



AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291
215 15th Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2017

Meeting called to order at 1900 hrs

The Colors were advanced.

Invocation: William Bennett

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Nye

National Anthem: lead by Steve D'Arca

POW/MIA Ceremony: Kevin Van Otterloo and Brian Fleming.

Recited the Preamble of the Constitution of The American Legion: lead by Commander Nye

Roll Call:

X Doug Nye, Commander X Ken George, 1st Vice X Roger Henry 2nd Vice X S. Schneeberger 3rd Vice
X Gene Anderson, Adj. X Robert Wright, Jdg Adv X Paul Meye, Finance X William Bennett, Chaplain
X Jesse Garcia, Svc Officer X Tim Bercovitz, Sgt-at-Arms X Patti Carson, Historian X Jess Lawson, Jr. Past
X Don Putzig, M.a.L. X Mike Schubert, M.a.L. X Rich Whitlinger, M.a.L. X Ken Widdall, M.a.L.
X Al Yarrington, M.a.L. X Robert Wright, M.a.L.

Excused: None

Honored Guests: Dan Ferrari; Ken George (District 29 Commander); and Bob Brower (District 29 Finance Officer), Dennis Lackey (Past Commander), Barbara Hallett (Past Commander), and Walt Wagner (Past Commander).

Reports from Legion Family Members & Other Guests:

Auxiliary – President Cat Katz – The Auxiliary elections will be on May 17th. May 18th beginning at 3 PM is the 4th of July raffle ticket stuffing; volunteers are needed. Saturday, June 24th at 10 AM, is the 2nd troop shipping event of the year. The 4th of July is the Make-A-Wish breakfast. Installation of officers is June 4th.

SAL – Sons Member Ken George – Announced the winners of their officers election: Commander - Tim Sullivan; 1st Vice – Jeff Gottfredson; 2nd Vice – Bill Dunn, Jr.; Adjutant – Butch Rowe; Finance Officer – Rich Morin; Sgt-at-Arms – Brad Semonell; Chaplain – Jeff White; and Historian – Robert Thompson. New officers will be inducted on June 4th. All officers are required to attend the induction ceremony.

ALYC – Mike Berdine, Commodore – Discussed the NOSA event held on April 27th; it was a big success. Membership renewals are at 947. Discussed the May 7th ALYC event; over 200 people attended. Discussed the VIPs that attended. May 8th the Sundowner Race Series began. Announced that the new comer's orientation is being held tonight in the Hut. May 19th is the Cruise to Alamitos Bay.

Mike Schubert discussed the "Welcome Home Vietnam Vets Weekend" event, thanked everyone who volunteered.

Discussed our donation to the San Diego Maritime Museum in support of the Swift Boat.

Bar & Restaurant – Doug Nye – We have had a very good start this year; a lot of events are coming up in the near future. Discussed and encouraged members to use the amenities of the Post. Mentioned that the Post has a full bar and restaurant. Invited all of our members to use the facility; the Post is a great venue for all members and family - take advantage of renting our facilities for weddings, parties, and other functions.

Post Color Guard – Commander Brian Fleming – The year has started off slowly, however, we have 11 obligations in the next 19 days. They are continuing to recruit new members to the team. They provide services for Veteran services and funerals.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes: Gene Anderson, Adjutant, read the May 4th Executive Board Meeting minutes.

General Meeting Minutes: Commander Nye made the following motions that were approved:

M/S/C to waive the reading of April 12, 2017 General Meeting Minutes.

M/S/C to approve the April 12, 2017 General Meeting Minutes.

Correspondence: Gene Anderson, as Adjutant, I read the required second reading of the request to amend Article 14, Judicial Procedures, of the Post's Bylaws. By vote, the General Membership approved the changes to Article 14, Judicial Procedures, of the Post's Bylaws.

Commander's Comments: The Commander announced that at the April 6th E-Board meeting a motion was made and approved to move our June General Meeting to Tuesday, June 13th to accommodate a Son's fundraising event scheduled for Wednesday, June 14th on Flag Day.

Our Post is running very well. We are getting a lot of new, younger members. We need to continually add new members to keep the American Legion running strong.

Officer Reports:

1st Vice Commander Ken George – is in-charge of membership and orientation of new members. He announced that membership is currently at 105.55%. Membership is about over for the year.

2nd Vice Commander Roger Henry – He is in-charge of fund raising and entertainment for the Post. The next event is the Sock Hop (Z-Bops are now called the Cross Fires) on May 12th. Mother's Day is Sunday May 14th. Thursday night jazz has begun, and the next jazz night is on the 18th. Salute to the Air Force is on May 19th. Arm Forces Day is May 20th; it is a big event. Memorial Day Weekend runs Friday, May 26th – 29th. Memorial Day event begins at Pacific View Memorial Park and continues at the Post. The Sea Breeze is put on-line every month.

