



The American Legion, Post 22

Membership Meeting - Minutes

January 17th, 2024 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):

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		

- 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: Jennifer Haleakala (USCG), Frank Haleakala (USCG)
 - Guests: N/A
- Financial Report (J. Gerry/P. Rodriguez) as of: 1/17/2024
 - Business Account (Rodriguez): \$
 - Membership Acct: \$ (Reimbursed \$561.61 to business account for money spent on Honor Guard supplies). Still haven't received the online payment from Department for Sep and Oct. Lost in the mail.
 - Benevolence Acct: \$ (Deposit from Business Acct. of \$500; debit of \$600 for 3 organizations: 1. Club for Boys, 2. Meals on Wheels, and 3. YFS).
 - Americanism Acct: \$ (Deposit from Business Acct. of \$500).
 - SAL Acct: \$ (Deposits from fundraising and no expenditures).
 - Honor Guard: \$ (debit \$48.36 for straight talk phone service and \$20 Debit chg for gas; deposits of \$889 for fundraiser and funeral).
 - Scholarship Sav Acct: \$.

- Capital Improvements Savings: \$. (\$4,293 transferred out to pay BHE; still contains \$5K from the Queen of Hearts, so true amount is \$).
- Loan: (\$)
- **Executive Committee**
 - A meeting will be held this coming Saturday (20th), so nothing to report.
- **Membership** (Harris/Dosch): 2024 Membership year starts 1 July = **Goal is 545**.
 - Paid so far 475 = **87% of goal**.
 - SAL: Goal of 57: Paid so far 41 = **72% of goal**.
- New members recruited – Commander’s Challenge (Steak dinner for anyone who recruits at least 3 new members...at Post 22 only).
 - Doug Harris (5)
 - Joe Aldentaler (3)
 - Lyle Tolsma (2)
 - Gary Stanley (2)
 - Casey Hanson (2)
 - Don Fuller (2)
 - Chris Van Delist (2)
 - Don Dosch (2)
 - Don Snyder (1)
 - Ryan Skjoldal (1)
 - Kyle Skjoldal (1)
 - Jason Skala (SAL) (1)
 - Cody Penning (1)
- **AL Riders Report:**
 - Fort Meade – Social Hour last Friday of the Month
 - Quarter Bingo this Month with treats, each month is different activity
 - At the community living center from 1400 to 1500
 - Still going to Sturgis 1st grade class and was unable to make it work this month but had treats for the class.
 - February is the election of officers.
 - June 14th – we want to do a flag retirement ceremony. Still in the planning stages, more information to follow.
- **Honor Guard** (R. Skjoldal):
 - Working on more funerals
 - 17th March – Post Everlasting
 - Rent a Vet – March 23, Apr 13th Backup 1800 to 2000 need volunteers will bring up at main meeting.
- **SAL** (J. Skala): Will be doing football boards for the Superbowl.
 - Stick pool boards
 - Superbowl boards
- **Post 22 Auxiliary Report** (T. Fuller):

