



American Legion Mandarin Post 372

Celebrating 100 Years of Service to Veterans

General Assembly Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2019

- Alan Painter, *Commander*
- _____, *Adjutant*
- Barry Litsky, *1st Vice Commander*
- Craig Bernat, *2nd Vice Commander*
- Wayne Lee, *Chaplain*
- Dan Hempsall, *Judge Advocate*
- Don Severns, *Finance Officer*
- Paul Arambula, *Sergeant-at-Arms*
- _____, *Historian*
- Barry Litsky, *Service Officer*

Executive Committee:

- Dan Hempsall, *Past Commander*
- Franklin Hunt, *Past Commander*
- Jim Hughes
- Joe Maltese
- Steve Sullivan
- Frank Nichols

Committees:

- Audit, *Steve Sullivan*
- Americanism, *Dan Hempsall*
- Blood Drive, *Brian Lawn*
- Boys State, *Tom Schneider*
- Cancelled Stamps, *Marty Kaufman*
- Children & Youth, _____
- JROTC, *Martin Schwartz*
- Law & Order, *Barry Litsky*
- Membership, *Barry Litsky*
- Public Relations, _____
- Social Media, *Don Severns*
- Teacher of the Year, _____
- VA&R, *Service Officers*

The October 10, 2019 General Assembly of The American Legion Mandarin "Fallen Heroes" Post 372, Inc was held at the Mandarin/St. Johns Elks Lodge #2866 with 15 members present.

Opening

The meeting was promptly called to order at 7:00 PM by Commander Painter and opening ceremonies were conducted.

Guests

- Merry Hopper of the Mandarin Museum and Historical Society

Quorum

The Sergeant At Arms presented the sign in roster to the Adjutant and it was determined that the Post's by-laws requirements for at least 7 members were present to have a quorum.

Guest Speaker

The Commander invited Merry Hopper to speak to the General Assembly. Merry Hopper spoke the upcoming planned Winter Celebration at Walter Jones Park on December 7th, 11 to 4. She observed that since that date had a very significant history that the Society is planning on having a WWII speaker and invited us to participant.

We informed her that the Mandarin High School had an excellent color guard team and the Commander took an action to get her their contact information. Additionally our own Jim Snellen might be interested in the speaking opportunity.

The General Assembly approved our participation in the event and authorized a \$25 (via Finance Officer Severns donation) sponsorship of a business card size add on the back of the Walter Jones Park map.

Minutes

- The Commander reported that the September, 2019 General Assembly minutes are posted on the web site.
- Motion to suspend the reading of the minutes from the September General Assembly and approve them was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- Motion made, seconded, and approved to suspend reading of the September Executive Board meeting.
 - The General Assembly authorized \$100 be given to the Patriot Guard Riders in support of Project Snow Ball. An additional \$100 was raised this evening to go to the Patriots Guard Riders, also.

Correspondence

- None

Reading in of New or Transferring Members

1st Vice-Commander Litsky presented the below and recommended a motion to accept their application for membership of our Post.

| Name | Branch of Service | War Era | Info |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Karen Tracy | Navy | WOT | Xfer from FL Post 316 |
| Raymond (Doug) Ashby | USA | Viet Nam | New |

Motion to approve new and transferring members was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Officers' Reports

- **Commander Alan Painter**
Attending the 5th District meeting this Sunday.
- **1st Vice-Commander Barry Litsky**
Membership as reported at Department shows we are at 62.44% of our quota. Total renewed is 138 and our quota is 221. The next mile stone is November 6th where we need to be better than 65%.
- **2nd Vice-Commander Bernat**
 - Working diligently to find a new home.
 - Membership rally on November 11th at Hagan Ace Hardware on San Jose Blvd.
 - Reminded everyone about the Italian Dinners. Recommended that we change the way the money is distributed starting in January. Proposed that rather than each Legion Family organization host and then receive the revenue from the event that instead the revenue be divided up from each event in a proportional manner based on membership. The 50/50 and other raffles would go to the hosting organization. This was proposed because it is almost always the same people doing the work. The change was approved by the General Assembly.

- **Finance Officer Don Severns**

Summary of September Finance report presented with the actual report available for review.

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve the report subject to audit.

Announced his resignation from his duties as Finance Officer and acting Adjutant effective the end of October due to family issues.

- **Executive Steve Sullivan**

Reported that the constitution and by-laws effort to break out specific job tasks into operating procedures is still in work.

Program & Committee Reports

American Legion Riders Chapter 372 – Chuck Benham reported that Chapter 372 had 10 people on the recent Legacy Ride which was probably the largest contingent from any chapter in Florida. Riders currently doing a Merry-Go-Round ride.

Business

- Quilt Raffle – A quilt was donated to us courtesy of the Honeybee Quilters Guild and arranged by Auxiliary President Kathy Helmly. Commander stated the raffle is still in process and was on the front page of the Mandarin Newline.
- Elks need a new roof over the pavilion. The cost is estimated to be about \$3600. There is collection jar in the lounge.
- Website Ads – Business Sponsor get a business card add for 1 year is \$50. A booster ad is \$20 for 1 year.
- 5 Star Veterans donation program is in work as reported by Comrade Steve Sullivan.
- Membership is important to our Post. We have 30 comrades who did not renew for 2019 membership year for a variety of reasons.

Closing Ceremony

- Commander announced upcoming meetings as posted on the website calendar.
- Closing ceremonies were conducted.
- The General Assembly adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Don Severns

Don Severns
Finance Officer/Adjutant
Post 372