3rd Vice Commander Sandy Schneeberger – She is in-charge of Americanism, Boys State, and the High School Oratorical Contest. Announced they are currently working on the Boys State program; it focuses on our Constitution, Americanism, and the federal government. There are currently 82 candidates for Boys State in the District and we are sponsoring 25 candidates. The Boys State Dinner is on May 15th.

Finance Officer Paul Meye – Discussed the preliminary numbers for April 2017, and our books should be closing by the 15th of May. See the table below. We have no debts. We are in a very strong financial position.

Financial Statement Summary as of YTD 4/30/2017

	YTD 2017		YTD 2016		
MEMBERSHIP					CHG
INCOME	36,652		49,033		-12,381
OTHER INCOME	1,425		13,566		-12,141
TOTAL INCOME	38,077		62,600		-24,523
EXPENSES	98,854		98,440		414
NET INCOME	-60,777		-35,840		-24,937
SUMMARY	YTD 2017		YTD 2016		
	NET	BANK	NET	BANK	CASH
	INCOME	CASH	INCOME	CASH	CHG
MEMBERSHIP	-60,777	212,554	-35,840	131,279	81,275
OPERATING	83,544	170,836	-65,636	90,545	80,291
TOTAL AL 291	22,767	882,858	-101,476	449,528	433,330

Judge Advocate – Robert Wright - No Report

Service Officer – Jesse Garcia – No Report

Historian – Patti Carson - No Report

Chaplain – William Bennett – No Report

Auxiliary Member – Maureen Manfer – Announced that on Memorial Day, between the hours of 8AM and 10AM veterans will receive free gas at the Mobil Station on the southwest corner of Beach Blvd. and Edinger Ave. in Huntington Beach

New Members

At this point in the meeting, First Vice Commander Ken George usually reads the names of the new applicants to Post 291. However, as is customary, no new applicants are accepted during the month of May for membership to Post 291. New memberships will commence again at the June 2017 General Membership meeting.

New Business

Jess Lawson, Jr. Past Commander announced that on June 4th at the Orange Post, District 29, will be holding their election for District Commander. Made a motion to resolve to support Ken George for District Commander for District 29 for the 2018 Command Year. A motion was made and approved by the general membership.

At this time the Commander placed the meeting in recess pending the results of the election. You will be recalled when the meeting goes back into regular session.

Good of the Legion: Ken George requested a few minutes before the recess to discuss some issues for the good of the American Legion. He sits on the National Legislative Committee for the State of California, so I get a lot of stuff that is pushed down that is pending in the Congress. There is a proposal for the 100th Anniversary commemorative 25 cent coin coming up in Congress and we are asking every Legionnaire to contact their congressman to support this proposal. Announced that the President has signed for accountability in the VA to protect whistle blowers. In California AB 386 was passed to support deported veterans stay in the country.

The Commander placed the meeting in recess. The Commander announced that he is having knee surgery on Monday, May 15th and that Ken George, supported by Robert Wright, Judge Advocate, take over in his short absence.

After an approximate 2 hour recess the meeting was called back into regular session by the Commander.

John Lindgren, Chairman of the Election Committee that was appointed by the E-Board, described the very detailed process that is required to tally the votes. There were 205 ballots counted tonight. He read the list of candidates as shown on the screen behind the podium. He will read the candidate with the highest number of votes first and the number of votes they received. He announced that after he is through, all the ballots and tally sheets and certification sheets will be placed in a sealed envelope and given to the Adjutant. He will place them in the safe where they will remain until such time that there is a vote taken of the membership to destroy the ballots. This is usually a period of 30 days. He then read the results:

Commander – Doug Nye (124 votes) Greg Peterson (79 votes)
1st Vice Commander – Mike Schubert (122 votes) Roger Henry (73 votes)
2nd Vice Commander – Anne Borren (175 votes)
3rd Vice Commander – Sandy Schneeberger (126 votes) Al Rasch (73 votes)
Finance Officer – Paul Meye (120 votes) Dave Lambert (82 votes)
Sgt-at-Arms – Skipper Tim Berkovitz (124 votes) Dan O’Sullivan (77 votes)
Chaplain – William Bennett (188 votes)
Historian – Carman Williams (134 votes) Alex Diaz (63 votes)
Executive Board Member-at-Large* – Eric Schroeder (139 votes)
Executive Board Member-at-Large – Robert White (134 votes)
Executive Board Member-at-Large – Henry “Val” Santo (83 votes)

* The top two candidates with the highest number of votes are elected.

John Lindgren, Chairman of the Election Committee stated that the total number of votes don’t always add up because not everyone voted for every position.

Good of the Legion: Ken George’s presentation was presented above.

The Commander thanked everyone that came out to vote. The Commander thanked everyone on the Board and all the members. The Commander spoke briefly about the State of the Post, and that everything is going well. Looking forward to a positive 2017/18 year.

Chaplain William Bennett said the closing prayer.

Brian Fleming extinguished the POW/MIA candle and retired the MIA/POW Flag.

Meeting Adjourned at 2214 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Anderson
Adjutant