



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

Date: May 13, 2024

- ❖ **CALL TO ORDER - Silence your cell phones** Time: 6:00pm
- ❖ **Officer Substitution** – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dana Johnston for President Mary Beth Martin
- ❖ **Chaplain's Prayer** – Sharon Morgan, Chaplain
- ❖ **Pledge of Allegiance** – Janz Simmons, Sgt-at-Arms
- ❖ **Roll Call of Officers** – Cynthia Minucci Neal, Secretary
  - Excused: President Mary Beth Martin, Treasurer Laura Farr, & Historian Sue Lindsey, and Cynthia Culp.
- ❖ **Approval of Minutes** –The minutes for the Executive Board Meeting held on Monday April 8, 2024. There were no corrections. The minutes stand approved as written.

### REPORTS

- ❖ **President – Mary Beth Martin - Presented by presiding President (1<sup>st</sup> VP) Dana Johnston**
  - District Awards will be presented at the General Monthly Meeting for yearly chair submittals and two (2) Americanism essay awards.
  - The next District meeting will be held on Saturday June 1, 2024, at 9:00am at Post 295 Cypress.
  - Janet du Monceau de Bergendal gave a report on the American Legion Meeting on May 12, 2024. The new American Legion Officers election results were read.
- ❖ **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President / Membership – Dana Johnston**
  - Membership is 1,902 members plus eleven (11) new members coming in this month.
- ❖ **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President / Fundraising – Cindy Edes – No Report**
- ❖ **Secretary – Cynthia Minucci Neal**
  - Officer Installation Dinner will be on Monday June 17, 2024, at 6:00pm. Details to come as received. Installation will be done as a family along with American Legion and Sons of American Legion.
  - Spirit of Volunteerism award luncheon and Award. The Auxiliary was nominated and received a certificate for being nominated by OC One.
  - Senior Member Visits Committee – We have our 1<sup>st</sup> three (3) members to visit. Still need to set up our 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to set up committee.
- ❖ **Treasurer – Laura Farr Presented by presiding President (1<sup>st</sup> VP) Dana Johnston**
  - Reviewed the Monthly Financial Reports dated May 5, 2024. All were emailed to the Executive Board members for review.
  - Proposed 2024-2025 budget will be read for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time at the General Monthly meeting on May 15, 2024.
  - A brief discussion on Stacy Eickhoff (Officer and an insurance broker) being an Adviser handling Auxiliary Insurance. As Best Practice, discussion on Stacy having no Conflict of Interest since there is no benefit for her personally. Stacy shall continue to review and handle the Auxiliary insurance.

- ❖ **Chaplain – Sharon Morgan** – Updated the Birthdays, well wishes, and condolences since our last meeting. Attended the District meeting and presented the rose for our Auxiliary 291 during the yearly memorial service held.
- ❖ **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** – No Report
- ❖ **Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Jan Woolford** – No Report
- ❖ **Chair Covers – Janz Simmons**
  - June 8, 2024, Chair cover event – Need volunteers at 10am to help with chair covers
- ❖ **Children and Youth – Bea Foster**
  - Reviewed upcoming children's events coming up for April/May. Will give report at General Monthly meeting.
    - April 27, 2024 - Long Beach Navy Yacht Club – Children's Party
    - April Month of the Military Child – Childrens Party on base
    - May 18, 2024 - Long Beach VA Hospital - Baby Shower
    - July 20, 2024 - Luau for Military Families – Need new board games
    - June 15, 2024 – Garage Sale for Sun & Sail Women's Club for Military Baby Shower August 4, 2024.
  - Donations of school supplies – Backpacks seventy-five (75) to fill. Need school supplies in sections (completed pencil box(es) and/or notebook(s) ) as follows:
    - Pencil box filled with supply items from list (separate list).
    - Notebook filled with supply items from list (separate list).
- ❖ **Community Service – Sharon Morgan**
  - Updated on Bags of Love held on April 22, 2024. Thanked all the volunteers (24) in total that came to help stuff 175 bags. Will continue once a year to hold Bags of Love.
- ❖ **Constitution & Bylaws – Janet du Monceau de Bergendal** – No Report
- ❖ **Community Donations Recommended by the Board** – Christine Beilby & Phyllis Helt – No Report
  - **Cindy Edes** – Request for donation to the ALA Department Convention of \$100.00.
    - **Motion** to donate \$100 to the ALA Department for the June 2024 Convention ditty bags. Motion was made, seconded and motion carried.
- ❖ **Education – Barbara Melum** – No Report
- ❖ **Girls State – Caroline Miller** – No Report
- ❖ **Leadership – Cindy Edes** – No Report
- ❖ **Juniors – Stacy Eickhoff** – No Report
- ❖ **Legislative – Pia Thompson** – No Report
- ❖ **Membership – Kendall Madsen** – No Report
- ❖ **Music – Mary Ann Leonard**
  - The song selection for the next General Monthly Meeting will be *America the Beautiful*
- ❖ **National Security – Susan Difonzo** – No Report.

