



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY, UNIT 291
215 15TH STREET, NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92663
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 11, 2024

- ❖ **CALL TO ORDER - Silence your cell phones** Time: 6:05pm
- ❖ **Officer Substitution** – None
- ❖ **Chaplain's Prayer** – Sharon Morgan, Chaplain
- ❖ **Pledge of Allegiance** – Janz Simmons, Sgt-at-Arms
- ❖ **Roll Call of Officers** – Cynthia Minucci Neal, Secretary
 - Excused: Laura Farr, Peggy Bengry, Jan Woolford, and Cindy Edes
- ❖ **Special Executive Board Meeting** – Wells Fargo Bank Motion – Time: 6:09pm
 - Currently Laura Farr, Treasurer, Debbie Schubert, Past President, and Mary Beth Martin, President (per December 7, 2003, Executive Emergency Board Meeting minutes), are the *Key Executives in Control* on all the Wells Fargo Bank accounts.
 - A motion to remove Debbie Schubert from all the Wells Fargo Bank accounts as a *Key Executive in Control*. Motion was made by Dana Johnston, 2nd by Janz Simmons, and motion carried.

Special Executive Board Meeting Adjourned: Time: 6:13pm and Resumed Regular Executive Board Meeting.

- ❖ **Approval of Minutes** –
 - The minutes for the Executive Board Meeting held on February 12, 2024, were Approved as written. Motion was made, 2nd, and the minutes stand approved as written. No motion needed.

REPORTS

- ❖ **President – Mary Beth Martin**
 - Hoedown party – All that attended had a good time. There was BBQ and dancing.
 - Annual Welcome Home Party – Vietnam Veterans on April 4 – 8, 2024. Need seven (7) volunteers for setup and seven (7) volunteers for takedown.
 - Spirit of volunteerism – Kelly (Legion PR) nominated the Auxiliary for this award. Group photo was taken in patio for submittal.
 - 2nd Vice President position - Cindy Edes was nominated 2nd VP fundraising for the unexpired term. Motion was made, 2nd, and motion carried.
 - Parliamentarian – looking for someone to fill in for Peggy at the GM meeting while she is out sick. The position will remain unfilled.

- Add Dropbox account – website, documents, history. Has added to the website. Spoke about having a Dropbox and setting up a private members area on the auxiliary website. Name the password competition.
- History – the Sherman Library is a wealth of information. Also, The Sea Breeze newsletters had some history on the Auxiliary past.
- Will not Undrape the charter this month. The Drape will continue for the next month.
- Socks for Troop Shipping – collecting socks at Line Dancing and Jazz Night.
- A special guest at the GM meeting – Commander Evin Planto will attend our General meeting and answer questions. Girls State will also be attending.
- Saturday, March 23, 2024, Ruck Sack walk –The Legion is looking for volunteers at the start in Huntington Beach and at the end at the Post. Sign up to help setup and takedown. The course is 6.8 miles.
- Year-end Reports are due to the District by April 12, 2024. Need to show Logged Hours on report.
- ❖ **1st Vice President - Membership – Dana Johnston**
 - Updated on Membership – As of Friday, March 8, 2024, we have 1,842 (1,803 Seniors, 39 Juniors).
 - February 24, 2023 – Updated on the Hoedown Party, DJ, and raffle tickets.
 - Sunday March 10, 2024 – Updated on the 1st Quartermania. Had vendors, lunch, @50 people. Great time by all who attended. Thanked all for all the donated raffle baskets and Sharon for wrapping all the baskets.
- ❖ **2nd Vice President / Fundraising – OPEN**
- ❖ **Secretary – Cynthia Minucci Neal**
 - Next District meeting is on April 13, 2024, at 9:00am Post 295 in Cypress. Department President Glenda Schultz will be visiting. Need the number of who is planning on attending the Auxiliary District meeting from our unit by April 5, 2024. Lunch will be \$11.
 - Creating a group to reach out to our aging auxiliary members. Starting a committee.
 - The emails for president@ala291.com and secretary@ala291.com are working.
- ❖ **Treasurer – Laura Farr - Presented by Mary Beth Martin, President**
 - Emailed March Monthly Written Report from Laura, Financial Reports dated as of March 6, 2024. All were emailed to the Executive Board members.
 - Motion request to approve the procedure of presenting to the Board a proposed operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year in April of the current fiscal year. Motion was made, 2nd, and motion carried.
 - Discussed a possible new style of budget report.
- ❖ **Chaplain – Sharon Morgan – Reported on March birthdays, get wishes, and condolences cards to members sent out since our last meeting in February.**
- ❖ **Historian – Susan Lindsey – Reviewed the activities since the last meeting in February. They were the Membership Team Mondays, Blood drive, Hoedown Party, Quartermania, Poppy Envelope stuffing, and Military baby shower.**
- ❖ **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**

- March is Military Kids Month – wear purple.
- March History dates
 - March 3rd is National Anthem Day started in 1931.
 - March 29th is Vietnam Veteran’s Day
 - April 5th is Gold Star Spouses Day since 1945.

