



Post 716 General Membership Meeting

10/10/2024

7:00 PM

Post 716, Los Alamitos

3252 Florista St.

Los Alamitos, CA. 90720-2306

Meeting called by: Commander

Type of meeting: Regular

Attendees: Commander- Bryan Bell (X), 1st Vice- Rick Molina (AE), 2nd Vice- Vacant, E-Board- Bill Sestito (X) Barney Felix (AE), Arnold San Miguel (X) Finance- Rick Hamlin (AE), Adjutant- Roger Haag (X), Judge Advocate- Roger Haag (X), Jr Past Commander- Jim Eubanks (AE), Chaplin- Keith Elliott (X), Rider's Liaison – Art Odom (X), Son's Liaison –Art Odom (X) Seargent-at-Arms (Temp) Art Odom (X)

Quorum: YES

Time: 7:00 pm

Bar Manager: Mary Hernandez (X)

Guests: Joe Castillo, First Vice Commander for District 20 and Commander of Post 267 in La Habra.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion passed. Minutes of September 12, 2024 accepted and approved.

OFFICERS REPORTS

COMMANDER'S REPORT

POST MURAL: Rendering of final draft of mural was distributed and comments were invited. Mural costs \$17,000. Explained the reason for the price. City of Los Al will contribute \$8,500 to the mural project. Punisher's MC has raised \$1,000 and a fish fry fundraiser will be this Saturday. The DelFino family has verbally committed to donate approximately \$3,000.

Mario Cespedas, the muralist, spoke on the planning of the mural and provided information on his work and elicited comments. Provided a timeline of the mural project. Estimated completion of the mural is March 2025.

CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS CONTRACT: This is the last month the city will rent the Hall.

ICE MACHINE UPDATE: Technician is going to work on the machine next week.



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CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS FOR POST IMPROVEMENT: Final draft of the drawings are almost done. Commander will present the drawings to the membership when they are complete.

BAR REPORT: Back shelf was removed to fit more tables. A member has donated 24 new barstools and should be here in 3 weeks. We will need volunteers to assemble the barstools when they arrive. Another member will redesign our AV system. The TV's have been purchased by the donor. New purse hooks will be installed. New phone charging stations have been installed. ATM has been relocated to the side of the bar.

MEMBERSHIP ID CARDS: We are enforcing the requirement to show membership cards. Commander explained the reasoning, primarily it is a requirement by the State of California. Commander provided a summary of who may be served at the Post bar.

Membership has increased as a result of enforcing the membership ID card rule. The Son's membership has also increased. Renewals are also improving.

Mr. Castillo provided information about the District membership.

ADJUTANT'S REPORT

WALL OF HEROES UPDATE: Drywall of the wall and work so we can mount boxes. A copy of Tibor Rubin's Medal of Honor will be the central display. The goal is to make it a destination point for the community to learn about the military and honor the service of the members and veterans in our community.

November 8, 2024 completion date for shadow boxes, design, and funding for the drywall work. Rendering is being printed so it can be displayed at the Post.

Eagle Scout Candidate has made shadow boxes for donations. We have received some donations of military memorabilia. Looking for military memorabilia to display in boxes for donation or long-term loan.



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FINANCE OFFICER

Account deposits are up 3% from last year.

FIRST VICE-COMMANDER

Next meeting we will swear in about 8-10 new members. Food will be served.

SECOND VICE-COMMANDER (VACANT)

No Report

EXECUTIVE BOARD- BILL SESTITO

No report

EXECUTIVE BOARD- BARNEY FELIX

No Report.

EXECUTIVE BOARD – ARNOLD SAN MIGUEL

No Report

CHAPLIN’S REPORT – KEITH ELLIOTT

No Report

JR. PAST COMMANDER (“JPC”)– JIM EUBANKS

Absent



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SON'S LIASON – ART ODOM

One more steak dinner this month for the remainder of the year. Steak dinner participation is increasing.

RIDERS'S LIASON – ART ODOM

Provided information about the Toys for Tots fundraiser. It will be on December 1, 2024.

Wreathes Across America on December 14, 2024 at 10am. See Riders for more information.

