

American Legion Ocean Beaches Post 129
June 06, 2024 Executive Board (e-Board) Meeting Minutes

Opening: Commander Mike Flanagan called the meeting to order at 1800 hours.

- **Opening prayer:** Ray Shires
- **Adjutant roll call:** Roll call taken: there was a quorum; see muster sheet.
- **Approval of May 02, 2024 Meeting Minutes:** The May e-Board minutes were posted to the Post 129 website.

Motion No. E1: A motion was made to except the minutes as posted on the Post 129 website. Second and passed.

Commanders Report:

- Post 129 Commander Flanagan will be out of country starting June 13th through the 24th. Terry Stickles will be Acting Commander during this time.
- The regular e-Board and General Meetings scheduled for July 04, 2024 will not be held due to the Fourth of July holiday weekend.
- Post 129 Installation of Officers: The Fifth District Commander's Installation of Officers will be held on July 13, 2024 at 4:00 P.M.
- American Legion Department of Florida Convention: There are still two open slots for Post 129 delegates if anyone is interested in attending. Please contact David Tarnowski and/or Jeff Durden for more information. The Convention will be held June 13-16, 2024 in Orlando, FL.
- Legion Raffle - May 2024: The Post lost about \$50.00 on the raffle last month. Commander Flanagan thanked Terry Stickles and Brandi for quickly purchasing the three grills and advertising the raffle. Terry Stickles/2nd Vice Commander and I have been discussing how raffles are promoted. It was suggested that in the future all raffles (AL, Aux., SAL, etc.) will be drawn the last Saturday of the month during the Queen of Diamonds live Facebook event. Additionally, the raffles will be advertised at all Queen of Diamonds events. This will hopefully get information about what is being raffled out to more members and also publicly recognize the raffle winner(s) people.

Motion No. E2: A motion was made to have all Post 129 Raffle drawings be done during the live Facebook Queen of Diamonds event on the last Saturday of the month. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Florida American Legion Boys State: The Fifth District Boys State Candidates will be picked up and dropped off from Post 129 on June 16th and June 22nd. Rick Miller/4th Vice Commander will be handling the opening at 3:00AM and securing the Post to accommodate the boys and their parents on the morning on June 16th. Commander Flanagan thanked Brad Fisher and Rick Miller for volunteering to handle the Post 129 responsibilities while he is out of the country.

Finance Officer's Report : Jim Wineland read the May 2024 Finance Report for the Post. The Finance Report will also be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway between Liberty Hall and Freedom Hall.

Motion No. E3: A motion was made to accept the May 2024 Finance Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded and passed.

House Committee Report: The House Committee Meet June 04, 2024. All House Committee members present. Guests included Commander Mike Flanagan, Judge Advocate Jeff Durden, Bar Manager Brandi Haught, Jerry Brandt, and Mike Smith. The meeting was called to order at 1830 hrs.

- Bar Manager's Report: Brandy presented the bar report. Profits reported were: Pull Tabs - \$1,698.00, Lotto - \$198.60, Bingo: Liberty Hall – \$3,016.33, Freedom Hall - \$12,263.58, and the Fish Machine - \$19,105.20.

- Post building operations and maintenance: SAL member and House Committee member Terry Reglin installed six auto light switches, and repaired and then pressure washed the dumpster gate and surrounding area.
- Interior Doors: The Post will be installing combination lock keypads on various interior doors throughout the Post.
- Legion Office Computer Upgrade: Computerization of all membership has been upgraded by Kelly Rice/3rd Vice Commander purchased a new computer and monitor for the Post's office. The House Committee Chair noted that Kelly Rice/3rd Vice Commander has spent numerous hours working on Post membership over the past several months. Additionally, the Post received a court subpoena for documents related to a member. Kelly Rice was able to quickly determine that the individual was not associated with Post 129 but in fact was a SAL member at Post 316. Without her work, it would have appeared that the Post was not complying with the court's subpoena.
- Disciplinary Action: On May 6, 2024, Commander Mike Flanagan, Judge Advocate Jeff Durden, the House Committee Chair Tom Gilson met with an employee regarding information the House Committee Chair developed because of a report involving ongoing thefts. Based on finding at that meeting, the House Committee's Legion members also met with the employ the next day to address the situation. As a result, the employee was terminated and their Post Canteen and SAL membership privileges were suspended for 1 year with the exception of attending the monthly SAL meetings.
- Member Actions involving Unruly Members/Guests: Post 129 members, and their guests, are requested to please not interfere with actions taken by the bartender(s) and any unruly members or guests unless the bartender(s) requests assistance. Recently there was an incident where a Post Officer stepped in and made the matter worse. It is requested that Post members standby, observe, and wait and allow the bartenders to handle these situations. This also includes incidents then and if Police Officer are called tot he Post unless you're directly involved.

