

🌟 Summary

The meeting focused on membership updates, financial reports, and upcoming events, with key decisions made regarding new member acceptance and financial approvals. Action items include confirming event details and volunteer opportunities for various activities. Additionally, the meeting addressed property issues, fundraising for fire victims, and reviewing bylaws and house rules. Key decisions included allocating funds for flags and increasing membership dues by \$5. The approval of the House Committee Rules and Code of Conduct, upcoming events, and community support initiatives, including fundraising for local law enforcement and veterans, were also discussed. Key decisions included a donation to a fallen officer's family and plans for volunteer work at the Shea Veterans Center.

📄 Outline 1-14-25 General Membership Meeting Convened 5:00 pm

1. Membership Updates •

Guests - Albert Martinez _ Amado Salinas . (Motion To Accept Minutes From Last Meeting (Motion Passed) Guido - The First Vice Commander reported a total of 871 members, with 773 active members.

A (motion was made and passed) to accept several new members into the organization. Guido - By laws (Motion To Extend Dew Date For Renewals - Discussion Ed V And Amado S - The Dew dates Are Set By National By Laws, and can't be Changed. (motion Withdrawn)

2. Financial Report •

Garth - The Finance Officer reported a significant increase in bar profits, with gross sales rising from \$63,000 to \$72,000 compared to last year.

Donations have increased from \$400 to \$11,000, with various fundraising initiatives contributing to this growth.

The net income for the first six months is \$30,100, a turnaround from a loss of \$1,500 last year. - Rusanne To Submit Bill For Polo Shirts. (Motion to Accept Finance report (Motion Passed)

3. Volunteer Opportunities •

Ernie - A call for volunteers to assist at the front door for membership checks was made, particularly during events. Sales of Coins Are Doing Well.

James - The Historian is working on enhancing the donation page on the website to encourage more contributions. Consideration For Fire Victims .

4. Upcoming Events •

Lee - Karaoke events are planned for January 25th and February 22nd, with a suggestion to hold them monthly.

A potluck is being organized for the Super Bowl, with discussions ongoing about kitchen operations.

Village Fest will continue to collect donations for the Red Cross, with a successful previous collection of \$260.

5. Tree Removal Discussion •

Lee - A tree in the backyard is growing large and blocking access to the shed door.

John - There is a possibility of cutting down the tree on our side if necessary, pending ownership confirmation.

Speaker Ed - will investigate the ownership of the tree and take action if needed.

6. Fallen Heroes Banners •

Speaker - Lee - is working on creating two banners to honor Fallen Heroes, costing approximately \$197.53.

The banners will be displayed at the Air Museum and downtown.

Collaboration with local organizations like the Legion and Riders is planned for this initiative.

7. Wall and Parking Lot Issues •

The wall behind the property has fallen, causing damage and liability issues.

The Historical Society clarified that the wall is private property .

Ongoing discussions with the city are aimed at determining responsibility for repairs and preventing further liability.

8. Fundraising for Fire Victims •

A proposal was made to redirect fundraising efforts from the Red Cross to the American Legion for fire victims.

This change would allow for more direct financial assistance to victims without overhead costs.

The current fundraising campaign has already been advertised for the Red Cross.

9. Motion for Flag Purchase •

Lee - A motion was made to allocate \$900 for the purchase of 6,000 plastic flags for distribution.

The (motion passed) with majority approval.

The flags will be used for community events but are not suitable for grave sites.

10. Measure J Update •

Garth - Measure J provides approximately \$20 million annually for community projects and road improvements.

A submission for \$280,000 to update the kitchen and plumbing has been made and is under review.

The committee will meet to discuss project approvals, and the American Legion plans to show interest in the funding.

11. Bylaws Review •

Guido - The bylaws are being reviewed to ensure compliance with California corporation laws.

A draft will be presented to the General Membership in February for feedback.

The goal is to amend and approve the bylaws before submission to the state.

12. House Rules Update •

Chairman, Guido - The house rules have been reviewed and approved by the executive board.

They will be made available on the website and Facebook for member access.

The rules aim to clarify the operations of the American Legion and the club canteen.

13. House Committee Rules and Code of Conduct •

John - The House Committee Rules and Code of Conduct document is 28 pages long and will be available for review in the hallway and online.

The membership will have the opportunity to ask questions and suggest modifications after reviewing the document.

14. Upcoming Law Enforcement Dinner •

A law enforcement appreciation dinner is scheduled for March 8th, with food provided by auxiliary members.

The event aims to recognize outstanding officers from local police departments.

15. Shea Veterans Center Volunteer Opportunity •

Jeff - Volunteers are needed on February 15th and 16th for restoration work at the Shea Veterans Center in Desert Hot Springs.

The auxiliary is assisting with acquiring necessary appliances for the center.

16. Fundraiser for Fallen Officer •

Jeff - A fundraiser is planned for January 27th to support the family of a Riverside County officer who died in the line of duty.

A (Motion was (Passed) to donate \$200 to the officer's family, matching contributions from other organizations. An Additional \$23.00 Was Donated By Amado

17. Emergency Notification Procedures •

Amado - A review of disaster recovery policies revealed deficiencies, prompting the drafting of new procedures for emergency response.

Recommendations include reactivating a radio station for emergency communications and creating ID cards for certified disaster team members.

18. Digital Donation Tools •

James - A digital donation card is now available on the website, allowing members to easily share donation options via text or QR code.

Members are encouraged to utilize these tools to promote donations effectively.

19. Veterans' Health and Compensation Information •

D A V - Ron Heath - Members were informed about filing for compensation related to toxic exposure, including Agent Orange and jet fuel.

It was emphasized that veterans should file claims for any health issues related to their service, as many are eligible for compensation. Meeting Adjourned 6:15 pm.