- Breakfast feed once a month starting on the 2nd Sunday of the month in the Post lower meeting room from 8 AM to 12 PM. Resumes on January 14th, 2023 (postponed due to weather)...changed to the 21st.
- 1 February candy gift bags to give to the Hot Spring Veterans home. Please donate candy before the 23rd of January.
- Diaper Drive was good and is coming back out and **VOA's Mommy's Closet** was super appreciative. (Needs Facebook Correction)
- **Americanism** (D. Harris):
 - We have a competitor for the Oratorical Contest: Ashlynn Wellman, a Sophomore at Stevens H.S. She won the Post and Dist. 2 competitions (she was the only competitor).
 - We currently have 1 young man from STM signed up for Boys State. I will be doing school visits soon. I'm addressing the 3 AP Gov classes at Stevens HS on the 6th of February and plan to work with Girls State Director Tiffany French at Central H.S. on the 2nd of Feb.
 - The Debate coach at Central High School is requesting assistance for judges on January 20th. A message was sent out to all Post 22 members.
- **Athletic Officer** (Lyle Tolsma): American Legion baseball is getting through the issues that arose during last year to prevent the loss of teams. 2024 Passes will be sold at the February membership meeting. 214 games are scheduled for 2024. **Post 22 was awarded the junior state A tournament for 2025.**
- **Chaplain** (D. Fuller):
 - Deaths and Sick Call: Burl V Rathbun.
 - Other: Dates for our annual Post Everlasting (17 Mar) @ 1400 and Legion Birthday (16 Mar).
 - Mike Ball is recovering, Steve Vrabel is getting stronger, Chaplain Fuller is healthy.
- **Post Service Officer** (H. Rossander)
 - New disability compensation rates: Went up by 3.2% for 2024. The newsletter spelling everything out will be on the Post 22 Website in the "minutes" section.
- **Old Business:**
 - Facility update: nothing new to report. Everything seems to be in working order (keep your fingers crossed).
 - Looking for volunteers for the future project of dismantling and removing the brick wall in front of the old building in April. This will be a Spring project.
 - To date I have the following volunteers: 1. Doug Harris, 2. John Rankin, 3.
 - Looking for a volunteer(s) to manage/help maintain the "green spaces" outside of our facility. Would involve weeding/trimming bushes and rock areas.
 - Member John Rankin has volunteered to head up this project.
 - Looking for someone who would be willing to take over/manage our Americanism Programs (Boys State/Oratorical/Youth Trooper).
 - This is the second largest job at the Post level, following Adjutant. It requires a self-starter who is willing to go into the schools to address students/teachers/guidance counselors and work with students once they have signed up. Training will be provided by Commander Harris. You would shadow him for a few months as we go through the different programs.
 - Contact Commander Harris at 970-231-8556 if you are interested in any of these projects/jobs.

- **New Business:**
 - 2023 Financial Giving report (Harris): **\$319,500** so far. Please see the “summary” on the minutes page of our website. Waiting inputs from Auxiliary.
 - Membership payment news: National is now offering the option to pay for 3 years in advance at the current price.
 - Those who haven’t yet paid for 2024, you can pay (online only) for 2024-2026 at the current \$40. That will save you at least \$15 over the 3-year period as dues go up.
 - Those who have paid for 2024 already will soon have the option of paying (online only) for 2025-2027 at the current \$40. This will save you approximately \$25 over that 3-year period as dues are increased at the National and State levels.
 - This does not affect those with a PUFL membership.
 - Post 22 has no plans to increase their portion of the yearly dues, but we have to increase the basic to price to reflect a \$5/year increase from National (2025) and a future (2026) \$5/year “anticipated” increase at the State (Department) level.
 - SD Midwinter Conference (February 16 through the 18th) in Deadwood SD. This is primarily a training event for members from across the state. For all the information, check out the latest edition of the Up-To-Now on the SDAL website: <https://www.sdlegion.org/up-to-now/>
 - Mail banquet checks (\$35/person) to:
 - Randall McGruder, 11332 Tetro Rock Road, Lead, SD 57754
 - Make checks out to American Legion District 1. Must be received by February 1st.
- **Good of The American Legion (Any member):**
 - Jennifer Rollins: Build a Better World for Women and Girls. Talked about a fundraiser being hosted by Hot Springs Post 71 and Zanta: Saturday, January 27, 2024, American Legion at 1045 Jennings Ave, Hot Springs SD, from 1pm – 3pm. Soup Luncheon \$10 Donation
 - February 29th; 40-8 Fundraiser Banquet for \$1000 Scholarships. Social hour starts at 5 P.M.; Tickets are \$100. Contact Don Fuller for more information: 715-425-5817.
 - Boy Scouts Breakfast @ 0630 at Ramkota on February 22nd. This is the annual fundraiser for the Black Hills Area Council. Point of Contact is Don Fuller...see the phone # above.
- **Adjournment:** 7:08 P.M.
- **A social hour followed the meeting.**