



AMERICAN LEGION NEWPORT HARBOR POST 291
215 15th Street, Newport Beach, CA 92663
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, 14 June 2023 - APPROVED

Meeting called to order at approximately 1901 hours

The Colors were advanced.

Invocation: Chaplin Brad McDermott

Pledge of Allegiance: Commander Evin Planto

POW/MIA Ceremony: Kevin Van Otterloo

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

ROLL CALL:

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| <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phillip Orellano*, 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Ortolf, Adjutant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Johnny Arjanda*, Historian | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wayne Zippi, M.a.L. |

Excused: Eric Schroeder

Honored Guests:

Regan Roquet – Spoke about Ukraine fighting and those wounded.

Tony Agular – Area 5 Adjutant

Rudy Valdez – Area 5 Vice Commander

Amado Salinas – National Legislative Committee

David Brambila – District 21 Commander (Riverside) – Running for Area 5 Vice Commander

Mike Mailman (District 29 Executive Member)

Reports from Legion Family Members & Other Guests:

Auxiliary – Dana Johnston, 2nd Vice President

Provided goals of the AUX and past/future events:

- Almost 2000 strong
- Fund raising to meet goals
- Box stuffing party
- Officer installation on Saturday
- Troop Shipping \$22 per box – looking for contributions

Sons of the American Legion – Tim Sullivan, Commander

- Flag Day Celebration today
- Biggest and best SAL squadron
- Spoke about upcoming event.
- Spoke about SAL programs
- Sons of Veterans please join.
- Sunday Father's Day Bourbon tasting

American Legion Yacht Club – Stephen Alfano, Commodore

- Spoke about the ALYC, events, and activities.
- Socials every 1st Saturday of the month
- Duffy will soon be available
- Monday races are continuing
- Sailing for the visually impaired coming up
- Planning Old Glory Boat Parade

Honor Guard – Brian Fleming Jr., Commander –

- First four months of the year completed 16 events
- The month of May is the biggest month
- 3 Events pending
- 28 active members
- 32 events completed for the year.
- Competing in Department competition, National competition next.
- Recruiting new members

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

- A motion was presented to waive the reading of the Minutes for 10 May 2023 General Meeting. M/S/C: Carried Unanimously
- A motion was presented correct the 10 May General Meeting and present them at the 12 July meeting for approval. M/S/C: Carried Unanimously

Donation Committee – Cory Vigil

- Described Service Officer's job
- Spoke about VEAF
- Reviewed veteran support for the past month
- Discussed Coffee Talk successes

Officer Reports:

Commander Evin Planto –

- Army Birthday Today.

- Commander discussing past and upcoming events
- Hall is work in progress – Acoustical panels going up and AV systems being installed
- Coffee Talk – DSO for Orange County with 50 attendees. Next meeting 1 July
- Father's Day BBQ coming up.

Adjutant David Ortolf – No correspondence.

1st Vice Commander Brian Fleming Jr.

- Provided membership report - 4118
- Provided membership goal update - 84 member under goal. 98% of goal.
- Goal needs to be reach by May 14
- Discussed membership retention

2nd Vice Commander Ray Ricard

- Army Birthday
- So much to do here.
- Line and Swing dancing every other Tuesday
- Hootenanny on Tuesday
- Thursday night Jazz Night with complementary wine tasting
- Friday night Dinner Dance in hall
- Saturday and Sunday live bands from 1 to 5PM.
- Karaoke on Sunday at 5PM
- Come out and have a good time

3rd Vice Commander Cindy Baker

- Showed pictures from Boy's and Girl's State Orientation Dinner (200 attendees). Thanks for all supporting officers and volunteers.
- 43 candidates and sent 25.
- Discussion on what is Boy's and Girl's State – 14 boys and 11 girls
- AL Baseball opening Day.
- No update on Boy Scouts

Jr. Past Commander Jon Reynolds - No report

Finance Officer Hal McNaughton –

- Gave financial update for membership and business side
- Financially sound with over a million in reserve.
- Selling raffle tickets for 4th of July Event.

Historian Johnny Arganda –

- Took pictures from AL Baseball
- Starting docuseries about veterans to tell their stories in September. Taking reservations in August.

Service Officer Cory Vigil

- Supports all veteran needs
- 33 Disability claims in May
- Provided spending update
- Gave report on two veterans supported
- VEAF to support emergency situations. Update - \$65K
- Showed donation list of agencies and 15 veterans (\$13K for May)
- Service officer account update - \$48K
- LYFT cards are helping

Judge Advocate, Diane Torrianni - No Report

Sergeant at Arms Phillip Orellano - No report

Chaplain Brad McDermott

- Spoke about his function at the post.
- Two marriages this year
- Supported the family of a WWII veteran who passed away

Members at Large –

Mike Shubert

- Mentioned 100th Anniversary planning for 4th of July 2024
- Spoke about volunteers supporting the veterans
- Read emails to keep up with what is going on at the post
- Discussed members getting or not getting emails
- We have the largest Vietnam Welcome Home Event
- Spoke about poor turnout for election
- Provided Vietnam Service lapel pins

Kevin Van Otterloo – No report

Wayne Zippi – Brought up question about bringing Bible and could not pray at VA. Need to follow up.

David Zamudio – No report

Nick Giordano – Spoke about golf initiatives for members

Eric Schreoder – Excused

Induction of New Members

- 1st Vice Commander, Brian Fleming Jr., presents inductees
- Motion to approve the induction of New Members to Post 291
 - M/S/C: Carried Unanimously
 - Commander Planto reads rules to new members.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

- Discussion about Army Birthday and Coffee talk (should be Good of the Legion)
- Motion for Post 291 to support David Brambila for Area Vice Commander (requires 2/3 vote). M/S/C: Carried.
One Nay.

Good of the Legion – None

Chaplain - closing prayer.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2105 hours.