



**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
UNIT 291 NEWPORT HARBOR, CA  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Date: Monday, September 11, 2023, from 6:00pm – 7:30pm**

- ❖ **Call to Order / Silence your cell phones** Time: 6:00pm
- ❖ **Officer Substitutions -**
- ❖ **Chaplain's Prayer – Sharon Morgan, Chaplain**
- ❖ **Pledge of Allegiance – Janz Simmons, Sgt-at-Arms**
- ❖ **Roll Call of Officers – Cynthia Minucci Neal, Secretary**
  - Excused: Sue Lindsay, Historian and Cindy Edes, Jr. Past President
- ❖ **Introduction of Special Guest(s) - none**
- ❖ **Approval of Minutes – Cynthia Minucci Neal, Secretary** – The minutes dated Monday August 14, 2023, were approved as written. Motion was made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

**Reports**

- ❖ **President - Debbie Schubert**
  - Attended the National Convention held in Charolette, NC August 25, 2023 – August 31, 2023. Reported on the new National Board members, the booths she visited on the convention floor, and what took place at the National Convention.
  - The American Legion Auxiliary District 29 monthly meeting was cancelled this month (September 9, 2023). The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, October 14, 2023, at Unit 295 Cypress.
  - Discussed the open Chair positions of Education and Public Relations currently available Will discuss at the open positions at the next General Meeting.
  - A Motion was made for Annual Membership dues to be paid for the current Officers and Chairmanships, by completing the duties of their office in the previous year of service. The Membership Committee will review and approve the Officers and Chairmanships who will receive the Annual Membership dues paid for the current year who completed the duties of their office in the previous year of service. Motion was made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and motion carried. There were 17-ayes, and 2-Nays. Yeas and Nays
  - Attended the American Legion E-Board Meeting on Thursday, September 7, 2023. Updated the Legion with the upcoming Auxiliary events for September and October.
  - **American Legion General Meeting on August 9, 2023 – Janet du Monceau du Bergendal** – Will be attending the American Legion General Monthly Meeting on Wed. September 13, 2023. Topics: NFL Ticket/Tailgate Wagon, Blood Drive, Holiday Boutique, Troop Shipping, Pop Tops Donations, and GMM.

- ❖ **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President / Membership – Mary Beth Martin** – Gave an update on the membership renewals to date is 466 paid.
- ❖ **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President / Fundraising – Dana Johnston** – Held the committee meeting on Saturday September 9, 2023, regarding the planning for both the Holiday Boutique on November 16, 2023, and the Spring Fundraiser which will be a Western themed fundraiser party (name to follow) on February 24, 2023. Updated the status on both fundraisers planning to date. Bunco is on October 22, 2023, at 10am and will be posted on Facebook. / See's Candy fundraiser - Flyer will be brought to the next General Meeting on September 19, 2023.
- ❖ **Secretary – Cynthia Minucci Neal** – Attended the CA Department Workshop on September 9, 2023, at the Chino Post. Briefly gave a report on the workshop.
- ❖ **Treasurer – Laura Farr** –Financials for August 2023 will be emailed / Updated and discussed the status on current Insurance policies. Looking further into crime & credit card insurance coverage / Discussed the transfer of investments to Morgan Stanley. / Update on the ongoing incorporation project.
- ❖ **Chaplain – Sharon Morgan** – Updated on the current birthdays, get well and condolences since our last meeting.
- ❖ **Historian – Susan Lindsey** –No Report
- ❖ **Parliamentarian – Peggy Bengry** – No Report
- ❖ **Executive Committee** – Kim Philhart, Peggy Bengry, Cynthia Culp, Bobbi Renaghan & Jan Woolford – No Report
- ❖ **Junior Past President – Cindy Edes** – No Report

### Standing Committees

- ❖ **Americanism – Carol Markel** – Deadline for the upcoming Americanism Essay Contest is January 18, 2024. All the necessary forms will be on the ALA291 website [www.ala291.com](http://www.ala291.com)
- ❖ **Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Jan Woolford** – No report
- ❖ **Chair Covers – Janz Simmons** – Thanked everyone that helped on putting the chair covers on for the wedding on September 20, 2023 / Volunteers needed to wash chair covers
- ❖ **Children and Youth – Bea Foster** – Kids Halloween Party on October 29, 2023, sign up sheet for volunteers and asking for donations of large bags candy at the General meetings. Candy is for both the Kids Halloween party and the Long Beach VA Hospital Kids party on November 10, 2023. / Class on Facepainting coming up. There are three children events in December. Will review at next month's meeting.
- ❖ **Community Service – Sharon Morgan** – Pia brought a couple of places for her to come and talk about the Vials of Life / Bags of Life is in April 2024. Will provide a list of donation items needed to fill the bags in November.

