

American Legion Ocean Beaches Post 129

April 04, 2024 General Meeting Minutes

Opening:

Commander Mike Flanagan called the meeting to order at 1900 and conducted the opening ceremony.

- **Chaplain:** Brian Hancher
- **Roll Call:** Adjutant David Tarnowski conducted roll call: a quorum was established. General Meeting sign-in sheet is attached (Attachment 1).
- **Guests:** The Commander asked if there were any guest present. Two guests were present and the addressed the General membership:
 - **Guest 1:** Shellie Long presented a Certificate of Appreciation for donating to 19th Street Charity. It provided shoes, 64 bikes, 50 coats, toys, \$253 left, and it was spent on Toothbrushes and paste.
 - **Guest 2:** Sue Nist Location Coordinator for Wreaths across America for Jacksonville National Cemetery. She presented a plaque to Legion Post 129. Thank you for your support.
- **Reading of the minutes:** The March 2024 General Meeting Minutes were read.

Motion No. 1: A motion was made to approve the March meeting minutes. Minutes are on the web site. 2nd and passed.

Commander's Opening Remarks and Comments:

- Membership for the post is 87.17%, the goal is 95%. Turns out that all our transmittals were not getting paid. Jim Wineland will contact the bank to straighten this out. The numbers will go up.
- Veterans Memorial Park at Post 316. Post 129 is hosting Memorial Day Services on May 27th.
- Upcoming events to be aware of and to get on your calendar:
 - Celebration of life for Sue Lilly 4/13/24
 - April 15 at 6 pm, there will be a meeting to discuss the three exterior projects: building landscaping; bell monument refurbishment, and the SAL monument. Purpose is to review the plans for each and develop a plan for each for presentation to the Post 129 organizations for funding and the Legion General Meeting for approval. The House Committee and Legion e-board will also review and discuss the plan(s).
 - Legion dinner is 4/26/24, Terry is having trouble getting volunteers. If any members want to help please see Terry.
 - Voting of Post Officers and eBoard will be conducted Saturday, May 27, 2024 from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM and at the Thursday May 02, 2024 AL General Meeting. Votes will be tallied and next year's Officers and eBoard announced at the meeting. .
 - Opening of the beaches is the April 28th, hoping for a good turnout. Be there at 1230. The parade is from 2 pm till 3 pm. Hamburgers and hot dogs at the post after the parade. Order the flags to pass out. 100 flags for \$24
 - Mother's Day the post will be having a luncheon.
 - Placing flags on graves 0800 May 25 and pick up on 28th, Tuesday.

- The FL Department's Convention is June 13th till 16th.
- We are moving the Legion General Meeting back one day in July because of the Fourth of July holiday.
- Contribution Committee, the commander went through the Bylaws, for example the ByLaws state the the Chaplin, Brian Hancher, would on it. The Service Officer would also be on that committee. The commander thinks there should be a separate meeting to discuss this committee. There are certain people required to be on it and we should ask who should be on it? Who wants to be on it? The committee should meet two weeks before the General Meeting to review requests. The commander received the Florida Department's Project Vet Relief forms that they use to vet individuals that request help guide. We could use those and other non-profit organization's forms and processes to guide Post 129 in developing the process, procedures and rules, and forms for our Post. The process should be required to the organizations we presently support, new organizations that request donations, and individuals.
- The city noticed that the monuments on the wall on A1A are degraded. He has asked the city for a point of contact for the city. Jeff D. added that the ones at Adventure Landing could be used to replace them as they are currently obscured. Parks and Recreation Center is the point of contact per Jerry Brandt. Parks and Rec said we could replace them ourselves. Currently there are Legion, Auxillary and sons' plaque only. Could put a Legion Family that has all 4 logos.

Finance Report: The March 2024 report was read by Jim Wineland and is posted in the hallway.

Motion No. 2: A motion was made to accept the Financial Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded and passed.

House Committee Report: The committee met on 04/02/24. Brandy was excused. The committee presented the club report as follows.

- Machines: Pull Tabs Profits: \$3,714; Lotto: \$403.14; Bingo: Liberty Hall \$1,948.95, Freedom Hall \$10,855.85; and the Fish Machine \$20,917.20
- Vinyl siding was installed in the kitchen, behind the ice machine to stop peeling paint.
- Installation of foam in the ceiling in the middle of the building will be completed this month. The post will be shut down during the installation. After consulting with Brandy, the slowest day of the week is Tuesday. All attempts will be made to have it done that time depends on the odor. The post may be able to open in the evening.
- Landscaping will take place after the Grounds Committee meets on 4/15 to walk the grounds with the commander to decide on a plan of action.
- The bell will be removed by Al Yardly to be refurbished.
- I toured the storage areas inside the post and will be cleaning out the utility closet in the hallway. New shelves will be installed to improve storage space. It may be necessary to lock the door. I recommend the Conex box outside be reorganized and garbage removed.
- New spring hinges should be installed on the kitchen doors, so they close themselves. Sweeps were installed on the doors coming from the smoking side to help cut down on smoke smell.
- The committee recommend the kitchen personnel receive a \$2.00 raise. They have not gotten one in 3 years; one worker only gets \$13.00 per hour. (Richard and Eddie) The kitchen is working at 4% profit.
- One disciplinary action was taken against Linda Ganser (AUX) for assaulting a bartender from the post. She was permanently barred from the post.

Motion No. 3: A motion was made to accept the House Committee Report as read. The motion was seconded and passed.

