



AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291
215 15th Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2016

Meeting called to order at 1902 hrs

Invocation Chaplain William Bennett

Pledge of Allegiance Commander Nye

Roll Call:

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

Honored Guests: Barbara Hallett, Walt Wagner – Past Post 291 Commanders. Matt Parson, SAL Commander, Steve Porter

Reports from Legion Family Members & Other Guests:

Auxiliary – President Cat Katz – Blood Drive scheduled Oct 10, Holiday Boutique Nov 10, Troop Shipping Nov 12.

SAL – Matt Parson, Commander – Called for new members to join SAL, Boat Parade Dec 14 – 18, 2016. Call Post for Reservations

ALYC – Commodore Neil Harden, Invited all AL291 members to join the ALYC, Blue Water Race to Catalina Saturday & Sunday, sailing events every weekend, awards dinner on the 25th, one week cruise to the Channel Island Cruises, Oct 15th is the Sail for the visually impaired, and elections will be held in November.

Adjutant Vote – The Commander announced that Marco Montes was stepping down as adjutant, and that he has appointed Gene Anderson as the new Adjutant.

M/S/C to approve Gene Anderson as Adjutant through the end of 2017.

Bar & Restaurant: Jon Reynolds – our post is a great venue for all members and family, take advantage of renting our facilities.

Honor Guard: Cmdr. Brian Fleming, Jr. Our primary duty is to do the burial ceremonial services for our Veterans, our secondary duty is to do Color Guard Services in the community. The Honor Guard competes at the state and national levels. At the State level we were named the Department Commander's Color Guard. At this year's national competition we came in 2nd place for the Military Open Class. We won the trophy for the Advance and Retire Class. We have been deemed as the National Commander's Color Guard. Their trophy was turned over to the Commander.

Administrative Hearing: The Commander read the requirements from the *New Trial Manual*, now called the *Administrative Hearing Manual*, when behavior unbecoming a member are filed. Wayne Zippi, the Hearing Officer, read the 2 accusations of misconduct against Steve Spriggs and the hearing dates. Rees Lloyd, Prosecutor, spoke about the hearing requirements. Comments were made by member of the audience, and responded to the accusations made against Spriggs. The Commander stated we were only discussing when the trial will occur.

Executive Board Meeting Minutes: Due to the change in adjutants this month the minutes from the September 8, 2016 Executive Board Meeting were not read.

M/S/C to waive the reading of August 10, 2016 General Meeting Minutes.

M/S/C to approve the General Meeting Minutes from the August 10, 2016 meeting.

Correspondence – The Adjutant reported there was no correspondence received in the last month.

Officer Reports:

Commander: - The Commander appointed the judicial committee according to the By-Laws, and they were approved by the E-Board; they are Wayne Zippi, Jim Bras, Drake Muat, and Sandy Schneeberger. The Commander received a signed petition from 37 members in good standing to amend the Constitution and the By-Laws. The amendments are required to be read at two consecutive general meetings. Tonight is the second reading. The Judge Advocate, Robert Wright, read the proposed amendments for the second time. There are four amendments, one to the Constitution and three to the By-Laws. All the changes raise the number of members required to sign a petition to amend the Constitution or the By-Laws from 25 to 150.

M/S/C to amend the four locations in the Constitution and the By-Laws that currently require 25 members to sign a petition to amend the Constitution or the By-Laws to require 150 members to sign a petition to amend the Constitution or the By-Laws. The motion was seconded. In the discussion it was stated by several members that getting 150 members to sign a petition to amend the Constitution and the By-Laws would be almost impossible. Several members stated that requiring 150 members to amend the Constitution and the By-Laws is approximately 5% of our total membership, and that most Posts require 10% of their members to petition to amend their Constitution and the By-Laws. A voice vote was taken, and the motion was passed by a large majority.

A life-time membership was awarded to Carmen Williams for his lifetime of service to the Post.

1st Vice Commander Ken George – Attended the National Convention and 27 resolutions were passed on Americanism. 150 resolutions were passed by the Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation; some were on Agent Orange and Gulf War Veterans smoke pollution.

2nd Vice Commander Roger Henry – due to cold weather setting in Thursday night jazz is being suspended and Saturday bands are being discontinued; we will continue with Friday Nights and Sunday afternoons bands. A sock-hop was announced, and bring socks to donate to our troops. The Navy Ball will be held on October 22nd. All service members are invited; it is black-tie optional. It is expected to sellout, so call soon for your reservation. There will be a Halloween Party on Saturday October 28th.

3rd Vice Commander Sandy Schneeberger – We need to teach our children Americanism. Boys State is coming up in the near future. The oratorical contest on the Constitution is also coming up. We have Boy Scouts and Eagle Scouts doing projects on the Post; there will be a dinner in the next few months to support them. Volunteers are needed to work with these youth.

Finance Officer Paul Meye – see the table below.

Service Officer – No Report

Judge Advocate – No Report

Chaplain – No Report

Historian – No Report

New Members - New members were introduced by Ken George, and invited to stand.

M/S/C to accept the new members into Post 291. The new members were welcomed into Post 291.

Finance Officer – Paul Meye – Financial Statement Summary as of **YTD 08/31/2016**

	YTD 2016		YTD 2015		
MEMBERSHIP					CHG
INCOME	236,342		246,213		-9,871
OTHER INCOME	55,902		257		55,645
TOTAL INCOME	292,244		246,470		45,774
EXPENSES	262,369		243,188		19,181
NET INCOME	29,874		3,281		26,593
SUMMARY	YTD 2016		YTD 2015		
	NET	BANK	NET	BANK	CASH
	INCOME	CASH	INCOME	CASH	CHG
MEMBERSHIP	29,874	522,133	3,281	404,481	117,652
OPERATING	146,470	194,840	140,201	145,329	49,512
TOTAL AL 291	176,344	716,973	143,483	549,810	167,163

New Business: None

Good of the Legion: Rees Lloyd reported that the Mohave Desert Veteran Memorial Cross has officially been preserved forever.

Chaplain Bennett said the closing prayer.

Retired the MIA/POW Flag.

Meeting Adjourned at 2020 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene Anderson
Adjutant