



American Legion
Elk Grove-Laguna Post 233
August 25, 2016 - Elks Lodge 2577

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order. Commander Larry Sahota opened the meeting at 1910 hours.
2. Roll Call. Officers present were Commander Sahota, 1st Vice Commander Ted Daniels, 2nd Vice Commander Mike Ploszaj, Finance Officer Max Baumgartner, Chaplain Thad Brown, Sergeant-at-Arms Doug Philips, Past Post Commander Brent Kone, Service Office Frank Goehringer, and Adjutant Kate Grunwald. Judge Advocate James Burton was excused.
3. Minutes. July General Meeting minutes were email in advance for review. The minutes were accepted as written.
4. Guest and New members: Max Schell, Navy; Chris Torix, Army; Bob Gluck, USAF and Army; and Brian Habbestad, Air Force;

Quilts of Valor presenters: Kathy Sansone and Donna Sweeny presented a Quilt of Valor to Comrade Christopher J. Chapman. Vicki Wolf from Blood Source gave a presentation. If you donate to Blood Source please use our group number 0352.

5. Finance Report Finance officer reported as of August 24, 2016 the current balance at \$24,532.44, which includes Checking (\$19,301.78), Savings (\$5,200.00), Interest (\$0.66) Petty Cash (\$30.00); Restricted Funds: Veterans Day Parade (\$1,078.37), Food (\$2,577.99), Building Fund (\$5,200.66), Veterans College Student Fund (\$213.23), and Stand Down (\$0). The total available funds are \$14937.19. Food was purchased on the 24th for \$189.
6. Adjutant Report. Adjutant Grunwald reported. We did receive our membership goals from Department; they did not change from last year. Our department goal is 190 members. As of August 24th we have 137 paid members 72.11% of department goal and 45.66% of our Post Goal of 300 paid members. A second reading of the amendment to our Bylaws Article VII, Section 1 was given. Adjutant Grunwald and First Vice Commander Daniels present to Commander Sahota and the Post a Certificate of Appreciation and Plaque from the Stand Out-Celebrating Military Diversity event held on Saturday August 13th. It was mentioned that two of our comrades participated in a Fashion Show at the event. Announcement was made that those who requested a PUFL pin, they are now available and you can see the Finance Officer after the meeting to purchase the pins.

7. Officer and Committee Reports.

First Vice Commander Ted Daniels reported that the membership numbers announced by the Adjutant were only one number different. He then reminded the members that we are now accepting payment for the 2017 membership dues.

Second Vice Commander Ploszaj announced that the Annual Fundraiser will be held at the SES Hall on March 25, 2017: Quotes for the menu are being finalized.

- Saturday, August 27 at 900 to 100 hours Multicultural Festival at Elk Grove Regional Park.
- Thursday, September 8 at 1800 hours, Sons of the American Legion meeting at Elks Lodge 2577.
- Thursday, September 15 at 1830 hours, Post Executive meeting at Elks Lodge 2577.
- Friday September 16 – Sunday September 18- Sacramento StandDown at Mather Field.

- Saturday, September 17 at 0900-1430 hours POW/MIA Ceremony Elk Grove Regional Park. Chairman is Drake Abendroth, he spoke about the event and circulated a sign up for volunteers.
- Thursday, September 22 at 1900 hours Post meeting at Elk's Lodge 2577.
- Saturday October 1-2, 2016 at 0900-1700 hours, Elk Grove Giant Pumpkin Festival at Elk Grove Regional Park. A Signup Genius will be sent in the next Weekly Blast.

Chairman Brent Kone reported on the CRC and ARC Welcome Back BBQ's. He welcomed the following for helping at each of the events: Larry Sahota, Kate Grunwald, Wes Bullard, Gail Hyden, Ben Hall, Mark Manzolli, Robert Ruiz, John Hall, Mike McVean and SAL member Brad McVean, Ted Daniels and Auxiliary member Halina Daniels and Jean Thuotte. Gail Hyden recruited about four new members at the events. Commander Sahota reported that another volunteer was Suki Sahota who has been accepted to UC Berkeley, therefore he was unable to attend tonight's meeting as he is in Berkeley now.

Multicultural Festival Chairman Robert Bullock reported that there are still some volunteers needed for the afternoon shifts.

Arlene Salvador informed the members that we have submitted a request for a permanent loan from the US Army of ten (10) M1 Garra rifles.

District Officer Report: District First Vice Commander Boles announced that the district will be organizing a post revitalization campaign. He then gave a report on the DEC that was held on Saturday August 20th.

8. Sick Call. Past Commanders Floyd Davis and Henry Sanchez, along with Comrades Erick Speirs and Ernie Costa, please keep them in your prayers.

9. Unfinished Business: A vote for the amendment of the Bylaws was taken. The amendment was approved.

Brian McGuinness thanked the post for their generous donation towards the purchase of Coffee pots for the Sacramento Stand Down. He then announced that he really needs Safety Officers on Friday September 16 from 5 am to 2 pm. Any help during that time is appreciated. A Blast will be sent out with more information and a link to volunteer for any shifts that are available during the entire weekend event.

10. New Business. Voting for the Legionnaire of the Year took place. The nominees were Henry Sanchez and Ted Daniels. The winner will be presented a plaque at the August meeting.

A request was made from Post 861 for donations of \$150 each for a 32" LED TV, mounting and antenna for the Village at Mather. A new housing unit for previously homeless veterans, they have a goal to purchase Fifty (50) TVs. We passed the hat for individual donations then a motion was made for the post to donate \$150 to purchase one TV, seconded by Doug Phillips. Discussion followed and the motion was amended to donate \$300 for the purchase of two (2) TVs, seconded by Henry Sanchez. The amended motion carried. Passing the hat resulted in donations of \$300; the post will be donating funds to purchase four (4) TVs for the Village at Mather.

A request was made from the Sacramento Stand-down Chairman to donate \$525 to the Sacramento Stand-down to replace the kitchen coffee pots. A motion was made to add \$339.25 to the Stand-down restricted funds of \$185.75 and donate a total of \$525 to purchase the coffee pots, seconded by Doug Phillips. The motion passed.

Robert Ruiz proposed that we consider developing a resolution to be present before the City Council, to the Chief of Police for their service the citizens of Elk Grove. We will submit this to the Grants Committee and bring it to the next meeting. He then talked about the Blood drive efforts. Comrade Sanchez then reminded us that if you donate to Blood Source our group number is 0352.

A question was posed about having a Post T-shirt made to wear at events during the warmer summer months. The member was invited to the next executive meeting to discuss this issue.

11. For the Good of the Legion. Historian Taps requested help in getting together with Ernie Costa to interview in order to start recording the history of the post. He was referred to Bill Boles.

Commander Sahota discussed the status of the Elk Grove Memorial Hall. The City of Elk Grove is now proposing that the Veterans Hall be a part of the Community Center.

This meeting was adjourned at 2045 hours.

The next meeting will be held September 22, 2016 at 1900 hours at the Elks Lodge 2577 (9240 Survey Road, Elk Grove).

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Grunwald, Adjutant
American Legion Post 233