



AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291
215 15th Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Meeting called to order at 1903 hours

The Colors were advanced.

Invocation: Ken Wilson

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Jon Reynolds

POW/MIA Ceremony: Kevin Van Otterloo and Brian Flemming

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

Roll Call:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Reynolds, Commander	<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Wine, Finance Officer (exc'd)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Van Otterloo, M.a.L.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Berdine, Adjutant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Frauenzimmer, Historian (exc'd)	<input type="checkbox"/> Robert Wright, M.a.L. (exc'd)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Brennen, 1 st Vice	<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Grundmeyer, Sgt-at-Arms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Whitlinger, M.a.L.
<input type="checkbox"/> Anthony Morales, 2 nd Vice (exc'd)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Wilson, Chaplain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wayne Zippi, M.a.L.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Updike, 3 rd Vice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chase Wickersham, Service Officer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nick Giordano, M.a.L. (exc'd)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Nye, Jr. Past Comm	<input type="checkbox"/> Burt McChesney, Judge Adv. (exc'd)	<input type="checkbox"/> Eric Schroeder, M.a.L. (exc'd)

Honored Guests: Tim Bercovitz, Gene Anderson

Comments – none

Reports from Legion Family Members & Other Guests:

Auxiliary – Danna Johnson, Executive Committee Member – VA Hospital bingo visits are September 26 and October 24. Stuffing the homeless packs September 23. October 7 Files of Life Program. October 14 is the blood drive. The Holiday Boutique is scheduled for November 14. Troop shipping is planned for November 16.

SAL – Tim Sullivan, Commander –Emphasis is on fund raising and donations. Next trip is October 3. Additional fund raising events being planned. The SALs organized a 911 memorial in Veterans Park today, September 11.

American Legion Yacht Club – Bruce Batcheller, Commodore – Business cards with membership application information set on tables. Finished the Sundowner Race Series before Labor Day. The Commodore spoke about the Youth Sailing program. Six cruises per year are scheduled. The Cruise to Emerald Bay was last weekend. New ALYC model yacht club. Mentioned Dive and Snorkel group. Celebratory activities include the Commodore's Ball, Christmas Party and others. ALYC has boats for event support as well as two sailboats for member use. September 28 is the ALYC Opening Day Dinner. Next ALYC GMM is October 10. The ALYC big event, Sailing for the Visually Impaired, will be Saturday, October 19. Raft-up is scheduled for November 9 to observe Veterans Day.

Honor Guard – Brian Flemming Jr., Commander – Spoke about competition at state and national level and the recent 1st place national award. Commander Flemming then recognized the Honor Guard members and the dedication required to take home the first place trophy. He then presented the trophy to Commander Reynolds.

Bar & Restaurant – Jon Reynolds – Jon spoke about the great restaurant and bar offerings at the Post recognizing management and staff members. The Commander then mentioned the routine daily bar and restaurant activities.

General Membership Meeting Minutes: Commander Reynolds requested the following motion be made by the membership:

M/S/C to waive the reading of the previous (July 10) General Membership Meeting Minutes.

The motion was approved.

Commander Reynolds requested the following motion be made by the membership:

M/S/C to approve the Minutes of the July 10 General Meeting Minutes.

The motion was approved.

A member asked if the Executive Board meeting minutes were to be read. The Commander said the minutes were not available at the present meeting, but they are posted monthly to the Post website. Further, the Executive Board meeting minutes will be read at future general membership meetings.

Officer Reports:

Commander Jon Reynolds – The Commander’s presentation spoke to the following slides.

Commander Reynolds added details about the process of transferring membership from Veterans 291 Yacht Club to the American Legion Yacht Club as well as refunding dues to Veterans 291 Yacht Club members who do not wish to transfer.

**Yacht Clubs Committee Recommendations
— Implementation Underway**

- 1. Individuals who joined both clubs will be given full refund of V291YC dues**
- 2. V291YC members may transfer to ALYC at no additional cost**
 - a. Complete a special application**
 - b. Prorated portion of dues will be transferred from V291YC to ALYC**
- 3. V291YC members who do not wish to transfer to ALYC will receive prorated dues refund**

Officer Reports- Commander Jon Reynolds – (continued)

The Commander spoke about the WWII and Korean War Veterans Luncheon.

WW II and Korean War Veterans Luncheon

- **Great turnout — > 250 veterans and their families**
- **Fully supported by Post 291 Family**
 - **Auxiliary:** Decorated and served meals
 - **SAL:** Handled parking
 - **Post:** Provided complimentary meal and entertainment
- **Excellent meal**
- **Outstanding entertainment**
- **City Council Members attended**
 - **Jeff Herdman**
 - **Kevin Muldoon** — and read Proclamation by Mayor Diane Dixon
- **Event covered by and reported in *Daily Pilot***

Then, he spoke about attending the American Legion National Convention. The Commander talked about the first place award presented to Post 291's Honor Guard.

