

Minutes
Post 22 Regular Membership Meeting
October 24th, 2018 at 6:00 P.M.

Opening Ceremonies (Commander Tolsma): 6PM

- Post and salute the colors
- Chaplain offers Prayer (**remove cap**)
- POW/MIA empty chair (Larson)
- Pledge of Allegiance (**re-cover cap upon completion**)
- Recite Preamble of Constitution of American Legion

1. Roll call to determine if quorum is present (min of 10) - Officer roll call (Adjutant)

	<u>Present / Absent / Excused</u>		
a. Commander:	X		
b. Vice Commander	X		
c. Adjutant	X		
d. Finance		X	X
e. Chaplain	X		
f. Historian	X		
g. Sergeant-at-Arms	X		

2. Reading of the minutes of previous meeting (Adjutant):

Motion by R. Frantzvog and second by Paul Douglas to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried.

3. Introduction of guests and prospective new members (Tolsma)

- a. **New members: Chad Scholl, Cody Hagen** and Robert Beckstrom were present and introduced themselves.
- b. Eugene Opbroek - Department Membership Officer: veteran issues ... Membership first, talked about goal of 20,001 and why it's that number...because it takes that many members to finance the state level operations. Puts emphasis on National Guard units. Their generals have given us permission to come on and recruit whenever we want...but we have to get permission ahead of time. Gave tips on how to recruit them. Disability was an issue/ GI Bill and Forever GI Bill...the benefits of joining the AL. Talk about scouting and shooting programs. Gene will arrange times for us to go out there to recruit...he knows some of the folks out there. Talked about the float...attention getter...consider setting up a table by the float and ask those individuals (both sexes) if they are veterans and then sign them up. Make a special effort to recruit native Americans. He's trying to get us a spot during the Stock Show...we can come down and help recruit members. We should attempt to set up a booth at gun shows. Call the Vice CC's and ask for a list of those events coming up that we can get in on. Gene also mentioned that the Boys State Flag is up!! Hermosa AL Riders will be bringing the Flag up during Legion Day (Thursday) at Boys State...invited Post 22 Riders to take part.

- c. Governor's Office (Commissioning Committee): USS SD. Wiley Cress and Brian Brummett gave a presentation on the newest submarine in the U.S. fleet. Talked about the boat itself and all its capabilities. Pointed out that they are raising money to pay for all the SD events involved with this project. Handed out "swag" to the members present.
- d. Cody Hagen (new member) talked about veteran benefit with Medicare. It's a Humana PPO plan (Humana Medicare Advantage plan), for Veterans on Medicare. Can save them \$30/month. Must sign up by December 7th. Zero premium and a kickback of \$30.
- e. Pennington CO. service Officer Tom Vallet and David Dodson... talked about the benefits for veterans...disabilities etc. Tried to explain how this works. Need your DD-214 with you. Vocational Rehab was discussed. Talked about the GI Bill and how SD has a program that follows up to the GI bill to help you get tuition paid for. Know your benefits, bring your documentation. They work with all the different service orgs.

4. Committee Reports

- a. Finance: (John Wheeler/Harris): **Members may request numbers by sending an email to post22rc@gmail.com**
 - i. Wheeler not present. Harris gave the reports: **\$\$ in the House Committee account and \$\$ in savings.** These are the accounts used to pay the daily bills and to set money aside to pay for capital (bldg) maintenance/improvements. Our legal bills from the recent lawsuit against Pennington County have not been completely decided, but so far we have paid \$10,000. The part that is to be paid by the county is currently before a judge.
 - ii. Harris reported that as per the Executive Committee direction, two new bank accounts were created in order to track funds being spent for different programs. In the past, funds from various sources were all placed into the membership account and then checks were written. In order to create more accountability, accounts were opened for Benevolence giving and another for Americanism (Boys State/school medals/Oratory contests, etc.) The membership account will only be used for membership purposes. **Membership Account: \$;** **Benevolence Acct: \$; Americanism Acct: \$.** Motion to accept the finance report as given from R. Frantsvog and second by M. Ball...Motion carries.
- b. Americanism (Paul Douglas): Oratory contest. 1 person. Harris asked questions about going to the schools to help recruit for our programs. Some discussion took place on not being able to get everyone in the bigger schools into one place. Douglas mentioned that there was a program for all the juniors to learn govt/history and that we should be able to attend that. Harris said that he, Commander Tolsma and Van Delist would like to join during Douglas during these visits to help recruit.
- c. Membership (Harris): Current Roster shows **659** members. **State shows goal of 638 and 386 pd as of 10 October = 61%...50 members have paid online.** Since August meeting: 7 new transfers, with 3 more pending; 7 new members (2 for Tolsma - 1 for Harris - 2 for Van Delist - 1 for Mike Ball - 1 for Ed Thompson). Awards: Recruiter Award - Everyone who recruits a new 2019 member by November 15th will be entered

into a drawing for the award of a Legion wristwatch. Others read off the latest Up-to-now.

