

Summary

The executive committee meeting focused on several topics. The main discussion point was the approval of a drone soccer UAV pilot program, which aims to involve businesses, schools, and veterans for the benefit of national security, Americanism, youth, and families. The committee decided to invest \$15,000 in purchasing equipment and training for the program. Action items included finding a leader for the Aerospace Commission and addressing concerns about repair costs. The meeting also discussed the setup and cost of establishing a base for the program, sponsorship opportunities, and the timeline for exhibitions and competitions. Technical difficulties during a Zoom call led to the decision to continue the discussion later. Another topic discussed was the upcoming band concert, where decisions were made to clarify the schedule and eliminate membership fees collected by bartenders. The meeting also covered membership processes, including online purchases through the American Legion website and the use of cash, checks, and credit cards for payment. The bartenders were to remain involved in the membership process for security reasons. Concerns were raised about decreasing donations and membership, and plans were made for the poker run event and Veterans Day ceremony. The Legion's participation in the parade was discussed, with responsibilities assigned for convertibles and confirmation of the check-in time. Assistance for collecting and wrapping toys for the Sons was addressed, along with concerns about incorrect information online and plans for upcoming events. Communication preferences, officer reports, finance updates, calendar coordination, and security measures were also discussed. The meeting concluded with officer appointments, the transfer of the radio room account to the district, and a closing ceremony with a prayer.

Outline

1. Roll Call • 00:00:01

- The roll call was conducted to check the attendance of the executive committee members.

2. Drone Soccer UAV Pilot Program • 00:00:38

- The speaker proposed a drone soccer UAV pilot program that was approved by the Department of California.
- The program aims to involve businesses as sponsors and host youth or pilot teams.
- The program has the potential to benefit national security, Americanism, youth, families, and veterans.
- The speaker discussed the program's participation in the 2024 drone competitions and UAV in France.
- The program includes twelve drones and has the potential for two teams to practice.
- The speaker mentioned the support of the aerospace commission chair and the US Palm Springs Air Museum.
- The program aligns with the STEM program and has the potential to receive funding from the school system.
- The program has already been implemented in middle schools and is expanding to other schools.
- The program also provides opportunities for veterans to receive training in drone technology.
- The program covers various industries related to drone applications, such as film, photography, aviation, space, and mathematics.
- The program helps students improve their scores in math and English, which can lead to better opportunities in avionics and flight systems.

3. Benefits of the Program • 00:07:29

- The program helps students score higher on the ASFABs and improves their performance in math and English.
- The speaker shared personal experiences of how involvement in similar programs led to a successful career in aerospace engineering.

4. Relationship with Palm Street Air Museum and ROTC • 00:08:44

- Fred Bell has offered to host the program at the Air Museum temporarily.
- The goal is to eventually have the program on Post 5119's lot.
- A responsible party is needed to lead the Aerospace Commission.

5. Cost and FAA Regulations • 00:10:41

- The cost of the program is \$15,000, which includes equipment and training.
- The program complies with FAA regulations as it is conducted in an enclosed cage under 200ft.
- The program ensures safety by using exoskeletal drones.

6. Repair and Maintenance • 00:12:39

- The program includes teaching participants how to repair and maintain the drones.
- Backup drones will be available, and the cost of replacement will be around \$350.
- The program aims to engage families and grow membership.

7. Adopting the Program • 00:14:37

- The decision to adopt the program will be discussed by the executive board.
- Adopting the program will showcase Post 5119's commitment to the community.
- The program has been successfully adopted by Post 291.

8. Setup and Cost of Base • 00:16:34

- The base for the UAV youth soccer drone program can be placed in a parking lot.
- It takes about 15 minutes to set up the base.
- The cost of establishing the base is 15 grand.

9. Timeline for the Program • 00:17:59

- The program aims to be fully engaged and ready to compete by February 4, 2024.
- Exhibitions are planned for April and May.
- The goal is to compete at the Olympics in France in 2024.
- The program will be represented at the CES show in Vegas in January.

10. Sponsorship • 00:19:52

- Speaker 2 suggested reaching out to businesses for sponsorship.
- The cost of sponsorship ranges from \$1,000 to 5K.
- The program aims to attract multiple sponsors.
- The program can provide exposure to other post-indio banning and Desert Hot Springs.

11. County Veterans Signal Event • 00:21:45

- Speaker 2 provided information about the county veterans signal event.
- The event is being discussed with Manny in his office.
- The location for the event is being considered.
- Speaker 2 suggested involving the VSO and leaving the decision to the attendees.

12. Veterans Day Weekend Event • 00:23:39

- Crafts for kids and performances by the Palm Springs High School Jazz Band are planned for Thursday night.
- A drive-through lunch is scheduled for November 10.
- A post-parade concert featuring military tailors and Marines is planned for November 11.
- Transportation will be provided by the City Palm Springs Recreation Department.