❖ **Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Jan Woolford** – No report

❖ **Chair Covers – Janz Simmons** - No report.

❖ **Children and Youth – Bea Foster**

- Still need help with storing Children & Youth storage boxes.
- Upcoming Children & Youth Parties. Will need volunteers.
 - Saturday, April 27, 2024, Long Beach Navy Yacht Club is having a family day with games and crafts 11am – 3pm.
 - April 28, 2024, Children’s party with games and crafts from 1:00pm – 2:30pm at Camp Pendleton.

❖ **Community Service – Sharon Morgan** – April 27, 2024, Bags of love. Gave out a list of items needed to fill the bag. Showed a sample bag.

❖ **Constitution & Bylaws – Janet du Monceau de Bergendal** – No Report

❖ **Community Donations Recommended by the Board** – Heidi Sargeant, Phyllis Helt and Christine Beilby

- **Suggested donation of \$900.00 to the Patriots and Paws Golf Tournament** – Motion to support the 9th annual Patriots and Paws golf tournament for a foursome of (4) veterans to play golf on June 11, 2024, at Strawberry Farms Golf Club in Irvine. Motion was made, 2nd, and motion carried.
- **Suggested donation of \$1,500 to the Sal, Fairways of Honor Golf Tournament**– Motion to support the SAL’s golf tournament Fairways of Honor May 25, 2024. Donate \$1,000 for the 9th hole and \$500 for a foursome of disabled veterans. Motion was made, 2nd, and motion carried. 1 opposed.

❖ **Education – Barbara Melum** – No Report

❖ **Girls State – Caroline Miller**

- Will introduce the Girls at the General Meeting on March 20, 2024.
- April 27, 2024 - Newport Rib Company fundraiser for Girls State. Flyer will be available.

❖ **Leadership – Cindy Edes** – Coming up The Leadership Workshop in Chino on March 16, 2024, from 9am – 3pm. \$5.00 at the door for Lunch. RSVP by March 11, 2024.

❖ **Juniors – Stacy Eickhoff** – No report

- ❖ **Legislative – Pia Thompson** – No report
- ❖ **Membership – Kendall Madsen** – No Report
- ❖ **Music – Mary Ann Leonard** – No report
- ❖ **National Security – Susan DiFonzo** – Update on February 19, 2024, Blood drive. Next one is on Oct. 14, 2024.
- ❖ **Past President Parley – Cindy Edes** – No report
- ❖ **Poppy – Bobbi Renaghan** – March 11, 2024 - Poppy Envelope Stuffing prior to Executive Board Meeting. Successful envelope stuffing and prepared envelopes for delivery to mailing company.
- ❖ **Public Relations – Heidi Sergeant**
 - Final update for any changes on the Flyer for Girls State at the Newport Rib Company Fundraiser night on April 27, 2024.
- ❖ **Troop Shipping – Janice Flanagan & Janet du Monceau de Bergendal** – No report
- ❖ **VA & R – Heidi Maturino** – Updated on the following Veteran Resource Centers:
 - US Vets, Costa Mesa – went shopping at Costco and filled their food pantry.
 - Coastline College VRC - Orange County Resupplied the food pantry.
 - Orange Coast VRC – Week of February 26th went shopping to fill the food pantry. Referred to a female veteran in the process of permanent housing gave her a gas and Walmart card
 - Long Beach VA Hospital, Long Beach gave the social worker gift cards for a veteran and his family. Went shopping the following day to fill the food pantry.
 - Garden Grove Elks Lodge – February 23, 2024, went to Lodge for the Stand Down the next day. Shuttled veterans from the LBVA to the Garden Grove Elks Lodge.
 - Veteran Visits Visited our 99-year-old veteran and had a nice visit.
 - Getting additional individual veterans for visits vetted through several resource centers.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- ❖ **Old Business** - None
- ❖ **New Business**
 - Nominating Committee – all the current officers have agreed to stay on. Only open position is 2nd Vice President. Stacy has created a spreadsheet from the survey. A slate of officers has been created. All officers have agreed to stay on for another year.
 - Updated on email sent regarding submitting a picture of their Veteran in military uniform and a picture with the member sending in the photos.
- ❖ **Closing Prayer – Sharon Morgan, Chaplain**

NEXT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – Monday, April 8, 2024, in the Fireside Room at 6:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT – Time: 8:07pm