



Pacific Beach American Legion Auxiliary Unit #552

Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2014

- President Vicky Seamon called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The Pledge of Allegiance and ALA Preamble followed. Co-Chaplain Nancie McLees led us in a prayer. Attendance was taken by Secretary Nancy Person.
 - **8 Members Present:** Vicky Seamon (President), Heather Tidwell (1st Vice), Jody ODonnell (2nd Vice), Nancy Person (Treasurer/Secretary), Lindsey Bittman (Sgt-at-Arms), Nancie McLees (Co-Chaplain), Sue Gibbons, and Karen Stewart.
- Vicky confirmed that the February 19th Minutes were sent out electronically and asked if everyone had a chance to read them.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Jody ODonnell to accept them as is.
 - ❖ **Second:** Karen Stewart.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- Treasurer's / Secretary's Report (Nancy Person):
 - Bank balance at February's meeting was \$3,094.35; total receipts: \$2,817.00; disbursements: \$2,131.22; current bank balance is \$3,780.13. Of that, \$597.25 is for our poppy fund and \$3,182.88 is in our general fund.
 - Current cookbook status: Purchased 227; sold 133; gave away 5; 24 out on credit; 9 at the post; Vicky has 17, and I have 39. Profit to date is \$268.80.
 - Our Bunco fundraiser was fun and successful. We took in \$700.00 and spent \$72.19, leaving us a profit of \$627.81. Of that money, we used \$120.00 to sponsor a table at the upcoming April 12th Military Children's Spring Party/Appreciation Dance. We still have \$507.81 to donate.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to spend \$44.00 for the Gift Shop Remembrance fund. The District 22 fund is extremely low this year so raffle tickets are being sold to increase the fund. Gift Shop Remembrance allows patients in all of the local VA facilities an opportunity to give gifts to their families at the holidays. We were sent 52 tickets and if we purchased them all, the cost would be \$44.00.
 - ❖ **Second:** Jody ODonnell.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
 - This will still leave us \$463.81 to donate.
 - Even though expenses were high for our St. Patrick's Day dinner (\$180.89), we were still able to earn a profit. Thanks to all of our ALA elves who worked so hard, we netted \$204.11. This is more money we can donate to our veterans and the community!
 - There are nine funds to which all units must contribute every year. Four are National (Auxiliary Emergency, Spirit of Youth, Veterans Creative Arts, and Children of Warrior National President's Scholarship). The other five are from Dept. (Children & Youth,

Education, Past President's Parley Nurse's Scholarship, Gift Shop/Patient Remembrance, and VA&R). Since our inception, we have been donating \$10 to each (the minimum allowable).

- ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to at least double our contribution to \$20 per fund. This would only be an additional \$90 spent per year.
- ❖ **Second:** Jody ODonnell.
- ❖ **Unanimous vote.**

Lindsey suggested that we keep an open mind and decide on the amounts when we create our next year's budget. So, although we will donate at least \$20 per fund, we do have the option of giving more to some, if desired.

- I sent an e-mail to Tony Corbin, the head of the IT Dept. at Mission Bay High School letting him know that we are not ready to have one of his seniors work on our web site. We will probably pick it up again in the next school year, which starts in September. Based on the amount of time that Mary Thorsten of the Oceanside unit has spent trying to get her local HS students to create their website, I just don't have the time. We will wait until the Oceanside site is complete and learn from Mary's experience. If any other Unit 552 member would like to take over the job of researching what's available to 501(c)19 non-profits in terms of free web hosting, I'd happily turn over the responsibility.
- Vicky and I have started the year-end reports since they are due April 11th and I'm leaving town this Saturday for two weeks.
- President/Membership Report (Vicky Seamon):
 - Thank you so much to all who helped at the St. Patrick's Day dinner. We really had a great turnout of volunteers. The hall looked beautiful with the table runners made by Nancie and Sue. Nancie has offered to make table runners appropriate for whatever holiday or season our meal is held in. We accept your offer!
 - It is the time of year for our officer nominations. Since there are so few members at this meeting, we can't really complete this function tonight. We will either have on-line nominations or wait until the April meeting. Vicky will get back to you on this.
 - Vicky is scheduled to attend the all-day Leadership Workshop at Post 460 in Kearny Mesa this Saturday, March 22nd. It will focus on how to write reports, how to run elections properly, and more.
 - As of today, we have five new members, two PUFLs (paid up for life members), four transfers, and 33 renewals. This brings our current membership up to 44 - amazing! We ended last year with 38 members, and the district set our goal at 40.
 - Our newest member, Mary Sumner comes to us via Vicky. Mary needs to be voted in tonight.
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Nancy Person to accept Mary as a new member.
 - ❖ **Second:** Lindsey Bittman.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**
- 1st Vice/VA&R Report (Heather Tidwell):
 - The same female vet who picked up a bed, couch, and many other items from Heather a few months ago, called to find out what else was available. She's having a hard time finding a job and still needs things. Heather agreed to provide pots and pans to her.

- Heather received a call from VVSD that there's another veteran about to be transitioned into VASH housing; so she will be in contact with him about how we can help.
- Chaplin/Historian Report (Nancie McLees):
 - Nancie is busy updating the scrapbook with photos from Bunco and the St. Patrick's Day dinner.
- Girls State (reported by Vicky in Margaret Smith's absence):
 - Eighteen candidates have been interviewed and four delegates have been selected (one each from Clairemont HS, Madison HS, University City HS, and Mission Bay HS). We also have 1st and 2nd alternates designated. Margaret is trying to follow-up with the four high schools so all applications can be processed on time.
 - Margaret and Tricia will be providing refreshments for the Girl's State Tea. Tricia will also most likely attend.
- Community Service (Lindsey Bittman):
 - Is Relay for Life still on our agenda for June 7th at La Jolla High School?
 - ❖ **Motion:** made by Heather Tidwell to put a team together, even if it's only ALA members (Vicky never heard back from the American Legion or the Sons of the American Legion on whether they were interested in joining us).
 - ❖ **Second:** Lindsey Bittman.
 - ❖ **Unanimous vote.**

We still have time to iron out the details, but it's clear that there is enough interest to put it on our calendar. Whether we have enough people to walk, or we just volunteer and donate money, we will definitely be involved at some level. Relay for Life has been around since 1985 and is in many major cities. At least 90% of all funds raised goes to cancer research and educating people about cancer, not paying for administrative costs.
- New Business:
 - Rummage Sale has been scheduled for Saturday, April 12th. Start asking friends and family members for donations. We'll take anything from clothing, sporting goods, knick-knacks, tools, games, etc. We will need volunteers to come in on Friday night at around 5:00 to start sorting and organizing items.
 - The next Immigration/Naturalization ceremony was moved from April until September, so we have a reprieve in making corsages and ribbons.
 - The VFW really needs help distributing poppies in May. A sign-up sheet should be on the bulletin board soon. They are looking to fill four-hour increments (9AM-1PM) or (1PM-5pm) on May 3rd or 4th.
 - We will be having a Mother's Day brunch on May 11th. Details to follow.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.
- Minutes are respectfully submitted by Secretary Nancy Person.