

## Summary

The meeting covered various topics including the acceptance of meeting minutes, upcoming events, and the replacement of the ice machine. The eligibility criteria for admission was a topic of disagreement, with it being confirmed that only US citizens who served in the American military are eligible. Security at the bar, membership and financial matters, and renovation of the meeting room were also discussed. The balance sheet showed an increase in cash position and membership funds, and a donor offered to fund the building project. Plans were made to contact contractors for bids and discuss an open house event. The issue of marijuana smoking on the front patio was addressed by adding it to the house rules. The installation of lights and a security camera on the patio was also discussed. The process of verifying military service for membership was determined to be different for the auxiliary and veterans. The meeting also discussed upcoming events, advertising on Facebook, and the distribution of Christmas bonuses. The possibility of using professional driving companies for transportation was suggested. Insurance issues and transportation options for veterans were also discussed, with a decision made to investigate the use of Uber or Lyft. Lastly, the use of heaters for the American Legion was mentioned, with concerns about securing them.

### Outline 12 - 5 -23 E board Meeting Convened @ 5:04 pm

#### 1. Roll Call • 00:00:00

Confirmed attendance of members.

Noted that some members were excused or absent.

#### 2. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes • 00:00:39

Motion made and seconded to accept the minutes.

No discussion, all in favor.

Minutes accepted. ( (Motion Passed)

#### 3. Upcoming Events • 00:01:38

District meeting on January 7.

21 dist, meeting on the same date.

Area five meeting on January 27.

Chili cook-off on January 28.

Discussion about the chili cook-off and its rules.

#### 4. Officers Reports • 00:03:17

Commander's report given.

Visit to a Korean war veteran in hospice.

Updates on membership renewals.

Upcoming visit to Loma Linda VA.

Discussion about ice machine replacement and cost estimates.

#### 5. ALR Riders • 00:04:56

No progress made on coordinating ALR riders.

Waiting for more information.

#### 6. Other Announcements • 00:05:35

No major announcements.

No distinguished guests or guest speakers.

#### 7. Meeting Efficiency • 00:06:15

Desire to keep the meeting quick.

Noted that minutes were sent via email.

Discussion about minor mistakes in the minutes due to computer-generated reading.

#### 8. District Meeting • 00:07:14

Discussion about streamlining district meetings.

Sharing of good item (donations) and need (ice machine replacement).

#### 9. Renaming Ceremony • 00:07:54

Upcoming renaming ceremony of the VA clinic.

Request for a representative from the post to attend.

#### 10. ALR Riders • 00:08:33

No progress made on coordinating ALR riders.

Waiting for more information.

#### 11. Eligibility criteria for admission • 00:09:13

Eligibility is limited to US citizens who served in the American military.

Disagreement regarding the criteria for eligibility.

#### 12. Security at the bar • 00:10:43

ABC regulations were discussed in relation to security measures at the bar.

Instances of underage individuals being sent to test compliance with liquor laws were mentioned.

### 13. Membership and accountability • 00:12:13

Efforts to improve membership and accountability were discussed.

A suggestion to implement a Nock box at the bar was mentioned.

### 14. Financial report • 00:13:43

Garth - The finance officer presented the profit and loss statement.

Donations and other income were lower compared to last year.

Dues income showed a 3% increase compared to last month.

Prepayment of insurance and building tax bills contributed to a loss in operating expenses.

### 15. Bar sales and kitchen income • 00:16:43

Bar gross sales increased by \$23,000 compared to last year.

Expenses for wine, liquor, and soda were up by 24%.

Kitchen income improved, with a decrease in losses compared to last year.

### 16. Balance sheet • 00:18:58

Cash position increased to \$81,000 compared to \$76,000 last year

Bar account has \$33,000

Building account has \$13,000

### 17. Donor funding for building project • 00:22:23

A donor has offered to fund the building project

Contacted architectural historian for blueprints and construction bids

Looking for contractors specializing in historical renovation

### 18. Open house event • 00:25:47

Lee - Suggesting an open house during modernism week

Consider holding meetings at VFW in Desert Hot Springs

Ed - Remodeled back canteen and main hall for previous renovations

### 19. Renovation of Meeting Room • 00:29:12

The meeting discussed the excitement of moving forward with the renovation project.

Garth and Lee Wilson were thanked for their efforts in keeping the project going.

The renovation is seen as a showcase item for the community.

Figuring out how to take care of members during the renovation is a challenge.

#### 20. Approval of Finance Officer's Report • 00:31:37

A motion was made to approve the finance officer's report.

The report was accepted with no opposition. (Motion Passed)

#### 21. Renovation of Preamble • 00:32:50

Claudette Bradley presented four quotes for redoing the preambles to the constitution.

The best quote was for canvas on a wooden frame, costing between \$80 to \$90.

