



The American Legion, Post 22

Membership Meeting - Minutes

July 19th, 2023, at 6 P.M.

Opening Ceremonies (Commander) (6 P.M.)

- Post and salute the Colors
- Chaplain offers prayer (remove cap)
- POW/MIA empty chair (Sergeant-at-Arms)
- Pledge of Allegiance (re-cover cap upon completion)
- Recite Preamble of Constitution of The American Legion
- Roll call to determine if quorum is present (min of 10 members): see sign in sheet.

Follow with officer roll call:

Present / Absent / Excused

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| a. Commander (D. Harris) | X | | |
| b. 1 st Vice Commander (R. Skjoldal) | X | | |
| c. 2 nd Vice Commander (R. Jendry) | X | | |
| d. Adjutant (F. Pilgrim) | X | | |
| e. Finance Officer (P. Rodriguez) | | X | X |
| f. Chaplain (D. Fuller) | X | | |
| g. Historian (K. Skjoldal) | X | | |
| h. Sergeant-at-Arms (D. Dosch) | | X | X |

- Minutes of previous meeting – Electronically posted on website:
<https://www.alpost22rcsd.com/mtg-minutes-etc> (Adjutant)
- Introduction of guests and prospective new members (Applicable host)
 - New members: Matthew Masisca – Navy & Army Vietnam, Dale Varra - Army, BoJack – USMC. The members were presented with a Legion coin to welcome them to the Post.
 - Guests: Boy State Attendee: Dale Kinyon (2023 Boys State Lt. Governor)
- Committee Reports
- Financial Report (J. Gerry/P. Rodriguez) as of: 7/14/2023
 - Business Account (Rodriguez): \$ (\$10,000 of that is from the savings account).
 - Membership Acct: \$
 - Benevolence Acct: \$
 - Americanism Acct: \$
 - SAL Acct: \$
 - Honor Guard: \$
 - Scholarship Sav Acct: \$
 - Capital Improvements Savings: \$
 - Loan: \$()

- Membership (Harris/Dosch): 2024 Membership year starts 1 July = **Goal is 527.**
 - Paid so far 221 = **42% of goal.**
- AL Riders Report (No representative present): Events presented by 1st Vice Skjoldal
 - Cool Deadwood nights – 24-28 August 2023 in conjunction with the Lead Aux.
 - Flag Retirement Ceremony – TBD Possible September.
 - Escorts – 20 Jun 2023, Contacted Funeral homes about flag lines and escorts.
 - Wagner for Labor Day Celebration. Will lead the parade.
 - Adopt a class. The Riders will once again work with a class from Sturgis.
 - Request to review bylaws about the wall being donated to the riders.
- Honor Guard (R. Skjoldal):
 - Firecracker tournament: 5 different games worked.
 - Funerals / Color Guards as they come.
 - Honor Guard to lead the veteran's day parade. Our Honor Guard will be working with the VFW this year.
 - October 1st – will be sponsoring a coat drive for Walk for Warmth event.
 - Color Guard upcoming
 - Mid-West National Regional Legion Baseball during the 1st week of August.
- Post 22 Auxiliary Report (T. Curry/T. Fuller):
 - Breakfast feed once a month starting in October (2nd Sunday of the month) in lower Post room from 9 AM to 1 PM.
 - Has requested help with the poppy's
 - Planning Possible Garage Sale – TBD
 - Planning Possible Craft Fair – TBD
 - Are willing to assist any other family members with their events.
 - Looking at hosting a possible Fall festival with Pumpkin painting.
 - Bingo starts on September 5th and every Tuesday in the lower Post room.
 - There are new, younger members that have just joined. Expect increased activity.
- Americanism (D. Harris): Boys State and Youth Trooper are completed for 2023. Now looking for new Oratorical participants.
- Athletic Officer (C. Hofer): Unable to attend – the Post 22 season has been completed. However, there will be State regional games this weekend (both the Post 22 Hardhats and the Expos) and the following weekend will be the State competition in Yankton (if either wins at the Regional level. Post 22 Hardhats will be competing in the Midwest National Regional Tournament the 1st week of August here in Rapid City. They are the host team.
- Chaplain - Sick call, relief, and employment (D. Fuller):
 - Post 22 Member Patrick J. Miller has passed away. Let Don know if you would like to participate in the wake ceremonies.
 - Looking for new members for the last man standing club.
 - The VA Health Care System held a hiring event on July 12th from 1200 to 1800 at Fort Meade.
 - Chaplain needs our assistance to help reach out to members who are hospitalized.
- Post Service Officer report (Harry Rossander):

- The Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2023 directs the Department of Veterans Affairs to raise compensation for service-disabled veterans and the families of fallen service members through an increase in the cost-of-living adjustment equal to the annual Social Security increase. The bill was passed unanimously by Congress and signed into law by President Biden.
- The Veterans Benefits Banking Program (VBBP) is a VA program that helps veterans and their beneficiaries through providing secure access to banking options and financial services that protect them from fraud and pension poaching. Contact your local county VSO for assistance with the program.
- Post 9/11 combat veterans who served between 2001 and 2013 will have until September 30 to enroll in VA health care. The date will mark the end of a one-year special enrollment period outlined by the PACT Act. You can apply for VA Health care online, at the va.gov website, or by calling 877-222-8387
- Old Business
 - Facility Improvement projects update.
 - Emblems for the ALA/SAL/ and Riders have all been approved and are completed. Installation is scheduled during the week of the rally.
 - Facility update – current projects (Doug) – roof is still leaking. Doug is working with Black Hills Exteriors to complete repairs. We do not have any funds for new projects.
 - L. Tolsma will be checking on costs for the front patio railing.
 - Review the EC Minutes. Commander Harris reviewed the minutes of the July 15th EC meeting. The main topic was the closing of the kitchen. A group of EC members will meet soon to plan a partial reopening of the kitchen.
- New Business
 - **Post 22 Beer Tent.** The annual fundraiser was a success for the Post 22 Baseball team and takes place during the Firecracker Tournament. Over \$3000 raised. These monies will pay our annual \$2,500 donation to the team as well as the \$1,000 scholarship we plan to award to a Senior player. We are currently waiting on the applications from the team members.
 - **Tee It Up For the Troops Golf tournament** on the 17th of July (Monday). We were on hole #3 to help with the new “Can you beat a girl golfer” Game! We helped raise over \$2,000 for the tournament. Doug Harris & Kyle Skjoldal assisted.
- The Good of the American Legion (Any member):
 - SAL will be doing a car show on 29 July starting at 1 P.M. Burgers, Brats, and Beer will be available during this fund raiser.
 - See Doug Harris for Beef raffle tickets. This is a fundraiser for the SD American Legion Foundation. Tickets are \$10 each. Top prize is a \$500 beef bundle, 2nd prize (\$300), and 3rd prize is \$200.
 - Our 3 new members are all part of a company that is being built here in SD and will offer jobs to Veterans. This has the potential for a lot of economic boosts in our area.
 - Today is 2nd Vice Ricky's 23rd birthday. The attendees sang happy birthday to him and there were cupcakes.
- Adjournment @ 7:05 P.M.