BAR MANAGERS REPORT

Thanks everyone for support of events. Requested members to be civil when bartenders ask for membership card. Looking at drink specials to encourage more people to come to the Post. We have two new bartenders.

Commander requests members be civil to the bartenders because new rules are being implemented. Bar prices have only been raised 25%. The cost of Eagle Rare Whiskey has significantly increased. This is the only item that increased by approximately 50%.

HALL RENTAL MANAGER

Three additional people have put in deposits for hall rental. Has raised \$6,000 in hall rentals. Anticipate a total of \$12,000 in revenue by the end of the year. A majority of inquiries have accepted the new prices.

Discussed some of potential rentals.

Commander discussed the process for obtaining a reduced rental rate.

AUXILIARY REPORT

Juniors are having their annual car wash this Sunday. Food will be available for sale.



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OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Fish Fundraiser: This Saturday. The band costs \$300.

Fred Torres makes a Motion to allocate \$300 for a band. Art Odom seconded. Voted and approved unanimously. Motion Carries.

Parking Lot Replacement Project: Commander found a company to provide an excellent price for the parking lot improvements. Went over 3 options. The contractor will reduce the price by 50% of normal cost as a donation to the Post. We are applying for a grant from the Pacific Palisades Post.

Recommends Option 3 of the quote that was distributed to the members.

Would like money allocated to pay for option 3 in case we don't get the grant from the Pacific Palisades Post.

Bill Sestito made a motion to allocate 50% of the funds to pay for Parking Lot Project Quote Option 3. Roger Haag Seconded the Motion. Voted and approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

Mural Artwork Design Approval: A member suggests a hull number

Tony Lewis made a Motion to approve the mural. Keith Elliott Seconded the Motion. Vote approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

Disposal of Old bar Stools: Would like to dispose of old bar stools. Initially, we will offer them to other Posts. If no one wants them, we want to dispose of them.

Stevie Kemp made a motion to dispose of the old bar stools. Seconded by Fred Torres. Motion voted and approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

Hall Rental Discount: Discussion for a discount for Laurie Ryan, whose nephew is getting married. The nephew has little funds. They would like a reduced rate of \$500 for hall rental, they will pay for a bartender and security.



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Fred Torres made a motion to provide Laurie Ryan with a reduced rate of \$500 for the rental of the hall for her nephew's event. Seconded by Art Odom. Motion voted and approved unanimously. Motion carried.

Wall of Heroes Donation: Discussion of the project and funding.

Roger Haag made a motion to fund the Wall of Hero project for \$1,000. Seconded by John Hamlin. Motion voted and approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

Removal of Golden Tee Video Game: We are losing money on the video game. The Post pays \$50 a month for the rights to use the Golden Tee video game. Last month we made \$4 on the game. After paying the fee, we lost \$56.

We are making money off the other games in the hall.

Tony Lewis made a motion to remove the Golden Tee video game. Seconded by Stevie Kemp. Motion voted and passed unanimously. Motion Carried

Wreathes Across America; Rider would like the Post to donate \$340 which will cover 30 wreathes.

Fred Torres made a motion to donate \$340 for Wreathes Across America. Seconded by Stevie Kemp. Motion voted and approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

Discussion about the pricing difference for officers and members.

NEW MEMBERS

None

GOOD OF THE LEGION

Stevie Kemp raised concern about pictures of old commanders. Addressed by the Commander.

Theresa from Cypress College thanks the Post for donations of snacks.



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Mary Hernandez inquired about the early bird dinner. Commander will consult with First Vice Commander. As inquired about Thanksgiving Dinner. Commander is working on that issue.

Shaw, a representative of the First Marines Group Organization Marine Corps birthday dinner will held at the Post and the Sons are assisting with the dinner.

Steve Kemp reminded everyone of the Navy Birthday.

La Habra Post 267 will be holding a fundraiser this Saturday. La Habra will have bingo at their Post on Thursday.

Drawing: \$390

Number: #45 Vince Cisneros (Not Present)

Next Month the Drawing Prize increases to \$410

Next General Meeting will be: November 14, 2024

Adjourn: 8:24 pm