- ❖ **Constitution & Bylaws – Janet du Monceau de Bergendal** – Discussed the Standing Rules update Section 2.
  - Add reimbursement cost to \$150.00 per day, add “State” and delete “Sub-section A”. Amended to \$250.00 per day. Motion was made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and motion carried. There were 18-Ayes, and 1-Nay.
  - Amend the budget to add line item for National Convention Reimbursement up to \$3,600.00 for a delegate. Motion was made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and motion carried.
- ❖ **Donations Recommended by the Board – Pua Huffine** –
  - Received and read an email from the ALA Dept of Hawaii President Brister Thomas (also ALA Girl’s State Director, ALA National Executive Committee, and current ALA National Chaplain), Thanking us for our \$5,000 donation to the Maui Disaster Assistance donation.
  - Received an email from Bill Finster, Donation Chair for SALS, they are matching our \$5,000.00 donation for the Maui Disaster assistance.
- ❖ **Donations**
  - **Newport Beach 1/1 Marines Foundation Suggested donation: Table for 6: \$250 pp / \$1,500** - The SALS are requesting that we (ALA) purchase a table for the Newport Beach 1/1 Marines Foundation. They are celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. They are doing a Mess Hall Night to honor the marines in the 1/1. The event will be held at the Balboa Bay Resort on September 21<sup>st</sup>. As the ALA 291 was one of the founding members, they would be very much like us to participate by either sponsoring or purchasing a table for the event (flyer provided at meeting). The event will host the top 130 officers in the 1/1 that night and will be having three separate events for the 900 remaining marines in the 1/1 at the base shortly after the Mess Night. Contact Steve Rosansky (949) 729-4404 or John H Long, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander SAL 291, Newport Beach 1/1 Foundation Director (714) 797-2796 Email: [jhl2745@cox.net](mailto:jhl2745@cox.net) Motion to Sponsor one table for \$1,500.00 was made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and motion carried.
  - **Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) – Suggested donation \$1,000** – TAPS is the national nonprofit organization providing compassionate care and comprehensive resources for all those grieving the death of a military or veteran loved one. TAPS provides a variety of programs to survivors nationally and worldwide. Our National Military Survivor Seminar and Good Grief Camp has been held annually in Washington, DC over Memorial Day weekend since 1994. TAPS also conducts regional survivor seminars for adults and youth programs at locations across the country, as well retreats and expeditions around the world. Staff can get you connected to counseling in your community and help navigate benefits and resources. Motion was made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and motion carried.
  - **The Bob Woodruff Foundation – Suggested donation \$1,000** – Mission: We ensure that our nation’s veterans, service members, and their families, those who stood for us, have stable and successful futures through: Community Building, Housing, Emergency Financial Assistance, Food Security, Employment Aid, Legal Support, Mental Health,

and Well-being services throughout the “Got Your 6” support network. Bob Woodford Foundation, 1350 Broadway, Suite 905, New York, NY 10018 Motion was\_made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and motion carried.

- **San Clemente Military Family Outreach (SCMFO) “Salute to Military Stars” Luncheon – Suggested donation \$500.00** – The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual “Salute to Military Stars” Fundraiser Luncheon Event at the Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, on October 28, 2023, at 1pm. SCMFO wants to continue to provide emergency financial assistance to Military families at Camp Pendleton. Motion was made, 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.
- ❖ **Education – OPEN**
- ❖ **Girls State – Caroline Miller** – No Report
- ❖ **Juniors – Stacy Eickhoff** – Updated on the beach coastal cleanup on Sept 23, 2023. / Sending email to Juniors for information from our Americanism Chair, Carol Markel regarding the next Americanism 2023-2024 ALA CA Dept essay contest March 8, 2023.
- ❖ **Leadership – OPEN**
- ❖ **Legislative – Pia Thompson** – Directly subscribe to legislative alerts (in the event one is not on the ALA 291 Facebook page at <https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home>. Learn more at: <https://www.legion.org/legislative>
- ❖ **Membership – Kendall Madsen** – No Report
- ❖ **Music – Mary Ann Leonard** – The song selection for the General Monthly Meeting will be *God Bless America*.
- ❖ **National Security – Susan Siever** –The Blood Drive is on Monday, October 9, 2023. Call and sign up to donate.
- ❖ **Past Presidents Parley – OPEN**
- ❖ **Poppy – Bobbi Renaghan** – Updated on Poppy program. Sending in the order for the poppies.
- ❖ **Public Relations – OPEN**
- ❖ **Troop Shipping – Janice Flanagan & Janet du Monceau de Bergendal** – Updated on November 18, 2023, Troop Shipping. Picked up signed post cards from the OC Fair / Received a contact who gave the names of 4 people to contact for troop names and addresses. / Read two thank you cards received including one hand made card. / Noack Awards & Engraving in Costa Mesa donated a new Troop Shipping sign. The sign is now on the front of the Troop Shipping box.
- ❖ **VA & R – Heidi Maturino** – Updated on the following centers: The US Vets – gave items from a donor which included 5 bags of goodies, and a Walker. Also, went to Costco to refill the cupboards / Orange Coast College Veterans Resource Center Aug 24<sup>th</sup> refilled the food pantry for the new college term. / The Elks have adopted the Long Beach VA who need new t-shirts and socks will be donating from the Newport Beach Auxiliary to the Elks Lodge in Santa Ana for the Long Beach VA. / Going next week to Long Beach VA and P.I.E.R. / Coastline will be in the next couple of weeks / Still looking for new centers to supply / At the next General Meeting will be begin collecting for the food drive for our veteran centers for the holidays. Food list provided at the General meeting.

❖ **Special Committees –**

- **Mary Beth Martin – Salute to Service** – Salute to Service Day is scheduled for June 3, 2024. The first meeting of the committee will be Monday, September 25, 2023, at 4:00pm in the Fireside Room. The committee has 19/20 committee members.
- **Kim Philhart – Tailgate Wagon Raffle / Post Concierge program** – Updated the Tailgate Wagon Raffle. So far to date, as of 9/3/23 has collected @\$4,000.00. / Updated on the Post Concierge program. Attended the AL E-Board meeting on Thursday, September 7, 2023. This item has currently been tabled.

❖ **Old Business –**

❖ **New Business –**

❖ **Prayer by Sharon Morgan, Chaplain**

❖ **Next Executive Board Meeting –** Monday, October 9, 2023, in the Fireside Room at 6:00pm

❖ **Adjournment –** Time: 7:30PM