

Summary

The meeting covered a comprehensive range of topics including upcoming events, approval of previous meeting minutes, updates from the by-law committee, planning for a suicide prevention program, signage visibility for organizational groups, Veterans Day Parade logistics, financial and membership updates, fundraising efforts, facility management, and community service events. Key decisions included the approval of minutes, plans for a suicide prevention program, entertainment and meal provisions for Veterans Day, adjustments to furniture and merchandise pricing, and the tabling of a motion regarding an ABC license for an open house. Action items were assigned for further communication, engagement, and event planning. The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of the organization's commitment to service and citizenship.

Outline

1. Opening Ceremony and Meeting Commencement •

The meeting began with an opening prayer and the POW MIA ceremony to honor unaccounted service members.

The American Legion's commitment to the POW MIA cause was reaffirmed.

2. Upcoming District Meetings •

District 21 meetings are scheduled for November 6, January 18, March 15, and May 17, with specific times for different groups.

Members are encouraged to volunteer for setup and participate in the meetings.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes •

The minutes from the previous meeting were distributed and approved unanimously after a motion and second were made.

No objections or abstentions were raised during the approval process.

4. By-law Committee Update •

The by-law committee is working on updating the by-laws using a new template for easier comparison and revision.

The goal is to complete the updates by February, with a review process involving interested parties before finalization.

5. Communication and Approval Process for By-law Changes •

The by-law committee will submit proposed changes to the executive board for two readings before presenting them to the general membership for approval.

Education on the by-law process will be provided to ensure members understand how to engage with proposed changes.

6. Suicide Prevention Program •

A program for suicide prevention is scheduled for November 16, with a bus for blood drives and discussions on the topic.

Arrangements for parking and logistics were discussed to accommodate the event.

7. Signage for Sons of the American Legion •

Concerns were raised about the visibility of the Sons of the American Legion's signage in the canteen area.

A discussion ensued regarding the fairness of displaying all groups' signs prominently, with a commitment to revisit the issue in a closed meeting.

8. Veterans Day Parade Planning •

The Second Vice reported on the status of the Veterans Day Parade, mentioning a meeting with Crystal Lynn Paquette that did not occur as planned.

A motion was made and passed to pay Ron Greenett \$150 for entertainment before the parade, similar to last year.

9. Meal Provisions for Veterans Day •

Discussion on feeding the troops included options for hamburgers and hot dogs, with a proposed charge of \$12 to \$15 for non-military attendees.

The plan is to keep the kitchen in-house and ensure that the Post benefits financially from the meal sales.

10. Financial Report Overview •

The Finance Officer reported a significant drop in gross profit from \$29,000 to \$18,000, with beer sales up but liquor sales down.

Total donations increased to \$22,000 compared to \$5,000 last year, and dues income rose to \$9,356.

11. Executive Board Resignations •

Two members of the executive board resigned due to medical reasons, prompting a need for replacements.

The resignation aligns with compliance issues regarding the number of members on the board, as per the bylaws.

12. House Committee Updates •

The House Committee discussed upcoming events, including a collaboration for a community potluck in December.

Maintenance issues were addressed, including a plumbing fix in the cooler and the need to replace damaged wood from beer taps.

13. Furniture Management •

The wicker chairs were suggested to be moved outside instead of being discarded.

There is a need to evaluate which chairs to keep and which to dispose of, particularly the smaller black chairs and medical equipment.

The House Committee is tasked with making decisions on furniture retention and disposal.

14. Membership Update •

The membership committee is currently inactive, with Ernie still overseeing it.

Membership numbers include 12 new members, 266 paid members for the year, and a total of 370 members, aiming for a goal of 736.

The current progress towards the membership goal is at 50.27%.

15. Fundraising and Merchandise •

The fundraising committee is working on Measure J and other fundraising initiatives.

There is a plan to restock shirts and promote merchandise during Modernism Week, with Lee volunteering to manage sales.

Current coin inventory is low, with only 15 to 20 original coins remaining.

16. Electrical Repairs and Measure J •

Electrical repairs are pending, with delays from Edison and the need for an assessment of air conditioning requirements.

The Measure J project will focus on air conditioning and electrical upgrades, with a recommendation to obtain at least two bids for transparency.

17. Upcoming Events •

The early bird dinner is scheduled for November 16th, with plans to finalize details at the next general meeting.

A volunteer appreciation dinner and a fundraiser event are also in the planning stages.

The 9-11 dinner was a success, and there are ongoing discussions about combining events for the Marine Corps birthday and Veterans Day.

18. Pricing Adjustments for Tables •

The price for tables listed online will be reduced from \$25 to \$20 each to encourage sales.

A motion was made and approved to adjust the pricing, with further discussions on potential buyers ongoing.

19. Open House and ABC License Discussion •

The group discussed the possibility of hosting an open house without serving alcohol, which would eliminate the need for an ABC license.

A motion was proposed to approve obtaining an ABC license for the open house event scheduled for the 18th, but it was decided to table the motion for further discussion.

20. Member Behavior and Guest Policy •

An incident was reported where a member attempted to sign in guests improperly, leading to discussions about adherence to ABC regulations.

Members were reminded that guests should only be signed in if they are individuals the member would invite into their home.

21. Upcoming Community Events •

Several upcoming events were announced, including a fundraiser for homeless veterans on October 11th and a Thanksgiving luncheon on November 21st.

Volunteers were requested for various community service activities, including a trunk and treat event at Camp Pendleton on October 17th.

22. Closing Remarks and Prayer •

The Chaplain offered a closing prayer focusing on peace, love, and service to God and country.

Members were reminded to drive safely and that God's blessings are with them all.

23. Commitment to Service •

The importance of fulfilling obligations to the country through active citizenship was emphasized.

Members were encouraged to prioritize service to the community, state, and nation as a core objective of the American Legion.

A call to uphold the honor of the country and organization was made, stressing the values of justice, freedom, and democracy.

24. Meeting Adjournment •

The meeting was officially declared adjourned by Speaker 1.

Appreciation was expressed for the members' patience and guidance throughout the meeting.