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**General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**April 5, 2023**

Meeting was called to order by First Vice-Commander Suzzie Thomas at 6:30 P.M. The standard opening ceremony was conducted.

Adjutant Allen Iott called the roll of Officers and Executive Committee members. Called for a quorum were:

Post Officers: Post Executive Committee Members:

1. Commander, Howard Gravely Excused 1. Dan Almendarez Present
2. 1st Vice Commander, Suzzie Thomas Present 2. VACANT
3. 2nd Vice Commander Pat Farrell Present 3. Albert Mireles Present
4. Judge Advocate, Fred Vasquez Present 4. Michael Knott Present
5. Adjutant, Allen G. Iott Present 5. VACANT
6. Finance Officer, Carlos Mendez Present
7. Service Officer, Eddie Tello Absent
8. Historian, Joe Sanchez Excused
9. Sgt-At-Arms, Tod Griffin Present
10. Asst Sgt-At-Arms, Daniel Rodriguez Excused

11. Chaplain VACANT

Quorum was present to conduct business.

General Membership minutes and Executive Committee minutes were provided via email and at the post website. A motion was presented by Todd Griffin and seconded by Raul Buentello to approve minutes. Motion was voted upon and passed.

The following guests were in attendance: Dirk Dorresteyn- Navy; Jess E. Mendoza – Army; Debra Sackett – USAF; Jose Montoya - Army.

The following members were voted in: New Members: Jose Montoya (USA/Vietnam; Samuel E. Rodriguez (USA/Vietnam); Debra M. Sackett (USAF/Other conflicts); Eddie C. Balderrama (USN/Vietnam); Transfers from TX Post 345: Dirk Dorresteyn, William Wittman, Ellen Waldrop, and Elias Mendoza. Motion by Allen Iott and seconded by Todd Griffin to accept the new members into Alamo Post 2. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**First Vice Commander** reported that the goal for the Post for 2023 is 631. Currently renewals are 615 with a renewal rate of 97.46% of goal with 35 renewals to 100%.

**Second Vice Commander** reported that there are currently 12 boys slated for Boys State from Central Catholic High School: 1 from Edison High School and 2 from Thomas Jefferson High school for a total of 15 boys for Boys State.

The Annual Women Veterans luncheon will be held on 22 April 2023 from 1100 – 1300 in the ballroom.

**Finance Officer** reported a net balance in general fund of $12,330.00.

**Adjutant** No report.

**Chaplain:** The following members are sick and request to be kept in our thoughts and prayers: Commander Howard Gravely; Joe Sanchez and wife Mary and Louie Gomez and his wife.

**Judge Advocate** Elections will be held at the 3 May 2023 General Meeting. All positions are open, and all voting members must be current in their dues for 2023.

Past Department Commander Jake Mcbride from El Paso passed away.

**Post Service Officer:** No report.

**Historian** No report

Standing Committees:

**Building and House Committee Chairman:** No report

**Budget and Finance Committee Chairman** No report

**Color Guard** reported that there were several Post Everlasting and final Salute missions held and the presenting colors at the 50th Anniversary of the end of Vietnam held at USAA on 29 March 2023.

**Scouting:**  Troop 132 has volunteered to mow the front of the buildings on the first Saturday of the month. The Scouts are holding their Spring fundraiser which is the Camp card which helps them to attend summer camp. Card gives discounts to various businesses for $5.00.

**Sons of the American Legion (SAL):** reported that there will be an organizational meeting TBD.

**Legion Rider Chairman** reported that they will be holding a Bike Night in the canteen on 13 April 2023 under Operation Comeback with DJ and hotdogs and hamburgers.

He also reminded Post members that the American Legion Legacy fund is the chief fundraiser of the ALR, and it benefits children of servicemembers who passed away in battle since 11 September 2011 and also those veterans with 50% or higher disability rating.

**Public Affairs/Hubmaster Committee Chairman No report.**

**Post Band:** No report

OLD BUSINESS

A commemoration ceremony for the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam war was held on 31 March 2023 in the ballroom and was a success.

NEW BUSINESS

Commander remarked that there needs to be more volunteerism across the Post especially at the Fish fry as that is the main money maker for Post.

Albert Mireles donated a projector to the Post for the purpose of providing training as needed.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE LEGION

2oth District convention was held at Post 2 on 1 April with 16 of 18 Posts attending with the District Commander having the Post Commanders report on the activities in their respective Posts.

The Fiesta dance will be held on 15th April $20.00 per person.

The Post concert band holds practice every Tuesday at 1900 hrs. It is open to anyone regardless of age who likes to play.

Dominoes night on Tuesday at 1830 hrs.

The Post planning meeting is held every other Tuesday at 1830 hrs.

Post Inaugural Military Ball will be held on 20th May at $50.00 per person which will include sit-down dinner and orchestra band.

Upcoming events include veteran comedy shows in July with more information coming.

Albert Mireles will assume the responsibilities of events coordinators to include rentals.

First Vice-Commander Suzzie Thomas reminded us of the VA mission statement from Julianne Flynn, Executive Director VA South Texas Healthcare System and guest speaker at the 20th District convention:

**“To fulfill President Lincoln's promise to care for those who have served in our nation’s military and for their families, caregivers, and survivors.”**

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the First Vice-Commander offered the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned by the First Vice-Commander at 1948 hours.