

American Legion

Mandarin Fallen “Heroes” Post 372 General Assembly Minutes Jan 11, 2023

1. Commander Maltese opened the meeting at 1900hrs 17 members present 5 guests.

5. Barry Litsky moved and Becky Murphy seconded approval of the November minutes as posted. Motion passed unanimously

6. Mark Shelton moved and Barry Litsky seconded waiving the reading of the minutes of the December executive committee meeting. Motion passed unanimously

1. Opening ceremonies: Salute, Prayer, Pledge, POW/MIA, Preamble

2. Members sick or in distress: Carl Zuber, Sam Hathy, Bill Weber, Mike Montenara, Bud German, E. Morgan, Bob Sussan & Wife.

3. Introduction of guests: Past commander Dan Hempsall, Tim & Reed Bailey, Karen & David Otto, Mike Garcia Department 5 Commander reports 5th District at 82% of goal, announcement at District meeting this Sunday of Women's veteran's council to address needs of women veterans. Challenge to verify AD400 for kickback errors of current member's vs on line registration. Jim Snellin, present, talked about his book available on Amazon "South pacific at Seventeen."

4. Roll call conducted. Quorum achieved

1st Vice presented his membership report (available upon request) Motion made by Becky Murphy and seconded by Barry Litsky to approve 3 transfers in, 1out. Members in Christopher Mattox USAF, Jason Kirk Persan Gulf, Winston Higham USAF. out to post 137 Robert Lippert.

Membership report as of December 31st 2023 available upon request. Also available on Department of Florida website.

1st Vice and Sons Commander

Craig Bernat reported Sons membership has 29 members with 116% of quota for the period December ending 31st 2023. Looking to move the SAL meeting to 4th Thursday 7pm at Williams YMCA.

Reed Bailey representing AUX stated membership over 100%, 31 members, meeting to change location into members home each month, potential new members are to be directed to her.

Finance officer presented the finance report. A motion to accept the report subject to audit made by Craig Bernat and seconded by Karen Tracy passed unanimously.

Service Officer Litsky reported that he had numerous phone contacts over the past month. No details given.

Boys State Committeeman Alan Painter reported that Chairman Snyder has everything in hand. Also this year is a scholarship opportunity for students selected.

Committeeman Karen Tracy reported that she is still working on keeping the website updated. She will be updating the cover page on the post website.

Memorial Bricks can be ordered at the website <https://donate.brickmarkers.com/mfh>. A hard copy can also be printed to distribute to friends and family. All donations are tax deductible subject to IRS rules, and funds will go towards the building fund. Zillow process of payment is under discussion.

9. Program and Committee Reports:

iii) AUDIT Committee: There are new rules pertaining to the conduct of audits that are in the new By-Laws which are being finalized and should be out soon. It was suggested by Craig Bernat and Paul Arambula that the post needs to hire an Accountant for this audit year 2023-2024. Commander Maltese assigned several personal to check with their contacts for the best price.

iv) BLOOD DRIVE: Don't forget to give credit to American Legion Post 372 when you donate blood. Also, mention to the 1st Vice for his tally on the CPR

v) CANCELED STAMPS: Save your canceled stamps and forward to Comrade Litsky. He will send them off when He has a large enough collection.

vi) JROTC: We still have medals to give out. We need a chairperson for the program

vii) LAW & ORDER: Too early in the year for this

viii) Law Cadet: put on hold

ix) SCHOOL MEDALS: Too early in the year for this

x) LEGION BASEBALL: Season kicks off Jan 1st 2024 with registrations

xi) AMERICANISM: no report .

10. OLD BUSINESS: **New Home Committees** – We still need a chairperson for the HR Committee. Bob Berlandi volunteered to chair the Exterior Design and Landscape Committee.. We need to be looking for Grants and Donations now. Goal \$750,000.

A. Mugs by Alane posted on the weekly newsletter, possible other items to consider, coins, vehicle SE plates, hats, Christmas ornaments, for donations. Members Karen and Chuck working on Post coin.

B. **Historian**: Keep sending pictures and highlights of activities to Frank Nichols(frankbobank@gmail.com).

C. **Flag Retirement**. Charlie McFarland suggested that we have a designated POW/MIA parking spot under which we could bury retired flags.

D.

E. Charter verification process Past Commander Alan Painter looking into this matter, and will report back to membership as information is received.

11. NEW BUSINESS: New home update. Possible breaking ground at the end of Jan or early Febuary 2024.

A. Fireside chat at June and Don Crawford house 1-28-24.(Date change) Contact information posted on the weekly newsletter.

B. Interior design review placement of pool table and proposed machines.

12. CLOSING CEREMONIES: There being no further business brought before the assembly, closing ceremonies were conducted and the meeting was adjourned at 2005 hrs.

Respectfully submitted by: Adjutant Frank Nichols.