

## Summary

The meeting covered roll call, introduction of distinguished guests, and a detailed presentation on the American Legion scholarship fund. The finance report highlighted the post's financial status and a proposal for a building renovation project. The second vice discussed plans for the post's involvement in community events and the need for financial support for the Thursday night village fest activities. The meeting discussed reinstating a \$200 monthly stipend for a community booth, donations, and village fest support. They also addressed the suspension of guest privileges and shared updates on VA hospital visits, benefits for World War II veterans, and transportation to Loma Linda. The meeting discussed the process of filing claims with the VA, the importance of filing for appeals, and the need for more members to fill vacant positions. The meeting also highlighted the upcoming visit of the national commander to San Diego.

## Outline

### 1. Roll Call and Distinguished Guests • 00:00:00 General Membership Meeting Convened 5:00pm

Adjutant and first vice were excused from the meeting

Introduction of distinguished guests including department judge - Amado Salinas - and Ron Heath deputy representative For D A V

### 2. American Legion Scholarship Fund • 00:06:18

Denis Haibichi Scholarship Representative Gave A Detailed overview of the scholarship fund's financial status and student eligibility criteria

Explanation of the scholarship amounts and the types of scholarships offered

Information about the board of trustees and the process for student applications

### 3. Finance Report and Building Renovation Project • 00:15:46

Garth - Detailed breakdown of the post's financial balances and accounts

Proposal for a building renovation project and potential funding from a neighborhood association

Discussion about the involvement of a nonprofit for the project funding and contract negotiations

Garth - Motion For \$ 4000 to Go Towards Base ball Teem With A Friend Matching Funding Up to \$8000

Second By Amado Salinas ( Motion Passed)

### 4. Community Event Involvement • 00:25:13

Lee - Plans for the post's participation in modernism week, black history parade, and other community events

Request for support and involvement in village fest activities and karaoke event planning

### 5. Reinstating \$200 Stipend • 00:31:31

A motion was made to reinstate a \$200 monthly stipend for the American Legion's Thursday night community booth at village fest.

The stipend will cover the \$55 weekly cost for the booth, with additional funds from donations going to support other causes.

### 6. Discussion on Stipend Discontinuation • 00:35:46

Questions were raised about why the stipend was discontinued and whether it was related to missing funds from the DAV.

It was clarified that the decision to discontinue the stipend was made by the executive board, not by a single individual.

#### 7. Revised Motion for Village Fest Support • 00:40:00

An amended motion was proposed to allocate \$55 per week for the village fest booth, with discussions on the amount and its impact on covering the booth costs.

The amended motion was approved, and arrangements were made to pay the bill monthly. ( Motion Passed)

#### 8. VA Hospital Visit • 00:44:15

The commander and Jeff Cole VFW Commander - representative visited the VA hospital to distribute gift stockings to long-term residents.

The visit was described as moving and plans were made to continue such visits in the future.

#### 9. Benefits for World War II Veterans • 00:48:29

World War II veterans are now 100% covered by the VA for medical expenses, including dental and vision care, without the need for a rating.

Veterans were advised to contact the VA for coverage and care.

#### 10. Transportation to Loma Linda • 00:52:43

Veterans needing transportation to Loma Linda for treatment were advised to contact their primary care physician, who can arrange for Uber pick-up and drop-off, with the VA covering the expenses.

Parking and shuttle options at the ACC on Redlands Boulevard were also suggested for convenience.

#### 11. Filing Claims with the VA • 00:56:58

Approximately 2.5 million Impact Act applications have been filed with the VA, with about 600,000 processed.

Advice to file an appeal if denied and seek assistance from service officers for higher level appeals.

Importance of filing claims as they can be backdated upon approval.

#### 12. Transportation for Veterans • 00:59:55

Discussion about arranging rides for veterans to non-VA physicians in Loma Linda with at least a week's notice.

Emphasizing the need for veterans to file claims and appeals for benefits related to exposures during service.

#### 13. Vacant Positions and Membership • 01:01:53

Need for filling vacant historian positions at the post.

Encouragement for members to contribute by reaching out to increase membership and address issues in the community.

#### 14. Visit of National Commander • 01:03:50

Announcement of the national commander's visit to San Diego on December 15 at post 739.

Encouragement for members to attend and learn about the organization's activities.

- Meeting Adjourned 6:05pm