- d. 100th Anniversary plans (Cynthia Douglas): Proclamation from the Mayor...Cynthia will take care of this one. Our Charter is July 14th, 1919, so we would like to have our 100th bday party on July 14th (Sunday) 2019. Want to just do a bday cake and ice cream with a social time. Wants to do a time capsule for Post 22 and put it on a display shelf somewhere in the bldg. Open it up in ?. Asked for woodworkers to make the box...Fleming and Fuller were approached. Mike Ball wants someone to translate French letters he has. C. Douglas put out a sign-up sheet for different committees.
5. Sick call, relief and employment (Fuller): No current sick calls.
 6. Post Service Officer's report (Ball): In the past 3 wks we've helped 2 Vets with food and gasoline. Paid rent for one more. There are two pending requests.
 7. Unfinished business:
 - a. Legal case with Pennington County (Wheeler/Tolsma)
 - b. Veterans Day Float/lap blankets/other (Fuller) Fuller talked about the Float for Nov 11th. We have a sponsor (White's Queen City Motors in Spearfish). Talked about the blankets and not being able to get them from Walmart because of the tariffs. The price went up to \$4.99 each and there isn't time to get them embossed. We tabled it until more research could be done.
 - c. Reimburse Paul Douglas for monies spent on medals, etc., for Americanism (**\$595.25**). This expenditure was authorized at a previous meeting, we just didn't have an amount. Harris stated that a check would be written and given to Douglas as soon as we receive the checks for that account.
 8. New Business and correspondence:
 - a. Post 22 sponsorship of Scout troop (C. Van Delist). Talked about the change from Boy Scouts to just Scouts. We (Post 22) have the opportunity to sponsor a group of 12 girls. We are working on what type of support we can provide them. Thinks this will bring in younger members by bringing in programs that involve their kids. Parents get involved in the things their kids are involved in. \$40 sponsorship fee. Organizational Rep would be Chris Van Delist because 2 of his girls will be in it. Harris mentioned the possible issues with using our own facility (with the exception of Saturday mornings) and suggested we try to locate an off-site location for the meetings. He suggested approaching WREA. Gene Opbroek said we should try to use the Guard camp because it's an opportunity to get them involved and recruit them.
 - b. National Commander visit on 9 Nov (1500-1530 - tentative) (Harris) Harris mentioned the probable visit of the AL National Commander on the 9th of November. He pointed out that the visit is very tentative depending on the Commander visiting EAFB. Said he would update as new information is received and ask for an RSVP from members so we know how much coffee/snacks need to be provided.

- c. Fuller: Mtn View Nursing home would like us to come to their bday party Nov 12th at either 2 or 3 PM. Looking for volunteers to attend. Fuller put out a sign up sheet for those wishing to take part. R. Frantsvog suggested meeting at the Post at 1330 and then carpooling from there. Harris asked Don to provide him with details and he will send out the appropriate emails.
- d. Fleming told the members to go downtown and look at the vet banners.
- e. New member Chad Scholl wants to do a video of the Veterans parade and put it on the Website.
- f. 8 November...Mike Ball talked about the Veteran Stand-down.
- g. Tolsma briefed the members about our legal case against the Pennington County Equalization Office. Gave the whole history of the proceedings. Went from County to legal and were given 100%, then up the chain all the way to the SD Supreme Court. SD SC granted us 100% exemption. Our taxes would have been between 17 and 20K per year. We are still fighting for the attorney's fees. Judge Davis is the presiding officer in charge of deciding the final amount the county has to pay for our legal fees. We will be about 18 to 20K into attorney's fees that we have to pay. We've already paid 10K. Then he talked about our budget and how we need to tighten our belts until we get caught up. Fuller wants to know if we can ask State/National to help us pay this bill, because it set a precedent for the whole state. Gene Oproek suggested we contact Travis at state hdq. Finally, Tolsma talked about changes in the bar, with the new POS system, etc.

9. Adjourn at approx 8PM.