Motion No. E4: A motion was made to accept the May 2024 House Committee Report. The motion was seconded and passed.

1st Vice Commander: Position is vacant. No report. Commander Flanagan will provide a membership update at the General Meeting

2nd Vice Commander: Absent - Excused: no report.

Old Business:

- Post 129 Landscaping Project: Brad Fisher provided a status of the landscaping project. Brad has obtained two quotes from local Veteran owned businesses and reviewed the two quotes including pricing. Brad felt best about the Grounds Guys company because they made the first appointment, and he has worked with them before. There are two prices, \$3,000 for landscaping, \$5,000 for both landscaping and planters.

Motion No. E5: A motion was made to approve up to \$5,000.00 for the landscaping project and to select the Ground Guys to do the work. The project would be addressed in two steps: the first would be up to \$3,000 for the removal of the current materials and removal of any rotten wood, the rock installation, and any landscaping. The second step would be up to an additional \$2000.00 for planters and plants. The motion was seconded and passed.

New Business:

- Use of Post 129 to host a "Friend's of Chili" Fundraiser Event: Jeff Durden discussed a group of individuals that have been holding a "Friends of Chili" event for a number of years. In the past the fundraiser event was held at Sneakers in Jacksonville Beach since about 2010. The group, one of which is a member at Post 316, is now looking at holding the event at The Brix in Jacksonville Beach but are waiting on, and concerned about, gaining the required City permits. The group approached Jeff about the possibility of Post 129 being willing to host the event. The event involves 15 to 20 teams in a chilly cookout. Jeff reports that the Sneakers event brought in \$34,000 last year. The group does all the planning: they bring in their own band, provide the set up for the chilly cook-off, etc. The group would like to use the Post facilities and the dirt lot for the event. In addition, the group would need \$2,500 seed money that would be paid back to the Post. The group obtains all permits and there could be up to a total of 1,500 people attending throughout

the day (note: not all at once). The fundraising monies raised will come be giving to the Post. The event is proposed to be held on a weekend as the end of October 2024.

Motion No. E6: A motion was made to proceed with working with the group in planning and working on the details of the “Friends of Chilli” event and to provide \$2,500.00 seed money for Post 129 to host the fundraiser. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Sterling Golf Tournament: This annual Post 129 Golf fundraiser for Girls State and Boys State will be held October 05, 2024. The Post has sponsored this event is. past years as the fundraiser essentially pays for the Post 129 Boy State Candidates in full to attend Boys State each year. The sponsor ship costs for this year \$150.00 to sponsor a hole and \$1800.00 for Post 129 promotional advertisements (Post logo will be on the flyer and other promotional materials) and includes a foursome.

Motion No. E7: A motion was made for up to \$2,000.00 for a “Logo Level Sponsorship” and to sponsor a hole for this year’s golf tournament fundraiser. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Cell Phone for Post Commander : Jeff Durden proposed the Post Commander be provided a cell phone for conducting Post Business. This is done with other American Legion organizations and provides a continuous telephone number for our external and internal customers to use when conducting business with the Post. The telephone would be a Post asset and passed on from Commander to Commander. Commander Flanagan added that the same should be done for organization emails (Commander, Finance Officer, Bar Manager, House Committee Chair, etc.; note - their is already an email for Post 129 membership that is shared by the 1st and 3rd Vice Commander’s to conduct membership actions). Commander Flanagan mentioned that this would allow for transfer of contact information and emails that would be lost with the Commander and other Officers using personal accounts and telephones. Jeff further noted that the Post should also provide the Post’s Service Officer with a phone for his communications with Veterans that a seeking help and assistance. The Post’s Service Officer, Danny Rodriquez, said he did not want another phone or number as his current telephone number has been in use years and with several Legion organizations not just Post 129. A suggestion was made to provide \$50.00 per month to help the Post Service Officer with telephone service expenses.

Motion No. E8: A motion was made to provide up to \$800.00 for a cell phone for the Post Commander’s use and to provide \$50.00 per month to the Post Service Officer to assist with telephone expenses associated with their duties. The motion was seconded and passed.

- House Committee and Membership Drop Boxes: The House Committee Chair requested a drop box be set up for members to leave recommendations, comments, and complaints for the the House Committee. He added that the same should be done for Post Membership transactions as this would remove the bartenders from the process of processing membership applications, inquiries, and handling payments.

For the Good of The Legion: Commander Flanagan asked is any members had any business For the Good of the Legion. No members had any further recommendations, suggestions or comments.

Motion No. E9: A motion was made to adjourn the e-Board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

Meeting Adjourned: Commander Flanagan adjourned the e-Board Meeting at 1824 hours.

Submitted: David P. Tarnowski

Adjutant

Approved: Michael Flanagan

Commander