



American Legion

Mandarin “Fallen Heroes” Post 372

Celebrating 100 Years of Serving Veterans, 1919 - 2019

General Assembly Minutes June 13, 2019 Meeting

The American Legion, Mandarin “Fallen Heroes” Post 372 General Assembly was held June 13, 2019 at the Mandarin/St. Johns Elks Lodge #2866 with 13 members present.

The Assembly was promptly called to order at 7:00 pm by Executive Steve Sullivan and opening ceremonies were conducted.

Sick or Distress Call

- Commander Painter recently lost his Mother and has requested we respect the family’s privacy at this time with no phone calls, cards, etc.
- Comrade Martin Schwartz is recovering from pneumonia.
- Comrade Don Severns is scheduled for kidney stone surgery on 17 June 2019.

Guests

Sergeant-At-Arms introduced the Auxiliary Unit 372 President Kathy Helmsly and Sons of the American Legion Squadron Commander and American Legion Riders Chapter 372 President Joe Maltese.

Quorum

Sergeant-At-Arms presented the sign in log to the Finance Officer and it was determined that a quorum (minimum of 7 Post members per our by-laws) of the Post membership was present.

Minutes

The May General Assembly minutes have not yet been completed by the Commander so there are no May General Assembly minutes to review. Motion to table their approval made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Motion to suspend the reading of the minutes from the June 5th, 2019 Executive Board meeting was made, seconded and passed unanimously. The minutes were available for distribution.

Correspondence

- Letter from Star Spangled Heroes requesting we buy shirts for Remember Everyone Deployed (Red) Fridays. E-Board recommends not funding it. No discussion from the General Assembly.
- Call to Convention from Department Commander Boland. Commander Painter and Service Officer/Past Post Commander F. Hunt are attending.

Alan W. Painter..... *Commander*
 _____ *Adjutant*
 Barry Litsky *1st Vice Commander*
 _____ *2nd Vice Commander*
 _____ *3rd Vice-Commander*
 _____ *4th Vice-Commander*
 Don Severns *Finance Officer*
 Wayne Lee *Chaplain*
 _____ *Judge Advocate*
 Paul Arambula *Sergeant-at-Arms*
 _____ *Historian*
 Franklin Hunt *Service Officer*
 Barry Litsky *Service Officer*

Executive Committee:

Dan Hemsall *Past Commander*
 Julian Carter
 Jim Hughes
 Franklin Hunt
 Steve Sullivan

Officers' Reports

Executive Sullivan reported that there are no new members this month. Our membership numbers for the 2018 – 2019 year were a goal of 190 and we attained 218 for a 114% of goal accomplishment. We have an amazing renewal rate of 98.59%! Executive Sullivan encouraged everyone to renew after the new legion year starts July 1st.

Sergeant-At-Arms Arambula presented to the Assembly Chair the Department of Florida 100% membership pennant and sticker. The pennant was attached to our standard and the sticker attached to our 100% membership sign.

Finance Officer Severns read the Finance Report. Motion to approve the Finance Report, subject to audit, was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

2019 – 2020 Proposed Budget was presented.

- Motion made to eliminate funding of the oratorical program was made. Discussion centered on a lack of participation by competitors and no one to chair the program. A question was raised about what happens to those funds. The funds identified in the proposed budget would go back into the General Fund. The motion to eliminate funding was seconded and passed unanimously.
- The budget notes that instead of 5 membership drives the E-Board has recommended they be reduced to 4.
- There is an approximately \$3000 deficient in the proposed budget. Additional fundraising will be required.
- Call made for a volunteer to Chair a spaghetti supper, as a potential fundraiser, was made. The Chairs duties would be to coordinate an availability date with the Elks; coordinate dates with Auxiliary Unit 372, SAL Squadron 372, ALR Chapter 372; and form the Post's work team. Comrade Craig Bernat accepted the challenge.
- Motion to approve the proposed budget for 2019 – 2020 as modified above was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Program & Committee Reports

- **Audit** – Comrade Sullivan reported that the audits have been completed and no findings have been noted.
- **Membership** – Executive Sullivan reported that the Memorial Day membership drive was very successful with 15 Post family volunteers attending. The SAL and the Riders gained members. Post donations totaled \$305. It was noted that there was a mixing of donation funds between the Poppy sales and the Post. It was estimated that approximately \$25 had mistakenly been put into the wrong container by donors. A motion to transfer \$25 from the Post to the Auxiliary was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- **Social Media** – Comrade Severns reported that we have a FaceBook page, Instagram, and Twitter accounts. Requested that the membership review them. Also reported that Google searches are finding our Post.
- **Blood Drive** – Comrade Severns advised that there would be a blood mobile this Sunday at the Bono's barbecue on Bartram Trail. Also it was discussed that how One Blood no longer notes if the donation is from a veteran. That blood donation was a category of the Consolidated Post Report and if making a donation to report it using the web site tool.

Old Business

- **Motorcycle Raffle Status** – The Finance Officer reported that all promissory notes are closed. The only remaining action is the filing of a W-2G with the IRS which is on hold pending updated submission forms from the IRS.
- **Certificate of Appreciation** – Executive Sullivan presented the Certificate to Franklin Nichols for his efforts in the betterment of the Post.

New Business

- **Web Site Calendar** – Our website has a new calendar that representatives from the Auxiliary, SAL, ALR, and the Post can update with event information.

For the Good of the American Legion

Colleague Joe Maltese encouraged participation in other Posts events. He discussed how visiting other Posts puts a face to 372, encourages assistance, and isn opportunity to learn about running a Post home.

Closing ceremonies were conducted.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Don Severns

Don Severns
Finance Officer