National Convention

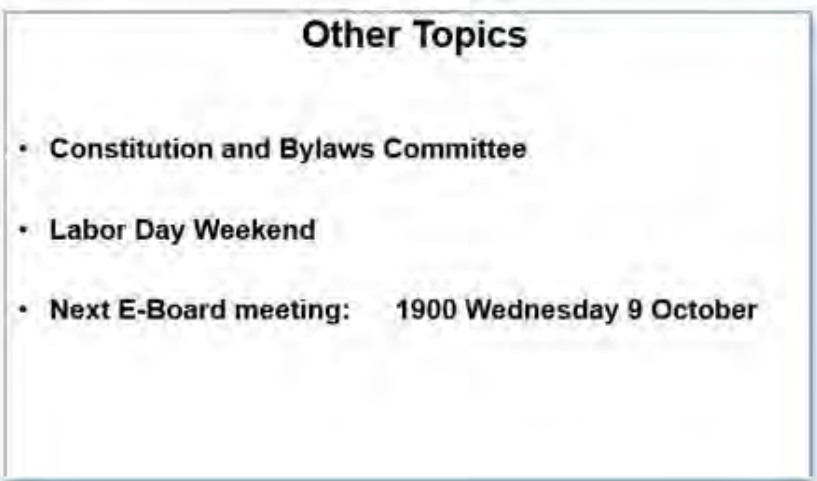
- **Honor Guard Competition**
- **Commissions and Committees**
- **Formal Convention**
 - **New Officers for 2019-2020**
 - **Excellent Speakers**
 - Vice President Mike Pence
 - Secretary of State Mike Pompeo
 - Secretary for Veterans Affairs (VA) Robert Wilkie
 - Former Indiana Governor and Purdue President Mitch Daniels
 - Theodore Roosevelt IV
 - **Legislative Successes**
 - Blue Water Navy Act
 - Legion Act
- **Convention Next Year: Louisville, Kentucky**
- **Membership Goal for Post 291 for 2019-2020: 4,096**

Officer Reports- Commander Jon Reynolds – (continued)

The Commander gave an overview of the LEGION Act, allowing non-wartime veterans membership in the American Legion.



He then outlined how Post 291's constitution and bylaws are being rewritten to comply with those of the national and district organizations as well as the well run, well attended Labor Day weekend at the Post.



Officers Reports (Continued)

Adjutant Mike Berdine– Nothing to report.

1st Vice Commander Bob Brennen – Membership – We are at 50% of renewals.

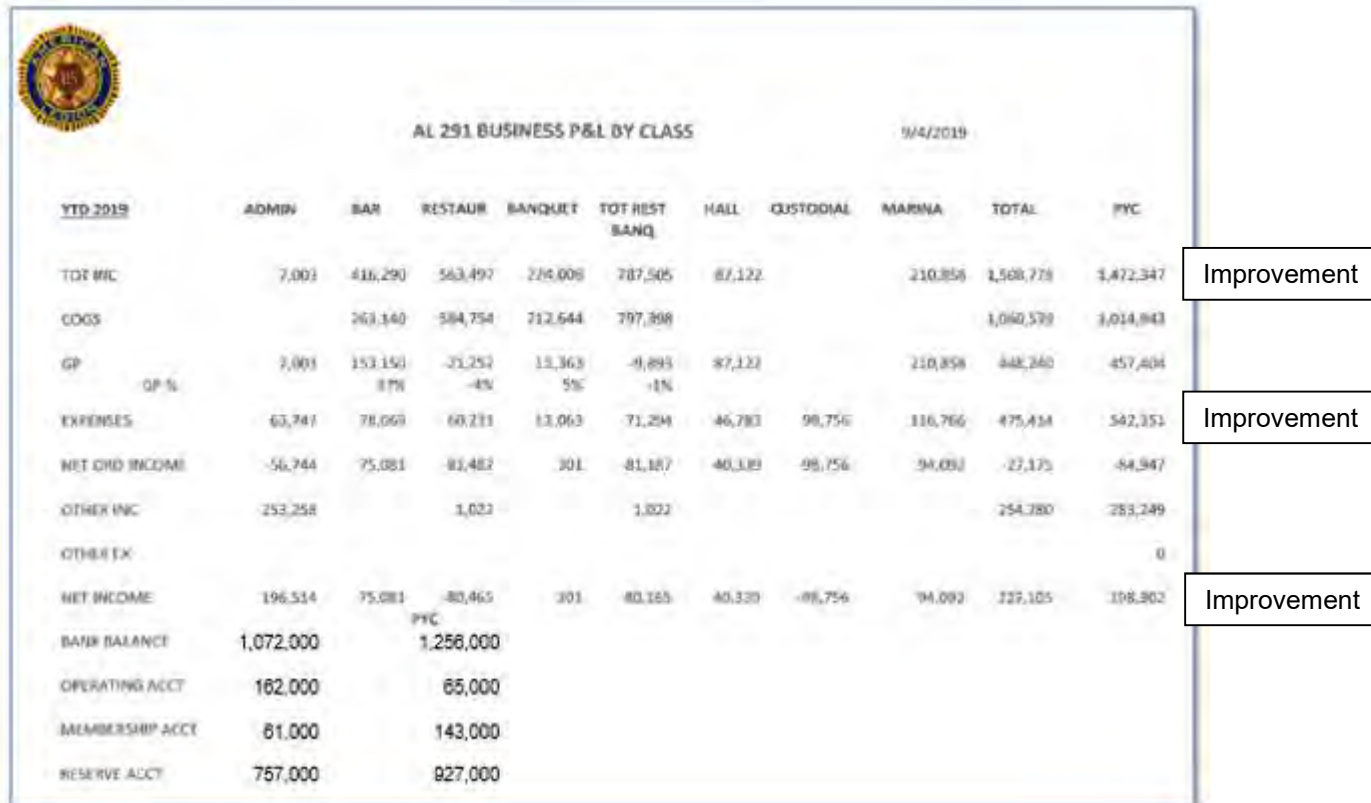
2nd Vice Commander Anthony Morales – is in-charge of fund raising and entertainment for the Post. Excused, no report..

