

Summary

The meeting covered a wide range of topics including upcoming events, financial decisions, fundraising strategies, facility maintenance updates, and operational concerns. Key decisions included approving a \$1,000 check for community events, purchasing stickers for children instead of flags, planning for Veterans Day and New Year's Eve activities, approving the POWMIA ceremony, and discussing the proposed budget for the next year. Action items were assigned for event planning, facility repairs, and volunteer recruitment, with ongoing efforts to enhance communication and community engagement.

Outline 9-2-25 Executive Committee Meeting 5:00

1. Opening Ceremony and Introductions •

The meeting began with an opening prayer and the POWMIA empty chair ceremony to honor unaccounted service members.

Distinguished guests were introduced, including Amado Salinas and Kevin Koch.

2. Upcoming Meetings and Announcements •

The September District 21 meeting has been rescheduled to September 28th at post 742 in Corona.

Future meetings are planned for November 16th, January 18th, March 15th, and May 17th.

3. Guest Speaker Presentation •

Sherman Tam from 29PSP presented about their non-profit organization providing rides for service members.

The organization is seeking volunteer drivers and funding through grants and fundraisers.

4. Financial Requests for Community Events •

A motion was made to approve a \$1,000 check to the Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce for a concert series.

The second check for \$200 for the Taste of Palm Springs was confirmed as previously approved.

5. Discussion on Flags vs. Stickers for Children •

A motion was made to purchase flags for children, but concerns were raised about their origin and cost.

An alternative motion was proposed to buy stickers instead, emphasizing cost-effectiveness and American-made products.

The discussion highlighted differing opinions on promoting Americanism through flags versus stickers.

6. Sticker Purchase

A motion was made and seconded to purchase 500 stickers.

The size of the stickers was discussed, with a preference for a visible size.

The Assistant Adjutant was tasked with researching the sticker options.

7. Veterans Day Planning •

The group discussed alternatives for feeding troops, as the Sons organization lacked sufficient manpower.

A suggestion was made to bring this topic to the general membership meeting to recruit volunteers for cooking.

The idea of serving pizza or lasagna was proposed as an easier option.

8. Financial Report •

The finance officer reported a profit of \$11,500, down from \$19,000 last year, due to increased expenses.

Donations have significantly increased, totaling \$22,000 in the first two months.

The current bank balance is \$89,970, with ongoing efforts to manage funds effectively.

9. Bylaws and Constitution Updates •

The Bylaws and Constitution Committee is reviewing current bylaws and clarifying roles within the organization.

A resolution was passed regarding membership transfers under administrative hearings.

The committee emphasized the importance of understanding the difference between appointed and elected positions.

10. Kitchen Pricing Concerns •

Concerns were raised about high menu prices at the bar, which may deter customers.

Suggestions were made to lower prices to encourage more orders.

The issue will be addressed with the kitchen management for potential adjustments.

11. Upcoming Events and Fundraising •

The House Committee discussed several upcoming events, including Veterans Day and a New Year's Eve party.

A raffle raised \$565, and there are plans for a potluck on New Year's Day.

The committee is considering a sign party and a concert event, with discussions on scheduling and attendance.

12. Baseball Fundraiser Discussion •

The group discussed a baseball fundraiser that could potentially be funded by baseball people for \$1,400 to \$1,800, which includes the cost of a band.

It was noted that selling tickets online would yield \$5,200 instead of the anticipated \$7,000 due to fundraising costs.

Speaker 0 suggested further discussions with baseball representatives to finalize details.

13. Electrical Panel and Air Conditioning Updates •

The electrical panel repair cost was just under \$8,000, and the air conditioning repair is ongoing due to corroded wires found during inspection.

Ed is responsible for the air conditioning repairs and will provide updates at the next general management meeting.

If the meeting room air conditioning is not fixed by the next membership meeting, it will be held in the main hall.

14. POWMIA Ceremony Approval •

The POWMIA ceremony was approved for September 19th, to be held before the band performance.

The motion for the event was passed unanimously during the meeting.

15. Membership Committee Update •

The membership committee reported a total of 347 members, with a goal of 736 for the year, currently at 47.15% of the target.

There are 10 new members and 246 paid members, with four transfers already processed.

Members were encouraged to refer potential new members to the committee.

16. NBC Telethon Planning •

A rough draft of the script for the NBC telethon was created, and the date is proposed to be moved to November 13th to avoid conflicts with the weekend.

The committee aims to invite local dignitaries and possibly a celebrity veteran to enhance the event's appeal.

Plans for set design and promotional materials were discussed, with a meeting scheduled for September 18th to finalize details.

17. Website and Communication Updates •

The website currently has 576 subscribers, and efforts are being made to enhance its content and functionality.

A resource page is being developed to include useful links for visitors.

Plans for taking updated member photos for the website were discussed.

18. Honorary Flag Ceremony Proposal •

A proposal was made to honor a deceased veteran by flying his flag on the flagpole for a week, pending verification of his honorable discharge.

A motion was made and seconded to proceed with the ceremony, with further discussion required to confirm eligibility.

19. Proposed Budget Discussion •

The proposed budget for 2025-2026 was presented, indicating a potential loss of \$20,000 by year-end.

Feedback was requested from members, but no additional input was received.

The budget will serve as a roadmap for financial tracking throughout the year.

20. Budget Discussion •

The proposed budget is seen as a good starting point after a lack of formal budgeting in the past.

There is an expectation of a loss, but potential revenue from events may offset this.

Garth will monitor financials to ensure adherence to the budget.

21. Event Planning •

AED training was successful with five members attending, and another class is being planned.

A volunteer appreciation dinner is proposed for January, and a wine tasting fundraiser is scheduled for April.

The early bird dinner is set for November 16th, with a raffle planned for attendees.

22. Health Department Concerns •

A complaint was made to the health department regarding kitchen conditions, but the post still maintains an A rating.

Minor issues were addressed, and further improvements are planned to ensure compliance.

23. New Year's Eve Budget •

The need to establish a budget for the New Year's Eve event was discussed, with Garth to coordinate with the kitchen on meal costs.

24. Sale of Surplus Tables •

A motion was passed to allow the commander to sell 12 surplus tables online for \$25 each or as a set.

If unsold by the next executive board meeting, alternative options will be considered.

25. Volunteer Needs for District Meeting

Volunteers are needed for the November 16th district meeting setup, with a call for assistance to arrange tables and refreshments.

26. Incident Report •

An incident involving a homeless individual at the post was reported, and proper protocols were followed to ensure safety.

27. Signage Concerns •

A motion was made to relocate the Sons of the American Legion sign to maintain equality among the different groups within the post.

The motion passed with some opposition, and plans to create equal signage for all groups were discussed.

28. Upcoming Community Event •

The Kingdom of Cambodia is hosting an event in Long Beach on October 27th, and the post will co-host to strengthen community relations

Adjourned 6:37 pm.