



AMVETS 1775

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 22 February 2011

PLACE: VFW Post 1774, at American Legion Post 282, La Mesa CA

Meeting was called to order at 19:03 pm by Commander George Little with 14 members (7 officers) present.

INVOCATION: Chaplain Richard West delivered the Invocation.

PLEDGE: The Commander led the Post in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: The Adjutant called the Roll of Officers. 1st Vice Commander George Little, Finance Officer & Service Officer Harlan Dinger, and Trustee George Anna Little were absent.

GUESTS: No guests were in attendance.

MINUTES: The minutes of the 11 January 2011 meeting were read and approved without modification.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The Commander reports we have a total of \$4,567.82 in checking with a recent deposit of \$659.75 for gross profits from meals, and we have made four payments to Dept of CA for member dues; and we have a total of \$6,577.03 in savings.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE: The Dept of CA reports a new Member At Large in the La Mesa area: Walter LeBlanc. We will attempt to contact Walter and invite him to the next meeting.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: The Commander reports we have a total of 149 current members.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS: There were no reports.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Shall AMVETS share in the cost of a replacement refrigerator purchased by the VFW? Our cost would be \$187.77, representing 1/4 of the total cost. Ladies Auxiliary also pays 1/4 and VFW pays 1/2.
 - A motion to so pay was made and seconded. Discussion:
 - There was concern about the disposition of the refrigerator if, in the future, AMVETS and VFW do not return to the Ship together.



AMVETS 1775

- It was noted that the refrigerator is in use at the American Legion, that we are using it now, and that we will likely get 6 -12 months use out of it regardless of what happens in the future.
- The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
- Shall AMVETS share in the cost of signage on our former building (The Ship)? The cost would be \$162.50, representing 1/2 of the total cost.
 - A motion to so pay was made and seconded. Discussion:
 - The VFW painted the signage without prior discussion with AMVETS, and asked to pay after the fact.
 - There is no guarantee that the building will remain in place and intact (may not survive the repair/renovation process).
 - Building issues or not, the signage is there, and provides public exposure to our Post.
 - The signage has been in place for two months, and no AMVETS member has yet opposed or questioned the issue.
 - The motion was approved by a vote of 12 to 2.
- Shall AVETS donate all net profits, from meals served at the American Legion, into a common fund, which shall be used to defray the costs of moving the VFW, Auxiliary and AMVETS back into the Ship once that building has been repaired and certified for occupancy?
 - A motion to so pay was made and seconded. Discussion:
 - Currently the Auxiliary is furnishing all food items and supplies needed to prepare and serve meals. At present, we owe a total of \$199.41 for past meals, dating back to October. During the same period, we deposited a total of \$659.75 into our checking account, representing gross meals profits.
 - The VFW House Committee recommended (two weeks ago) that all meals profits be placed into a fund to defer the costs of returning to the Ship.
 - VFW is to hold the fund and AMVETS and Auxiliary are to have visibility into the fund.
 - If we do not relocate back to the Ship with the VFW, then the funds are to be split equally between the three organizations.
 - This information is posted on line on the VFW website, but AMVETS does not have a written agreement with VFW
 - The motion to pay was withdrawn.
 - A motion to table the issue until such time as the Commander has received a written agreement stipulating the terms from the VFW was made and seconded. Discussion:
 - The Commander stated he will require said statement in writing from the VFW. He reiterated that the meals procedure, while at the American Legion, is a bit



AMVETS 1775

different than in the past. Here, all organizations share in the duties for every meal served, and the meals are currently served buffet style.

- The motion to table was approved by unanimous vote.
- Shall AMVETS approve the By-Laws dated 22 June 2010, as modified by the Commander?
 - A motion to approve the By-Laws as written was made and seconded. Discussion:
 - The changes were minimal, and were made because we are required to submit a copy of the By-Laws as supporting documentation with our Tax Exempt Status Request to the Franchise Tax Board.
 - The membership has not had sufficient time/notice to appropriately read and vote on the By-Laws.
 - The By-Laws are also needed to support other purposes, such a legal documentation.
 - The By-Laws are normally reviewed at a scheduled annual meeting for that purpose. The next annual meeting is in April. We should defer until that time.
 - The motion to approve the By-Laws as written was amended to: Shall AMVETS approve the By-Laws as written for the sole purpose of providing supporting documentation to the Franchise Tax Board, recognizing that the Commander took this action for the good of the Post, and shall the By-Laws, as written, be provided to the Post membership for review, with an approval vote to be scheduled for the April 2011 meeting? Discussion:
 - Public Relations Officer Steve Tilleson will provide a .pdf copy of the By-Laws to the membership, as an email attachment.
 - The amended motion to approve the By-Laws was approved by unanimous vote.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Dept. of CA AMVETS Convention will be held in Concord CA, June 10-11, 2011. The Dept will pay the mileage costs for two members. Hotel costs will be about \$92. The mileage reimbursement from the Dept is usually more than enough to cover the cost of the hotel. Please let the Commander know if you desire to represent the Post at this event.
- Commander George Little has submitted his application to run for 1st District Commander for the coming year. If elected this will be his second (consecutive) term.
- Sandra Durbin reports the La Mesa City Council, each month, is honoring veterans with a special ceremony and display. Tonight, the Council honored veterans from WWII. Next month the Council will honor the Korean War veterans, followed in succeeding months with ceremonies for veterans from Vietnam, Desert Storm, and Afghanistan/Iraq.
- Sandra Durbin reports the La Mesa City Council has designated that portion of Fletcher Parkway, which exists within the boundaries of the City of La Mesa, shall be designated as "Veterans' Memorial Parkway." The city shall erect two monument signs along Fletcher



AMVETS 1775

Parkway near Baltimore Avenue and at the eastern border of the city near Dallas St., and shall add a vehicular sign to Fletcher Parkway itself.

BENEDICTION: Richard West delivered the benediction.

Larry Prather won the 50/50 draw. Total collected was \$29.

The next regular meeting of AMVETS 1775 will be held on March 22nd, 2011, at American Legion Post 282, located at 8118 University Ave., La Mesa, CA, 91941. The Post contact phone number is (619) 469-6064. Their web site is: <http://www.lamesapost282.org/>.

Cheers!

Gary Ivarson

Adjutant, AMVETS Post 1775

Adjutant's note:

Regarding the New Business item above, for AMVETS to donate net profits from meals into a common fund for the future relocation....

On 2/23/2011, in an email to the VFW Commander, Bill Little writes:

1. What sort of trust fund is that \$\$\$ going into?
2. What if we don't get back into the old location, will that \$\$ be split between the organizations evenly?
3. Is the \$\$\$ for food products and paperworks to serve it being deducted from the trustfund?
4. If we don't get back into the old building, and the \$\$\$ is split between orgs, will \$\$\$ for food and paperworks be deducted from the \$\$\$ given back to the individuals?

On 2/26/2011, VFW Commander Jack Porath writes:

1. Building Fund. Darlene is tracking it all.
2. Yes, even split since we all participate.
3. Yes. AMVETS, Ladies Aux, and VFW will not be billed. Money is taken from the receipts prior to deposit. Thus, monies in the fund will be available.
4. Answered, #3 above.
5. Additional: If we stay where we are, we should then decide how the money will be used to improve the facility since it will then belong to us all. We would take everything from storage.