

## 🌟 Summary

The meetings focused on honoring POW/MIA, discussing upcoming events, approving new members, financial performance, community engagement initiatives, merchandise sales, funding needs, and the establishment of new committees. Key decisions included the acceptance of new members, approval of the finance report, and acknowledgment of financial improvements.

## 📄 Outline 10-08-24 General Membership Meeting Convened 5:05 pm

### 1. Opening Ceremony and POW/MIA Recognition •

The meeting commenced with an opening prayer led by Chaplain, emphasizing peace and understanding.

A POW/MIA flag was placed on an empty chair as a symbol of remembrance for unaccounted American soldiers.

### 2. Upcoming District Meetings •

Upcoming District 21 meetings were announced, with specific dates and locations provided.

Members were reminded of the meeting protocols and the importance of attendance.

### 3. Guest Speakers and Community Events •

Scott Graser - Steve Laphom - Amado Salinas - Tony Aguilar - Albert Martinez Past Commander Scott Graser announced the Pride Celebration Veterans Wreath Laying Ceremony on November 1st. Kevin - 3rd Vice - Marker Broadcasting Donation To Legion Base Ball. - Skip -Service Officer - Anyone That Had A V A Denied, Follow Up And Refile

Tom from the Sons provided updates on community support initiatives, including new bar stools and financial contributions to the Legion.

### 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes and New Members •

Guido - 1st Vice ( Motion To Accept The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted without extensive reading. (Motion Passed)

A motion was made and passed to approve new members, bringing the total to 755 paid members.(Motion Passed) See list.

### 5. Financial Report

The finance officer reported a 20% decrease in sales due to heat and lack of a full-time restaurant, but noted a profit of \$6,600 for the first quarter.

Donations have significantly increased compared to the previous year, contributing positively to the financial outlook.

#### 6. Finance Report Approval •

( Motion To Accept The finance report was presented with no discussion and was approved unanimously.

Garth was thanked for his work on the finance report. (Motion Passed)

#### 7. Merchandise Sales Update •

Rusanne - T-shirts are being sold for \$18 each, with requests for lighter colors noted for future orders.

Polo shirts will be available for special order, and a signup sheet will be circulated.

#### 8. Website Development and Video Recording •

Historian James Sloan is working on updating the website to improve accessibility to meeting minutes and financial reports.

Plans for video recording meetings to allow remote participation were discussed, with a trial setup planned for the next meeting.

#### 9. Upcoming Events and Ceremonies •

A plaque mounting ceremony for the past chaplain is scheduled for November 10th at 10 a.m.

The VFW refrigerator was delivered and will have repair costs deducted from payment.

#### 10. Proposed Tours of the Radio Room

Kathy Snyder proposed bringing tour groups to view the radio room, emphasizing the historical significance.

A motion was made and approved to allow the tours, with discussions on providing a key for access. ( Motion Passed)

#### 11. Merchandise Sales Opportunity

There was a suggestion to sell merchandise, such as t-shirts and license plates, during the tours.

The details of merchandise sales will be worked out once the tour proposal is finalized.

## 12. Tour Bus Policy

A 50-passenger bus request was discussed, with concerns about security and appropriateness for the venue.

The decision was made to allow only one group at a time, prioritizing security and logistics.

## 13. Veterans Day Event •

The kitchen will provide lunch for active service members, but funding is still needed.

Ed Vondra volunteered to cook ribs for a fundraiser after the parade, with details to be included in promotional materials.

## 14. Challenge Coins

Ernie - Challenge coins have been ordered and will feature 'Be The One' and 'The American Legion' on either side, priced at \$15 each.

Sales will be managed by Ernie to ensure accurate tracking, with a display coin available for viewing.

## 15. Fundraising and Communication Committees •

Guido- A Development and Fundraising Committee was proposed to enhance fundraising efforts, led by Garth.

A Communications Committee will be established to streamline information sharing among members.

## 16. Measure J Funding Application •

Garth - The City of Palm Springs has a \$6 million Measure J fund, with applications open for civic non-profits.

The post has requested \$280,000 for kitchen and bar upgrades, with decisions expected in January.

## 17. Claims Assistance Event •

An event on October 22-23 will assist members with VA claims, including evaluations and approvals on-site.

Members are encouraged to attend if they have unresolved claims or need assistance.

## 18. Member Complaints and Procedures •

Tony Aguilar - A member- presented complaints against the chair, citing violations of duty and conduct.

The process for addressing these complaints will involve the adjutant and executive board for further review.

## 19. Community Outreach and Radio Show •

Amado - The American Legion will feature on a radio show to discuss community issues and veteran support. - Station 99.1 FM

Segments will air between 3 PM and 4 PM, focusing on the U.S. Constitution and veteran contributions.

Meeting Adjourned 6:04 pm