Not as big as last year 2. 10/5 1st SAL October fest 1600-1800. Used to be special forces but they couldn't do it so SAL is picking up 3. Current adjutant, Tylor, up for Detachment Commander for State of VA 4. Commander - when there's event, it doesn't matter who's hosting we have a cohesive team all working together
Tom Flach, ALR Director	No report
Theron Patrick	<p>Blood Drive Update</p> <p>Next blood drive 10/8. Slots left. Come out if you can</p>

- 5. Unfinished Business
 - a. Friday night - no Friday night dinner on 10/4
 - b. 10/9 is the annual early bird dinner. If you have a 2025 card are invited for a free dinner. 1700-1900. Tip jars out, we want to recognize those who are working

6. New Business

- a. Adam - offered assistance to Service Officer - can share a list of contacts
- b. EXCOM works for general membership. Same cohort of people show up, thank you for coming. You make the decisions for the Post
- c. Condolences to Mac for the passing of his mother

7. Closing Prayer, Salute, Adjournment

Executive Session (if necessary)

Annual Board of Incorporation Meeting (if necessary)