

Summary 1-9-24 General Membership meeting

The meeting covered a roll call, updates on absent members, and upcoming events: a fundraiser and a district meeting with a chili cook-off. Financial issues were discussed, including problems with membership dues, a lawsuit against the insurance company, and excessive spending on coffee. Legal matters focused on retaining a law firm and fighting insurance companies. The house committee addressed kitchen contracts, guest limits, and dog policies. The main decision was to implement a donation box for coffee costs, with action items including enforcing strict membership card requirements and exploring events with pre-generated guest lists. Other discussions involved compliance with ABC rules, guest access to the legion, assistance for a veterans barbecue event, and a generous donation from a visiting guest. A motion was passed to match the VFW's contribution of \$300 towards the event.

Outline 1-9-24 General Membership Meeting Convened 5:07

1. Roll Call and Updates. • .

Adjutant Ed - Roll call was conducted, and updates were provided on absent members. (Motion by Ernie to Accept Previous Meeting Minutes, Second by Jeff (Motion Passed))

- Announcements were made about an upcoming fundraiser and a district meeting with a chili cook-off.

2. Absent Members and Fundraising Events. • .

- Cmdr, - One member had knee surgery, and another was absent due to work commitments.
- A fundraiser for a bartender fighting cancer and a district meeting with a chili cook-off were announced.

3. Membership Dues and Financial Status. • .

- Guido - 1st Vice Catching Up On Membership. Claudette - Issues with membership dues and record-keeping were discussed.
- The post's financial status, including increased expenses and a deficit, was reported by the finance officer.

4. Compliance with ABC Rules. • .

- Claudette - Concerns were raised about compliance with ABC rules during an event where non-members were present.
- Discussion ensued about the need for better enforcement of membership checks and adherence to ABC rules.
- Chaplain R J - need to check front door sign in.
- 3rd Vice - Kevin - Boys & Girls State, Girl Scouts Pleased With \$1,000.00 worth of uniforms

5. Lawsuit and Insurance Coverage. • .

- Garth - The finance officer provided updates on a lawsuit against the insurance company and the need for legal representation.
- Issues related to insurance coverage and potential legal action against the insurance company were discussed.
- Ice Machine Donations Are Doing Good.
- The Legion Rider's Will Get There Own Account.

6. Legal Matters and Lawsuit Discussion. • .

- Adj, - The \$10,000 retainer is supposed to be held in escrow, not given to the law firm directly.
- The district knew about the lawsuit and is being accused of negligence in their fiduciary responsibility.
- A (Motion) was made to retain a law firm at \$350 an hour and a \$10,000 retainer fee,
- Claudette - Discussion , Wye Is Dist 21 Not Included In This Lawsuit? Cmdr, They Have Been Notified. (Motion Passed)
- Kevin - District 21 Was In charge Of Post in April 2023 They Were Late On Reporting Claim In Time.

7. House Committee Meeting. • .

- Discussed kitchen contract for Monday and Tuesday food days, including the success of a previous event and plans for upcoming events like Mardi Gras party.

Addressed guest limits To be set at 6 Guests Per Member, and house cleaning issues, including maintenance and repair updates for the post. Electric Room No Storage, Fire Code

- Highlighted the need for approval of all flyers of new evens before being posted Need To Be Approved House committee. and the enforcement of dog policies, especially regarding service dogs. There will Be signs Posted At Entry To Post. Raising Drink Prices?
- Lee - New Flag's , Concert Series P . S. Park, Working on Radio Room, Karaoke Event Was Good Turnout
- ,Po sable 100 People For Modernism Week .

8. Excessive Spending on Coffee. •

- The post is spending a significant amount on free coffee for guests, with the Friday morning group consuming a large quantity.
- Claudette - Will Kitchen Pay the cost of the Coffee ?
- A suggestion was made to introduce a donation box next to the coffee maker to recoup some costs.

9. Provision of Coffee to Guests. •

- Consideration was given to preventing wastage of coffee and determining who should bear the cost of providing coffee to guests.
- It was revealed that the canteen had been providing free coffee as a past practice, and a 40-cup coffee maker was purchased for Friday mornings and Sundays.

10. Membership Card Requirements. •

- Strict enforcement of membership card requirements for serving alcohol was discussed, with a one-year probation and potential suspension for violations.
- Clarification was provided on the acceptance of veteran IDs and membership cards from other posts.

11. Events with Pre-Generated Guest Lists. •

- Lee - The possibility of hosting events with pre-generated guest lists on platforms like Eventbrite was explored.
- It was suggested that such events could serve as recruiting drives and be acceptable according to ABC regulations.
- Convention Center Event ,We have Post 519 License Plates , Play Performance At Palm Springs Woman's Club
- We Have A New American legion Post 519 Palm Springs Riders Chapter!
- There New Directer Is (Jeff Cole) He's Getting it Together.

12. Guest Access Control. •

- A B C Meeting - Guests must be known in advance to access the legion.
- Preregistration list validity and control of alcohol service discussed.
- Action item: Review and address concerns with the preregistration list and alcohol service control.

13. Veterans Barbecue Event Assistance. • .

- District 3 VFW to pick up veterans barbecue at VA hospital on February 16.
- Request for American Legion's assistance in serving and cooking at the event.
- Request for donations to purchase food and supplies.
- (Motion passed) to match VFW's \$300 contribution.
- Action item: Garth to coordinate check writing for the contribution.

14. Generous Donation. •

- \$500 donation from visiting guests James and Matilda Jones.
- Donation went into the membership fund.
- Action item: Send a thank you note to the donors. **Adjourned 6:42**