1st Vice Membership: Commander Flanagan read the names of two (2) new and three (3) transferring members to the General membership.

Motion No. 4: A motion was made to approve by voice vote to approve the five proposed new and transfer for Post 129 membership. The motion was seconded and passed.

2nd Vice Commander: No report

3rd Vice Commander: Absent.

4th Vice Commander: No report

Chaplain: No report

SAL: No report.

Service Officer:

- Eddie came to me, asked where a vet could get help. I talked to the veteran at the bar giving him the number to Suicide Hot Line, my card, and the number to Here Tomorrow. You can talk to anyone if you see they are having a hard time dealing. Just listening is the biggest help.
- School Medals: It's the end of the school year and they need to be ordered for the elementary schools. I also purchased medals for the schools. Commander Flanagan inquired if the medals were purchased by Danny with personal funds and that was the case. The Commander added there was no need for Officers and Legion volunteers to be purchasing items for the programs they work on.
- I have the medals for Junior ROTC. Their military ball is April 19, 2024. I met the new Lieutenant Colonel and he is looking forward to working with us.
- Memorial Day Flags for Veterans Graves: Flags for Memorial Day will be placed on Saturday, May 25, 2024 at 0800 and then picked up on Tuesday, May 28th in the morning.

Motion No. 5: A motion was made to provide up to \$100 for the school medals program. The motion was seconded and passed.

ALR: No report.

Baseball: No report. Commander Flanagan mentioned that it is too late at this date to work on sponsoring a team from Post 129. Additionally, contact with the new D. U. Fletcher HS baseball coach, who reportedly supports coaching a team, still has to be made.

Boys State: All the Post 129 boys have been registered. The Post has 7 candidates and four alternates selected for the program. The Fifth District is ahead of the other Districts in registering alternates and that hopefully will get all the boys a spot in this year's program.

Old Business: No old business times were raised. Most of the old business items were addressed with the Commander's opening remarks and notes.

New Business:

- Jerry Brandt made several motions that were discussed at the eBoard and General meetings:

Motion No. 6: A motion was made to approve a pay raise of \$2.00 per hour for the kitchen staff. The motion was seconded passed.

Motion No. 7: A motion was made to remove and refurbish the Post 129 bell at the front of the Post. The motion was seconded and and passed.

- Additional discussions and the resulting motions were made:

Motion No. 8: Jeff Durden made a motion to donate \$5,000.00 for the Special Olympics to presented at the Department of Florida Convention. The motion was seconded and passed.

Motion No. 9: Brain Hancher made a motion for a donation of \$1,000.00 for the Beaches Life Saving Corp golf tournament. The donation would include two golfers to play in the fundraiser. The motion was seconded and passed.

Motion No. 10: A motion was made by Jim Wineland for \$100.00 for the ALR motorcycle raffle. Noting that if we win, then the raffle it for our gain. The motion was seconded and passed.

- Jim Wineland made a motion, that was seconded, that the Post pay the membership for members who are over 70 years old. The motion was seconded. The motion was discussed further. Jim’s proposal was an effort to help Post 129 meet its membership goal quickly for this year. Jim stated that the Post already pays the membership for members that are over 80 years old. From the numbers obtained by 3rd Vice Commander Kelly Rice, the Post currently has 68 members that are over 70 years years old that have not paid their 2024 dues. Commander Flanagan proposed an amendment to the motion that each of the 68 members attempt to be contacted, and if not reached, the research be completed to determine if they still alive.

Motion No. 11: A motion was made to fund members over the age of 70 with up to \$2000.00, after attempting to contact them about their membership and researching those that cannot be reached to assure that they have not passed away over the last year. The amended motion was seconded and passed.

Correspondence: None.

For the Good of the Legion:

- A third and final round of Nominations for Post 129 Officers and e-Board members for 2024-2025 was conducted. The results were:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Member(s) Nominated</u>	<u>Closed/Comments</u>
Commander:	Jeff Durden	Closed
1 st Vice Commander:	No nominations: open position.	Closed. Votes will be “write-ins”
2 nd Vice Commander:	Terry Stickle	Closed

<u>Position</u>	<u>Member(s) Nominated</u>	<u>Nominations Closed</u>
3 rd Vice Commander:	Kelly Rice	Closed
4 th Vice Commander:	Rick Miller	Closed
Finance Officer:	Jim Wineland	Closed
Stg at Arms:	Allen Yardly	Closed
Chaplin:	Brian Hancher	Closed
e-Board:	Lee Fair Chuck Nist Kinneth Daniels Mike Smith Tom Lewis Jerry Brandt	Closed. There are five (5) e-Board positions to be filled.

These persons will be on the Post 129 ballot in May as the slate of Officers and e-Board members.

- Jim Wineland has a Resolution on behalf of the Legion Riders recognizing the Riders as a Department program and will follow up on a proposed change to the Post Bylaws. Jim also noted that Challenge 22 raised over \$10,000.00.

There was no further business was brought before the general membership for The Good of the Legion.

Motion No. 12: A motion was made to adjourn the General Meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

Meeting adjourned: Commander Flanagan conducted the closing ceremonies and the meeting adjourned 2013 hours.

Submitted by:

David Tarnowski

Adjutant

Reviewed by:

Mike Flanagan

Commander

Attachments:

(1) April 2024 Post 129 General Meeting Sign-in Sheet

(2) Financial Officer's Report for March 2024

(3) Membership Ballot for New and Transferring Members - April General Meeting.