3rd Vice Commander Jim Updike – No report.

Officers Reports (Continued)

Jr. Past Commander Doug Nye – No report.

Finance Officer Bob Wine – is in-charge of Post Operations. Excused. Report delivered by Adjutant Mike Berdine.



The image shows a financial statement titled "AL 291 BUSINESS P&L BY CLASS" dated 9/4/2019. It includes a logo for the American Legion Post 291 in the top left corner. The table lists various financial categories such as YTD 2019, Admin, Bar, Restaur, Banquet, Tot Rest Banq, Hall, Custodial, Marina, Total, and PYC. To the right of the table, three boxes labeled "Improvement" are placed next to the rows for "TOT MIC", "EXPENSES", and "NET INCOME".

YTD 2019	ADMIN	BAR	RESTAUR	BANQUET	TOT REST BANQ	HALL	CUSTODIAL	MARINA	TOTAL	PYC
TOT MIC	7,003	416,290	563,497	226,008	787,505	87,122		210,858	1,508,778	1,472,347
COGS		263,140	584,754	212,644	797,898				1,060,579	1,014,843
GP	7,003	153,150	-21,257	13,363	-9,893	87,122		210,858	448,200	457,404
GP %		37%	-4%	5%	-1%					
EXPENSES	63,747	78,069	60,211	13,063	71,294	46,783	98,756	116,766	475,434	542,151
NET OHD INCOME	-56,744	75,081	-81,482	301	-81,187	40,339	-98,756	94,092	-27,175	-64,947
OTHER INC	253,258		1,023		1,022				254,780	283,249
OTHER EX										0
NET INCOME	196,514	75,081	-80,465	301	80,185	40,339	-98,756	94,092	127,105	108,802
BANK BALANCE	1,072,000		1,256,000							
OPERATING ACCT	162,000		65,000							
MEMBERSHIP ACCT	81,000		143,000							
RESERVE ACCT	757,000		927,000							

The Commander pointed out that the bar and restaurant business is seasonal and the financial performance will improve over the rest of the year. He also pointed out that because of the age of the building, maintenance expense will continue to be high and some facility improvements, including installing air conditioning in the Main Hall are being considered.

Historian Rich Fraenzimmer – Nothing to report

Sergeant at Arms Bob Grundmeyer – Excused -No report

Chaplain Ken Wilson – Welcomed new members and offered support to all.

Service Officer Chase Wickersham – is in-charge of the Veteran's Assistance Programs. Since last GM has had 21 financial aid applications, 9 granted, 7 pending, and 5 referrals to other organizations. He reported that the donation and assistance budget for the year is \$49,500 and that \$39,583 has been spent. He reviewed the role and responsibilities of the Service Officer. Service Officer Wickersham then introduced a new campaign, the Veteran Emergency Assistance Fund. He then encouraged members to join the Donations Committee and went on to ask for contributions to the Helmets for Heroes.

Officers Reports (Continued)

Judge Advocate Burt McChesney – Excused -No report

Members at Large – Nothing to report

Unfinished Business

A member asked about an entry in the financial reports. The Commander explained a change of assigning retainer funds from an expense to prepaid expenses. The member asked to review the 2018 financial statements and 2018 tax documents. The Commander said he would discuss the request with the member after the meeting.

New Members

New members were introduced by Adjutant Mike Berdine. The new members were asked to stand when their name was called. Next, the new members were invited to the front of the Hall for a picture and the Commander reviewed meeting and cover rules.

M/S/C A motion was made and approved by the membership to accept the new applicants into Post 291. The Commander welcomed the new members into Post 291.

New Business

A member noted that some Post 291 members were not able to vote in this year's election due to time constraints. He previously asked that the election process be changed to allow all members an opportunity to vote and asked for an update. Commander Reynolds said he expected the voting process to be addressed by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

Good of the Legion

No comments.

Chaplain Ken Wilson said the closing prayer.

The Honor Guard retired the MIA/POW Flag.

The Honor Guard retired the Flag of our Country.

The Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2025 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Berdine
Adjutant
Newport Harbor Post 291 of the American Legion