- ❖ **Past President Parley – Cindy Edes** – Had a PPP luncheon to discuss the “Member of the Year” and (6) past presidents attended. Will announce the “Member of the Year” at the General Monthly meeting.
- ❖ **Poppy – Bobbi Renaghan**
  - Updated on the Poppies Program. Purchased a poppies table runner for all to all to use. Will order two (2) more for a total of three (3).
  - Miss Poppy Christina Reyna attending the General Monthly Meeting as a Special Guest. Will be giving her a Certificate of Participation and a scholarship at the General Monthly Meeting.
- ❖ **Public Relations – Heidi Sergeant** – No Report
- ❖ **Troop Shipping – Janice Flanagan & Janet du Monceau de Bergendal** – Updated on the upcoming Troop Shipping Day on Saturday May 18, 2024. Troop shipping will be held inside the main Hall.
- ❖ **Salute to Service - Jeannie Celeketic & Julie Sanborn** – Given by Cynthia Minucci Neal, Secretary
  - Segerstrom has donated to unwrite the Salute to Service dinner for up to 150 people.
- ❖ **VA & R – Heidi Maturino** - Update on the food pantries and more
  - Replenished all four (4) of the food pantries at US Vets, Orange Coast College, Coastline College and Long Beach VA Hospital.
  - Home Veteran visits – Visited her at home Veterans at their homes bringing them needed items they requested. Also told us of a homeless veteran newly released from the service, and how US Vets and the Auxiliary helped him with shelter, and assistance. There was a happy ending. He got a job and moved to San Francisco to start his new career.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

- ❖ **Old Business**
  - **American 100 year Anniversary Committee – Mary Ann Leonard** – Gave an update on the status of the American Legion committee and the Auxiliary will be handling the Mimosa/Bloody Mary booth on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Also, the Silent Auction table needs volunteers on July 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Undraping of the Charter** – Ceremony will be at the General Monthly Meeting.
- ❖ **New Business**
  - Initiation of eleven (11) new members will be at the General Monthly Meeting
  - Election – At the General Monthly meeting to be held on May 19, 2024, the Election and Nomination committee have determined the Auxiliary will need to reopen the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President since it is still open. The position if filled or not, a recess will be called, and the election will begin. Officers will go first to vote, then the membership will follow. In an orderly manner, the Sergeant of Arms and Assistant Sergeant of Arms will release each table to the Fireside Room to vote. Once voting is complete, the meeting will be reopened while membership voting and counting of ballots votes and the votes are being counted. Once the Officers have voted, the meeting will be reopened. At New Business on the Agenda and votes have been counted, the election results will be read by the Election Committee chair. If the results are still being counted, we will take a recess to allow the Tellers to complete the vote count, then reopen the meeting and the Election Committee Chair will read the results.
- ❖ **Closing Prayer – Sharon Morgan, Chaplain**

**NEXT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING** – Monday, July 8, 2024, in the Fireside Room at 6:00pm. There will be no meeting in June. June is dark.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Time: 7:07pm.