13. Technical Difficulties with Zoom • 00:25:32

- There were technical difficulties in connecting with a guest on Zoom.
- Attempts were made to troubleshoot the issue.
- It was decided to continue the discussion later and contact the guest after the meeting.

14. Band Concert Itinerary • 00:26:56

- The drive-through lunch at City Hall will take place at 11:00 AM on Friday and Saturday.
- The Marines' color guard will arrive at 12:00 PM, while the Army Band's arrival time is still uncertain.
- The band will set up for their concert at noon or 1:00 PM.
- Sergeant Wayne mentioned that they would need to leave by 6:00 PM.
- The kitchen charges too much for the burgers, so alternative options need to be explored.

15. Membership Process • 00:28:30

- Active members will receive an application in the mail to renew their membership.
- The recommendation is for members to send their applications and checks directly to the membership chairman.
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The proposal is to remove bartenders from the collection process and have all membership-related matters go through the membership chairman.

- A protocol will be developed to handle situations where guests want to pay their membership fees without paperwork.

16. Meeting Announcements • 00:29:46

- The upcoming American Legion meetings for District area and the convention District 21 meeting on November 19 at Hammond were announced.
- A request was made to email a copy of the meeting schedule to all attendees.
- The announcements for other meetings have already been made.

17. Approval of Minutes • 00:30:42

- A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the last meeting.
- The motion was passed, and the minutes were approved.

18. Officer Reports • 00:31:19

- The first vice president discussed the membership process and suggested a new protocol.
- A motion was made to remove bartenders from collecting membership fees and have all matters go through the membership chairman.
- A discussion took place regarding the protocol for guests who want to pay their membership fees without paperwork.

19. Closing Remarks • 00:32:16

- No more guest speakers were present.
- The next set of emails will be sent out as soon as possible.
- Appreciation was expressed for everyone's hard work.

20. Miscellaneous • 00:33:12

- Speaker 5 thanked everyone.
- Speaker 6 confirmed their agreement.
- Speaker 0 expressed gratitude.
- Speaker 1 asked if everyone received a copy of the minutes from the last meeting.
- A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes.
- The motion passed.
- The discussion continued regarding paperwork and technical difficulties.
- The announcement of upcoming meetings was made.
- The officer reports were discussed.
- A motion was made to remove bartenders from collecting membership fees.
- A discussion took place regarding guests paying membership fees without paperwork.

21. Online membership purchases • 00:36:39

- Speaker 3 suggested using the American Legion website for online membership purchases.
- Members can log in, provide their information, and print their membership cards online.

22. Membership renewal form • 00:37:36

- Speaker 1 mentioned a membership renewal form that lacks information compared to the previous version.
- The form used currently is unfamiliar to some members.

23. Availability of membership renewal forms • 00:38:33

- Speaker 3 asked if it is possible to request 200 copies of the old membership renewal form from the American Legion.
- Speaker 0 confirmed that they have some copies available.

24. Preferred payment method • 00:39:30

- Cash payments should be sealed in an envelope with the application.
- Checks are the preferred payment method.
- Credit card information can be included on the application form.

25. Handling of renewals • 00:40:56

- Renewal notices will be sent by mail.
- Members who have already paid should disregard the notice.
- Members can contact Guido or Speaker 0 to confirm their payment status.

26. Handling of new member applications • 00:42:21

- A system needs to be in place for new members to submit their applications and payments.
- Envelopes or a locked box can be provided for this purpose.
- The involvement of bartenders in the process is a matter of discussion.

27. Designated person for application handling • 00:43:47

- Consider designating a specific bartender to handle new member applications and payments.
- This person would be responsible for ensuring proper documentation and receipt of payments.

28. Role of Bartenders in Membership Process • 00:44:44

- Removing bartenders from the membership process was discussed.
- Concerns were raised about security and accountability if bartenders were not involved.
- The decision was made to keep bartenders involved in the process.
- Bartenders will accept checks or credit cards for membership payments.

29. Process for Approving New Members • 00:47:56

- New members need to apply to the post and be approved by the board or officers.
- Proof of service, such as a DD 214, is required for membership.
- Membership cards cannot be issued without approval.
- Guests can be signed in by members, but they are not considered official members.

30. Educating the Membership • 00:51:07

- The importance of using the proper membership application process was emphasized.
- Various application forms and brochures were discussed.
- Members were encouraged to fill out applications completely and provide proof of service.
- The need to protect personal information, such as Social Security numbers, was highlighted.

31. Finance Report • 00:54:19

- The profit and loss year-to-date comparison shows an increase in gross sales for the bar but a loss in net operating income.
- Donations and membership have decreased compared to the previous year.