Approval was sought to proceed with the payment and have the new preamble up in a week.

#### 22. Addressing Marijuana Smoking Issue • 00:34:39

Complaints were received about marijuana smoking on the front patio.

The legal department was consulted, and it was clarified that the legion follows state rules.

The board agreed that marijuana smoking does not present a good image.

Consideration was given to adding a rule in the house rules to address the issue.

Verbiage for the rule will be provided to the House committee.

The issue will also be included in the post rules and bar rules.

#### 23. Benefits of smoking marijuana for veterans • 00:38:17

Lee -Afghan and Iraq veterans prefer smoking pot over medication for their medical issues.

Smoking pot can have positive effects on veterans' mental health and provide a communal space for them to connect with fellow military members.

#### 24. Regulations on smoking marijuana • 00:40:22

California law prohibits smoking marijuana in public.

Smoking marijuana is only allowed on private property.

The Legion will enforce the no-smoking policy on its premises.

#### 25. Installation of lights and security camera on the patio • 00:43:28

Ed - Lights have been installed on the patio for better visibility.

A security camera has been installed to monitor the area.

The camera was installed due to previous incidents of theft and vandalism.

#### 26. Security camera installation • 00:46:35

A security camera has been installed to prevent people from sleeping in the office.

#### 27. Knock box installation • 00:46:54

The need to install a knock box for the fire department to access the building was discussed.

The lock to the kitchen is currently inaccessible for the fire department.

A physical inspection of the building by the fire department is required to determine the best solution.

The inspection will involve Ed, the speaker, and another person from the fire department.

A knock box is a secure box that allows the fire department to access keys to the building in case of emergencies.

#### 28. Flashing lights and opera music • 00:48:29

Lee - Flashing lights were suggested as a possible deterrent for homeless people in the area.

Opera music was mentioned but deemed impractical.

The location of the lights and their effectiveness will be observed.

#### 29. Chaplain's report • 00:49:25

The chaplain has no specific report to share.

The chaplain mentioned a member who passed away and plans to honor them at the next meeting.

#### 30. Membership renewal • 00:50:03

Guido - Concerns were raised about members being asked to provide their DD 214 upon renewal.

It was clarified that only a copy of the current membership card and fees are required for renewal.

Members were advised to inform others about the correct renewal process.

#### 31. Responsibility for DD 214 verification • 00:51:00

Cmdr, - Any board member is authorized to verify a member's DD 214.

The board members need to ensure the name and honorable discharge status on the document.

The document should be blacked out and destroyed after verification.

#### 32. Closing remarks • 00:51:57

The historian position is currently vacant.

The sergeant at arms discussed pricing for American Legion t-shirts and polo's.

Two members expressed concerns about the renewal process and the requirement of providing DD 214.

The board clarified the correct renewal process and requested members to spread the word.

The commander discussed the handling of DD 214 documents and the need to destroy them after verification.

### 33. Verification process for military service • 00:53:31

There is a disconnect between the national verification process and what District 21 wants.

The national process does not require a DD 214, only certification from an individual.

It was suggested to continue the current process until further notice.

### 34. Different processes for auxiliary and veterans • 00:55:44

The auxiliary and veterans have different processes for verification of military service.

Auxiliary members do not need a DD 214, while veterans do.

### 35. Upcoming events and publicity opportunities • 00:57:12

Lee - Modernism Week is from February 15 to the 25th, with available dates for an open house on the 17th or 24th.

The black history parade will be on Saturday, February 24.

The radio room remodel is underway, with the addition of a 1947 Mexico 15 millimeter projector.

Help is needed at village fest every Thursday, particularly with setting up.

The Legion will have a tent at the Wednesday concert series downtown, with a minute on stage to promote the Legion and recruit members.

A quarter page ad will be included in a magazine for the next year.

The Chamber of Commerce will hold their monthly lunches at the Legion every Tuesday of February, providing an opportunity for networking and increasing membership.

### 36. Inviting the general public • 01:02:22

Claudette - The restaurant is still advertising as open to the general public on Facebook.

A problem with the chamber of commerce was discussed, as inviting non-veterans to post violates the bylaws.

A temporary ABC license can be obtained for \$125 per Tuesday to allow public attendance at events.

### 37. Advertising on Facebook • 01:03:43

The need to remove the restaurant's public status on Facebook was discussed.

Claudette - offered to show evidence of the current advertising status.

Lee - mentioned that the restaurant should have already removed the advertising.

#### 38. ABC license and costs • 01:05:03

Obtaining an ABC license was decided, with Speaker 0 offering to pay the \$500 fee.

The license allows for public attendance at events, but not for regular dining.

The cost of the license is \$125 per Tuesday for a month.

