



AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291
215 15th Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, 06 Dec. 2022 – Approved

Meeting called to order at approximately 1900 hours

The Colors were advanced

Invocation: Brad McDermott

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Evin Planto

POW/MIA Ceremony: Dennis de Rosia

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

ROLL CALL:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evin Planto, Commander | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diane Torrianni, Judge Advocate | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Van Otterloo, M.a.L. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Fleming Jr., 1 st Vice | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hal McNaughton, Finance Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Eric Schroeder, M.a.L. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ray Ricard, 2 nd Vice | <input type="checkbox"/> Skipper Tim Bercovitz, Sgt-at-Arms | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nick Giordano, M.a.L. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cindy Baker, 3 rd Vice | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cory Vigil, Service Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> David Zamudio, M.a.L. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Reynolds, Jr. Past Comm | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brad McDermott, Chaplain | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Schubert, M.a.L. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Richard Reyna, Adjutant | <input type="checkbox"/> Gary Mathieson, Historian | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dennis de Rosia, M.a.L. |

Meeting has Quorum

Excused: Skipper Tim Bercovitz, Richard Reyna

Honored Guests:

District Finance Officer, Robert Brower, District 29

Former District 29 Finance Officer, Dan Ferrier

District Executive Officer, Joe Castio, District 29

Former Commander, Doug Nye, Post 291

Reports from Legion Family Members & Other Guests:

Auxiliary – Dana Johnston, 2nd Vice President

- Spoke about role of the AUX
- Spoke about Veterans Day weekend and Party Wagon Raffle
- Dec 5th Tree Trimming Party – needed more post participation
- Dec 11th Kids Christmas Party
- Troop shipping 11/19 sent 162 boxes
- Sunday Dec 11 kids Xmas party 11-2
- Tues Dec 27- take down Xmas dec
- Friday Dec 30- put up New Years

- We are dark in December, also no line dancing.

Sons of the American Legion – Tim Sullivan, Commander, not present

American Legion Yacht Club – Tommy Wheeler, Commodore

Membership:

Up to 900 changing daily.

Events

General Membership Meeting—Elections—11/10

2nd Annual Battle of the Paddle—11/12

SCYA Meeting—11/12

Veterans Raft Up—11/12

Veterans BBQ and Saturday Social—11/12

ALYC Bridge Meeting—11/17

New Member Orientation –11/22

Dive and Snorkel—11/30

Events coming up

ALYC Bridge Meeting- Old to New-12/8 (List submitted for Board Approval)

Veterans Harbor Cruise- 12/8

Valor Parade Decorating – 12/10

ALYC Social—12/10

Post Employee Harbor Cruise-12/12

ALYC Holiday Party-12/13

Christmas Parade of Lights 12/14-18

Valor Light Removal – 12/19

Veterans Harbor Cruise 12/19 & 20

New Member Orientation—12/20



American Legion Yacht Club



Below are the elected officers and directors for ALYC for the 2022 service year.

*Denotes a board member that did not serve in the prior year

Name	Title
Stephen Alfano	Commodore
David Campagnari	Vice Commodore
George Shinrock	Rear Commodore
Ben Scanlan*	Port Captain
John Donahue	Fleet Captain
Tommy Wheeler	Jr. Staff Commodore
Brent Evans Jim O'Connor George Kuper* Manju Vig* Richard Savage* Donald Swords*	Director

Key insights on ALYC leadership:

- The board consists of 6 officers and 6 directors.
- All board members are Flag members, which means they are Post 291 Legionnaires.
- The prior Commodore becomes the Jr. Staff Commodore
- The service year begins with the transitional board meeting on December 8.
- Appointed positions will be voted on at this first board meeting. This includes the following:
 - Secretary, Treasurer – Must be approved by the board.
 - Judge Advocate and Chaplain. – Appointed by the Commodore

Honor Guard – Brian Fleming Jr., Commander –

Post 291 Honor Guard / Color Guard

- 71 events completed in 2022
- 2 additional pending for the month
- 22 active members
- Averaging approx. 6+ services per month
- We Need New Members!!!
- We've Been Turning Down Services

Commanders Comments: Reported that an Executive Committee motion will be vacated due to a conflict with the marina slip contract.

General Membership Meeting Minutes: Commander Planto requested the following motion be presented.

- A motion was presented to waive the reading of the Minutes for 09 November 2022 General Meeting.
- M/S/C: Carried Unanimously

- A motion was presented to approve the Minutes for 09 November 2022 General Meeting.
- M/S/C: Carried Unanimously

Correspondence

- None to report

Officer Reports:

Commander Evin Planto –

- Provided Seawall Project Update – Phase One Complete Phase Two scheduled to begin in Jan. Meeting to be held next week to discuss Phase 2
- Encouraged membership to attend Jazz Night on Thursdays
- Provided update on January post projects (Hall, Kitchen, and HVAC)

1st Vice Commander Brian Fleming Jr. – Provided legitimate numbers

- **Current Post Membership = 4,380 Legionnaires**
- **Current Membership Numbers for 2023 @ National =2,916 (69.4%)**
- **2022-2023 Goal = 4,202**
- **Good thru 2022 = 1,436**
- **New Members 2023 = 308 2022 = 468**
- **38 of those are new members this month**
- **38 scheduled...30 attended the meeting**

