

Joe Foss American Legion Post 97

General Membership Meeting Minutes



Date: Sep 11, 2023

Time: 19:00

Location: San Tan Valley Veteran Center, 5764 E Hunt Highway Florence, AZ

In Attendance

Officer Attendees: Cmdr Kathy Pascoe; Adjutant Dave Long; Jr Vice Paul Burgert; Sr Vice George Peck; Chaplain DC Brown; Service Ofc Michael Bowers, Don Baer, Amberlynn Newell; Member at Large Mark Houle; Historian Mark Sullivan

Absent Officers: Sgt at Arms Vacant; Finance Sarah Bennington;

Absent Members at Large: 2 Vacant

Attendance: 6 Officers, and 33 total members.

OPENING – The meeting was called to order at the San Tan Valley Veteran Center home of the Joe Foss American Legion by the Commander at 1900 hours. Chaplin Tye gave the opening prayer, followed by the POW/MIA resolution, Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion.

A roll call was conducted by Commander Kathy Pascoe of which enough officers were present for a quorum.

SPECIAL GUEST: District 4 CC “Mo”, Fishing Reps: Cameron Gilliam, Mark Nedza

NEW GUEST: Ron Brandon USArmy ‘63-’69

MINUTES – August

Motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting was made. A 2nd was made to accept. Motion was passed without discussion.

Committee Reports

Finance Report - Sarah Bennington

Bldg	\$ 25.20
Post	\$ 900.21
Event	\$ 494.03
SAL	\$ 17.00
Total	\$1436.44

- Motion to accept the Finance report was made and passed.

Membership Report - George Peck

- 86 members with 5 pending, total 91, 52.2%
- New 2024 Goal 174
- Fees are \$40

Americanism - John Meyer

- October Blood Drive
- Scouts helping with Haunted House
 - Did lasagna fundraiser at Veteran Center and was a success
- Veterans day emails for "Veterans in the Classroom" sent to schools, waiting on replies
- Mark Sullivan doing a Veterans day homeschool event, 11 Nov at the Veteran Center

Chaplain's Report - DC Brown

- DC Brown, thankful for being the chaplain
- Losing members hurts, please check up on friends, reach out and buddy check

Service Officer's Report - Michael Bowers

- 38 scheduled appointments
- 10 Walk-ins
- 48 Veterans assisted
- 9 Open Claims
- 27 outgoing, 16 incoming calls
- 20 Voicemails
- 20 emails
- 97.5 Hours worked
- 314.8 Miles driven
- 3 new Post members

American Legion Riders - Paul Burgert

- Pinal County coming to the next meeting to coordinate county events with ALR.
 - Shop with a cop - \$500 to help a family shop for toys
 - Toy drive - 140 kids received toys last year
- Sept 23 breakfast ride
- Starting up committee for Holiday Bazaar, anyone is welcome to be part of committee

Auxiliary – Carol Coleson

- Auxiliary has grown to 26 members
- 26 hours of vet service hours, 23 hours of community service
- Sept 11 event was a success
 - 24 Rural Metro members served food
 - Native grill donated pizza, Safeway donated cake, Auxiliary brought chicken wings

Sons of the American Legion – John Meyer

- Department Adjutant reached, working membership cards
- Dual membership can happen if you are a veteran and if your parents or grandparents were veterans.

Old Business

- Christmas Fair Committee; Dec 9, 10-1pm Flier in work.

New Business

- Fishing trip; Veterans Tournament Nov 12, 6 am. 7am on the water, off the water by 3pm. 1-2 veterans per captain.
 - Lake pleasant, 40 boats, Channel 10 news.
 - Free for veterans and family
 - 2 other Veterans groups are involved
 - 1, 2, 3, biggest prizes.
 - Have to have a fishing license; have to go online to get a fishing license. Game and Fish will be on site
 - Treager will be doing BBQ
- Members at large, need 2 more, will address and possibly vote in at the next meeting.
- Dennis Gardner: past commander proposed paying his membership fees.
 - **Motion to address put before meeting, second motion made. Vote passed.**
- Johnson Ranch Veterans Day - Nov 9, Speaking engagement, need a veteran for the outreach
- Pancake breakfast on Veterans Day

Post Home / Vet Center

- Legion Membership party - 66+
- Cooling center has seen approx 12-15 dropins
- Haunted House - need help food build saturday mornings at 7am
- Nov 5 Resource Fair??
- Nov 18 Larry Moore, post everlasting
- Nov 30 Larry Moore intermittent - Cave Creek National Cemetery

Good of the Legion

- Sept 15, 16, 17, legion college at Chandler Post, \$100
- Oct 14, Pinal County HOHP Veteran Stand Down
- Oct 14, Black Sheep Bike Blessing at the Veteran Center
- Nov 11, Veteran Stand-down in Coolidge

American Legion District 4 CC "Mo"

- Conduct yearly bylaw review
- Work your post issues, work at the lowest level
- Fall conference, Contact the Post Commander or John Meyer, good way to learn how to get involved.
- Vice commander is out of state but works for us at the district level.
- Buddy Checks, check in on past members and Post 100 members

Next meeting will be 9 October 2023

Meeting Adjourned – by Commander Kathy Pascoe at 20:06 hours.

CC: Members of the Joe Foss American Legion Post 97