#### 39. Open house and event limitations • 01:06:23

The restaurant can only hold an open house once a year where the general public is allowed to attend.

For other events, a separate license is required for each event to be legally compliant.

The limitations on public attendance were clarified.

#### 40. House committee report • 01:07:44

The kitchen and rental contracts are being worked on and are in the rough draft stage.

A reservation request form is being developed for booking dates and including bands.

The progress with ABC licensing and check-in process was discussed.

Meals for door staff were addressed, with a new arrangement for providing meals.

Locks have been changed, and color guard safes have new combinations.

Bonuses for bar staff and handyman were proposed, with suggestions for different amounts based on days worked.

#### 41. Bonuses for bar staff • 01:10:24

Different bonus amounts were discussed, with suggestions to keep it even for all staff.

The board level approval and budget limit of \$2,500 were mentioned.

Seven individuals were identified as eligible for bonuses.

A motion was made to give \$200 to those who have served the longest and \$100 to others, with potential increases over time.

#### 42. Distribution of Christmas bonuses • 01:12:12

A motion was made to distribute \$200 to \$100 among the proper people. (Motion Passed)

Andy was included in the discussion for a bonus.

A motion was made to give Andy a \$200 bonus. It was mentioned that Andy used to receive drinks as payment before receiving the \$300 stipend.

The motion to give Andy \$200 as a bonus was (Passed)

#### 43. Upcoming events • 01:14:10

A memorial is scheduled for this Sunday.

The wow party will be held on the 14th.

The widow and widowers Christmas party will be held on the 16th.

Ticket sales for the widow and widowers Christmas party are not moving well.

Ticket sales for New Year's Eve are at 70+.

Placards or new signs for advertising events will be taken care of during vacation.

#### 44. Updates • 01:16:32

The light outside was repaired and a camera was placed at the south door of the meeting room.

All doors were re keyed.

Computers in the outer office are up and running.

A nomination for historian is still needed.

The kitchen contract and decorations in the main hall were discussed.

Extra Christmas trees were found and donated for the decorations.

The board members attended a district meeting on the 19th.

The request form was mentioned.

No new business was discussed.

#### 45. Transportation for Loma Linda • 01:20:06

Robert Johnson suggested looking into professional driving companies like Hertz Davis, Uber, and Lyft for transportation to Loma Linda.

The possibility of these companies volunteering their services once a month was raised for future discussion.

#### 46. Insurance Issues • 01:20:53

The insurance issue was identified as a significant concern.

Further investigation is needed to gather more information about the insurance.

R J volunteered to look into the insurance matter.



#### 47. Transportation Options • 01:21:48

Uber and Lyft drivers may not be willing to drive long distances.

Some drivers might be veterans.

The possibility of using Uber or Lyft for transportation will be explored.

#### 48. Ceremony at VA Clinic • 01:22:42

A ceremony to name the VA clinic after a World War II veteran will take place on Friday at 1:30 PM.

A representative from the post is encouraged to attend the ceremony.

#### 49. Shuttles for Soldiers Program • 01:23:18

Ed - The guest speakers discussed the 'Shuttles for Soldiers' program during the general meeting.

The program provides free transportation for veterans.

Detailed information about the program will be included in the meeting minutes.

#### 50. National Commander Visit • 01:24:13

The National Commander will be visiting California.

He will be at Post 739 on the 16th and in San Bernardino on the 17th.

Members are encouraged to meet the National Commander during his visit.

#### 51. Convention Delegates • 01:25:07

Post delegates for the convention need to be selected.

Jennifer Turpin was elected as the third vice.

Discussion about baseball teams for Palm Springs also took place.

#### 52. Kitchen Policy • 01:26:02

There was a discussion about the kitchen policy on the Facebook page.

The incorrect information about the kitchen being open to the general public will be deleted.

Further clarification and research will be done on the kitchen policy.

#### 53. Credit Card for Uber/Lyft • 01:26:56

Garth - The idea of having a credit card for Uber/Lyft rides was discussed.

It would be part of the community outreach budget.

Government membership needs to be involved in the discussion.

#### 54. Coordination with VA for Transportation • 01:27:51

The idea of coordinating with the VA for centralized transportation was suggested.

The challenge is the different days veterans need transportation.

The VA should provide transportation for veterans.

#### 55. Investigating Cost of Uber/Lyft • 01:28:45

Further investigation is needed to determine the cost of Uber/Lyft rides.

The cost varies depending on factors such as time of day and surcharges.

Before making any payments, more research is necessary.

#### 56. Use of heaters for the American Legion • 01:29:40

There are a couple of nice heaters available.

The heaters were used during the parade.

They have plenty of propane left.

There are spare propane tanks in the computer room. Meeting Adjourned 6:37

- The heaters are being used in the evenings but need to be brought in at night due to lack of security.