2nd Vice Commander Ray Ricard

- Invited all members to participate at post activities
- Encouraged membership to attend Jazz Night on Thursdays
- Encouraged membership to attend Friday Night Dinner Dance – Cross Fire upcoming band on Friday
- Told members about Sunday band but no karaoke on Sundays
- Told membership about New Year's Eve party

3rd Vice Commander Cindy Baker

- Spoke about Boy Scouts "citizen of the Nation" merit badge clinic on Saturday (Cindy and Evin participating)
- Updated about Boys State and Girls State
- Spoke about planning for American Legion Baseball

Jr. Past Commander Jon Reynolds –

- Excused - No Report

Finance Officer Hal McNaughton –

- YTD thru 10/30/2002 almost \$4M in income
- Total Profit \$336,942
- Cash in the bank \$1,960,972
- Post is financially sound and doing well

- Recommended members look into donating to the post for end of year
- Financial reports available to members from the office

Historian Gary Mathieson -

- Excused – No Report

Sergeant at Arms “Skipper Tim” Bercovitz -

- Excused - No Report

Brad McDermott – Chaplain

- Encouraged Veteran’s and their families to contact him as needed for support
- Has passed out prayer cards

Service Officer Cory Vigil –

Veterans Served in November:

A. Items approved or rejected:

1. ARMY Veteran requested a 5-day motel voucher for \$630.00. Referred by Chase Wickersham.
2. ARMY Veteran requested assistance with movers for \$511.00. Referred by Santa Ana VA CRRC.
3. ARMY Veteran requested diagnostic tests for vehicle for \$240.00. Referred by Janice Cui.
4. COAST GUARD family requested burial support with Trident Burial for \$1,000.00. Referred by OC211.
5. ARMY Veteran requested a rental deposit for \$1000.00. Referred by Cypress College.
6. NAVY Veteran requested children attend funeral of father who passed.
Tickets costed \$435.92. Referred by OC211.
1. NAVY Veteran requested assistance with refrigerator from Home Depot for \$587.98. referred by Strong Families, Strong Children.
2. AIR FORCE Veteran requested assistance with motel voucher for \$630.00. Referred by VOA.
3. ARMY Veteran requested motel assistance for \$554.00. Referred by Santa Ana VA CRRC.
4. ARMY Veteran requested assistance with rental vehicle while vehicle is being repaired for \$708.19
5. ARMY Veteran requested assistance for vehicle down payment purchase for \$1500.00. Referred by Commander Planto.

\$7,767.09

Purchased \$1000.00 in gas cards.

Purchased \$375.19 in gift cards for fundraisers.

Attended Girls Inc benefit. Donated \$445.06

Bought 3 pizzas for Veteran Recovery Fundraiser.

Anchor Home Ministries \$250.00

Vietnam Veterans Of America Chapter 1024 \$150.00 -City of Seal Beach Event

Coastline College Veterans Day Cook Out to honor over 100 veterans at the college. \$209.50

Army Reserve Family Holiday Party -\$250.00

Life Aid Retreat - \$304.05

Fullerton College Student Veteran Golf Sponsorship - \$800.00

Heroes Landing Lunch \$750.00

Laguna Hills VA Pizza Party \$150.00

Marine Corps League South Coast Detachment - \$2000.00
 Gas Cards - \$1200.00
 Family Outing - \$366.00

Veterans Day Campaign Fundraiser - \$12,000

Ordered 8 DD-214's
 Filed 4 disability compensations
 Filed 2 spousal benefits
 Filed 1 Aid & Attendance
 Referred 4 veterans top the VA Santa Ana CRRC
 Referred 2 veterans to Veterans Legal Institute
 Provided 13 grocery cards
 Provided 20 gas cards
 Provided 10 Stater Bros Grocery Cards for Thanksgiving.

Monthly Update for Service Officer		for the Dec 1, 2022 E-Board		
	2021 Actuals	2022 Budget	2022 Actual thru Nov 30	% of 2022 Budget thru Nov 30
6510 Donations				
6519 Honor Guard	2,842.34	2,500.00	3,111.07	124%
6521 Unrestricted Service Officer Expense	10,000.00	25,000.00	17,971.34	72%
6522 Restricted VEAF expense	84,573.73	100,000.00	83,682.17	84%
6515 Oratorical	-	-	-	0%
6510 Donations other	21,804.50	20,000.00	44,809.24	224%
Total 6510 expenses	119,220.57	147,500.00	149,573.82	101%
4520 VEAF current balance			64,168.13	
Nov Donations Out			15400.1	

Judge Advocate, Diane Torrianni -

- No Report

Members at Large

M.a.L. Kevin Van Otterloo – No Report

M.a.L. Nick Giordano – No Report

M.a.L. Mike Schubert – Post is like a cruise ship – a lot going on all the time. Mentioned AUX party and Vietnam Welcome Home Party

M.a.L. Dennis de Rosia – Gave review of WWII Korean War Veteran Luncheon. Five Korean War Veterans have been recommended for the Ambassador for Peace Medal from the Korean Consulate and should receive the medal next year.

Induction of New Members

- Presented by 1st Vice Commander, Brian Fleming, Jr.
 - COUNT: 38 Inductees
 - Motion to approve the new inductees into Post 291, by Cmdr. Planto M/S/C; Motion Carries Unanimously

Unfinished Business

- Ernest Alonzo – Encouraged the membership to participate in the Veterans Better Business Network

New Business

- No New Business

Good of the Legion

- Commander told the membership about the Superbowl Party

Brad McDermott - Closing Prayer.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2032 hours.