32. Poker Run Event • 00:57:27

- The poker run event will involve multiple organizations, including the VFW and the Legion.
- Each post will have designated stops, and the event aims to unite the VFW and the Legion.

33. Veterans Day Ceremony • 01:00:35

- A Veterans Day ceremony will be held at Desert Memorial Park.
- The ceremony will commemorate the 40th anniversary of the terrorist attacks in Beirut, Lebanon.
- A band called Hover will perform at the ceremony.

34. Veterans Day Events • 01:05:17

- Drive-through veterans will receive a free lunch, and an application will be provided during the event.
- Field of Valor ceremony will take place on Friday at 4:00 p.m.
- Marine Corps birthday celebration will also be held on Friday at 4:00 p.m.
- Charles Porter, a Marine Corps veteran, will be the guest of honor.

35. Parade Preparation • 01:07:30

- The Legion is number 25 in the parade.
- Two convertibles have been arranged for the Legion's participation.
- Banners, flags, and new magnets will be used during the parade.
- Barb and Bill Demur will provide shuttle services using their golf carts.
- Participants should be present by 3:00 p.m.

36. Heart Love 365 • 01:10:16

- Heart Love 365 will organize a painting event on Veterans Day at 10:00 a.m.
- Participants can register and scan a QR code to get a ticket.
- Heart Love 365 will also join the parade.
- Individuals can create their own heart for someone they owe.

37. Boys and Girls State • 01:12:29

- Efforts are being made to set up a Google Classroom and recruit scouts for Boys and Girls State.
- Approval is sought to purchase uniforms for the Girl Scouts.
- The auxiliary may share the cost of the uniforms.

38. Vetres Services • 01:14:08

- Vetres services are relaunching in Palm Springs.
- Further information will be obtained regarding the services and shared at the next general meeting.

39. Assistance for Sons' toy collection • 01:15:14

- The Sons need help with transporting collected toys to the meeting location.
- Volunteers are also needed to assist with wrapping the toys.
- Parents will be coming on December 7th to select gifts.

40. Concerns about American Legion information online • 01:17:34

- Disturbing and incorrect information about the American Legion is being advertised online.
- The incorrect information includes erroneous hours and the claim that the Legion is open to the public.
- The issue needs to be addressed and the misleading posts should be taken down.

41. Upcoming events • 01:19:54

- Mardi Gras will be held on February 3.
- Valentine's Day event will be on February 17, organized by the auxiliary.
- No conflict with the poker event was reported for Mardi Gras.

42. Updating Legion signage and websites • 01:22:14

- Outdated websites and incorrect posters need to be addressed.
- The incorrect website information can be reported to the server to have it taken down.
- Temporary measures like covering up outdated posters with tape were suggested.

43. Report on member passings • 01:24:34

- Ken Glance and Colonel John Brennan, both members of the color guard, passed away.
- Chaplain apologizes for not being able to contact anyone due to lack of contact information.

44. Communication Preferences • 01:26:08

- Speaker 3 prefers to be contacted via email rather than cell phone.
- Apologizes if this preference leads to any negative consequences.

45. Officer Reports • 01:26:59

- No report from the Sergeant of Arms.
- Confirmation of attendance from all members.

46. Finance Updates • 01:27:51

- Finance committee reports already discussed.
- Highlights of the House committee meeting include kitchen contract, repairs to the walking cooler, insurance update, and rental contract updates.
- Issues with calendar coordination led to the temporary assignment of a party coordinator.

47. Security Measures • 01:29:08

- ABC intervention resulted in the need for an updated check-in process.
- Suggestion to explore a key card system for access control.
- Discussion on other posts using key card systems.
- Plan to change locks and distribute keys to authorized personnel.

48. Upcoming Events • 01:30:50

- Garth Homeowners association event on Thursday.
- Veterans Day parade memorial on Sunday.
- Thanksgiving event with \$25 per person.
- Christmas parade with a chili bar in the back.
- Auxiliary meeting and a party in the main hall.
- Christmas party on the 16th.
- New Year's Eve event with ticket sales for \$50.
- Discussion on a possible toast during the event.

49. Alarm System • 01:34:16

- Installation of an alarm system on the back door.
- Options for setting the alarm system.
- Concerns about people leaving the doors open.
- Instructions for turning off the alarm system.

50. Account Signatories • 01:35:58

- Account signatories were changed at the bank.

51. Other Business • 01:36:24

- No other committee reports or business discussed.

52. Officer Appointments and Radio Room Account • 01:36:50

- Officer appointments were made at the last general meeting.
- The radio room account was transferred to the district.
- New signatories were appointed for the radio room account.
- A check will be written to reopen the account.
- Expenses associated with the account will be absorbed by the organization.

53. Closing Ceremony and Prayer • 01:37:31

- The meeting concluded with a closing ceremony.
- A prayer was offered for guidance and success in their respective roles.