

The American Legion, Post 22

Membership Meeting - Minutes

February 21st, 2024, at 6 P.M.

Opening Ceremonies (Commander) (6 P.M.)

- Post and salute the Colors
- Chaplain offers prayer (remove cap)
- POW/MIA empty chair (Sergeant-at-Arms)
- Pledge of Allegiance (re-cover cap upon completion)
- Recite Preamble of Constitution of The American Legion
- Roll call to determine if quorum is present (min of 10 members):

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Follow with officer roll call:		Present	/ Absent	/ Excused
a.	Commander (D. Harris)	X		
b.	1 st Vice Commander (R. Skjoldal)	Χ		
c.	2 nd Vice Commander (R. Jendry)		Χ	Χ
d.	Adjutant (F. Pilgrim)	Χ		
e.	Finance Officer (P. Rodriguez)		Χ	Χ
f.	Chaplain (D. Fuller)	Χ		
g.	Historian (K. Skjoldal)		Χ	Χ
h.	Sergeant-at-Arms (D. Dosch)	Χ		

- Minutes of previous meeting Electronically posted on website: https://www.alpost22rcsd.com/mtg-minutes-etc (Adjutant)
- Introduction of guests and prospective new members (Applicable host)
 - New members: Justin McNeal (Navy), Cory Staab (U.S. Army/82nd Airborne), Sheldon Wagner (Air Force Fire Fighter), Patrick Rabideau (Navy Retired)
 - **Presentation** of New members coins
 - Guests:
 - Black Hills Sports, Inc.
 - O Presentations:
 - Presentation of \$2,500 to Black Hills Sports, Inc. annual donation to Post 22 Baseball
 - \$500 to 40&8 Nursing Scholarship Fund.
 - \$200 to Black Hills Area Council BSA
 - \$500 to RCAS School lunch program. Squadron 22 SAL.
- Financial Report (J. Gerry/P. Rodriguez) as of: 2/21/2024
 - Business Account: \$.
 - Membership Acct: \$.

- Benevolence Acct: \$ (Deposit from Business Acct. of \$500; debits of \$250 to SDAL VAVS and \$300 to SDAL C&Y not yet reflected in this amount; debit of \$41.92 for new checks).
- Americanism Acct: \$ (Deposit from Business Acct. of \$500; debit of \$710.78 to purchase school medals etc.).
- SAL Acct: \$ (Deposits of \$385 from fundraising and no expenditures; donating \$500 to RCAS for school lunch program).
- Honor Guard: \$ (debits of \$48.36 for phone service, \$24 for uniform sewing and \$233.26 to EAFB BX).
- Scholarship Sav Acct: \$.
- Capital Improvements Savings: \$. (\$10,000 transferred out to pay on the principle of our loan; still contains \$8,002 from the Queen of Hearts, so true amount is \$).
- Loan: (\$) We have paid \$12,450 on this loan since last month (includes \$11,000 paid on principal and \$1,450 pd on loan).

• Executive Committee

- A meeting held on February 10th:
 - Voted to transfer \$10K from Savings Acct to pay down our loan.
 - Authorized the purchase of a new camera system (indoor and outdoor). Will include cameras in the large and small meeting rooms. The installation will be completed by EC members and SAL member Donnie Snyder. This saves us about \$3K over the price bid from a local company. Donnie also helped us with the Internet upgrade/installation in December.
 - Voted to donate \$200 to the Black Hills Area Council BSA at their local fundraising breakfast.
 - Voted to donate \$500 to the 40 & 8 Nursing Scholarship fundraising event.
- Membership (Harris/Dosch): 2024 Membership year starts 1 July = Goal is 545.
 - Paid so far 506 = **93% of goal.**
 - SAL: Goal of 57: Paid so far 41 = **72% of goal**.
 - New members recruited Commander's Challenge (Steak dinner for anyone who recruits at least 3 new members...at Post 22 only).
 - Doug Harris (**7**)
 - Joe Aldentaler (3)
 - Lyle Tolsma (3)
 - Don Dosch (3)
 - Gary Stanley (2)
 - Casey Hanson (2)
 - Don Fuller (2)
 - Chris Van Delist (2)
 - Ryan Skjoldal (2)
 - Don Snyder (1)
 - Kyle Skjoldal (1)
 - Jason Skala (SAL) (1)
 - Cody Penning (SAL) (1)
 - Donald Miller (1)
 - o **Go-Getter Pins** (at least 3 new members) awarded to:
 - Harris/Aldentaler/Tolsma/Dosch
 - Presentation of SDAL Commander's Cap pins

- Membership: All those who have recruited a new member.
 - See above information.
- Post Honor/Color Guard
 - Members as identified by Director R. Skjoldal
- ALR Presentation of Military Rites at Funerals
 - Members as identified by Director John Fleming
 - Those not in attendance will be recognized at their Feb meeting on the 22nd.

• AL Riders Report (John Fleming):

- Nomination of Officers on 2/22/2024.
- Sponsored a family at WAVI and Cornerstone Family housing family for their Christmas dinner and gifts.
- Sixteen members attended the 4 Chaplains service at BHNC and then went to the VFW in Sturgis for chili.
- Served pie and ice cream on 12/29/2023 at 2 P.M. to celebrate New Years with Ft.
 Meade Veterans home.
- Played Bingo with shared treats with the Ft. Meade Veterans for their January activity.
- o For 2023 Volunteer Hours were 3,925

• **Honor Guard** (R. Skjoldal):

- SM&T Special Olympics on February 23rd.
- 17th March Post Everlasting@ 2 P.M.
- o Rent a Vet March 23, Apr 13th Backup 6 to 8 P.M.; need volunteers.
- **SAL** (J. Skala): Nothing to Report.
- **Post 22 Auxiliary** Report (T. Fuller):
 - Breakfast feed once a month starting on the 2nd Sunday of the month in the Post lower meeting room from 8 AM to 12 PM - \$8. This helps to fund scholarships and other local organizations.
 - The auxiliary donates pie free of charge for AL events.
 - Support Christmas Party
 - Support Hot Springs VA Christmas gifts.

• Americanism (D. Harris):

- Our competitor dropped out of the Oratorical Contest.
- We currently have 7 young men from Stevens HS and STM HS signed up for Boys State.
 - Interviews will begin on 9 March at 0800.
 - District 2 Orientation tentatively scheduled for May 11th at 12 noon. The Girls State orientation will probably happen the same day.

• Athletic Officer (Lyle Tolsma):

- o Baseball is in full swing. If you'd like a ticket, see Lyle.
- Post 22 has four season (box seat) tickets. Located in the membership drawer. Any
 member can use these to attend a game, but the tickets must be returned to the Post
 right after the game so someone else can use them.

• Chaplain (D. Fuller):

- Deaths and Sick Call:
 - Deaths: None
 - Sick Call: Harry Rossander is having his last Chemo treatment today!
- Other: Dates for our annual Post Everlasting (17 Mar) @ 1400 and Legion Birthday (16 Mar at 12 P.M.).
- Last man standing club buy a bottle from the bar, when a member passes away, participants can meet for an Irish wake.
- Post Service Officer (H. Rossander)
 - Nothing to report.

Old Business:

- Facility update: nothing new to report. Everything seems to be in working order (keep your fingers crossed).
 - Looking for volunteers for the future project of dismantling and removing the brick wall in front of the old building in April. This will be a Spring (April) project.
 - To date I have the following volunteers: 1. Doug Harris, 2. John Rankin,
 3. Looking for additional volunteers.
- Looking for someone who would be willing to take over/manage our Americanism Programs (Boys State/Oratorical/Youth Trooper).
 - This is the second largest job at the Post level, following Adjutant. It requires a
 self-starter who is willing to go into the schools to address
 students/teachers/guidance counselors and work with students once they have
 signed up. Training will be provided by Commander Harris. You would shadow
 him for a few months as we go through the different programs.
 - Contact Commander Harris at 970-231-8556 if you are interested in any of these projects/jobs.
- SD Midwinter Conference (February 16 through the 18th) in Deadwood SD. Everything went well. Harris, Tolsma, R. Skjoldal, Dosch, Fuller and Van were all in attendance.

New Business:

- Membership payment news: National is now offering the option to pay for 3 years in advance at the current price.
 - Those who haven't yet paid for 2024, you can pay (online only at Legion.org using their membership # and credit card) for 2024-2026 at the current \$40. That will save you at least \$15 over the 3-year period as dues go up.
 - Those who have paid for 2024 already now have the option of paying (online only at Legion.org using their membership # and credit card) for 2025-2027 at the current \$40/yr. This will save you approximately \$25 over that 3-year period as dues are increased at the National and State levels.
 - This does not affect those with a PUFL membership.
 - Post 22 has no plans to increase their portion of the yearly dues, but we
 must increase the basic to price to reflect a \$5/year increase from
 National (2025) and a future (2026) \$5/year "anticipated" increase at
 the State (Department) level.
- Good of The American Legion (Any member):
 - Nothing to Report.
- Adjournment: 6:55 P.M.

• A social hour followed the meeting.