

Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, October 15, 2016

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was called to order on October 15, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. by Post Commander Ellison Lockett. Opening Prayer by Jason Caiado – Chaplain, and pledge of allegiance led by Art Miller.

Roll of Officers was formally called by appointed Officer of the Day – Claude Nave

Ellison Lockett – Commander – Present
Trazena Jones (Kandie) – Sr. Vice Commander – Present
Art Miller – Jr. Vice Commander - Present
Claude Nave - Quartermaster – Present
Nathan Padilla – Adjutant - Present
Carl Edwards – Asst. Adjutant – Present
Jason Caiado – Chaplain – Present
John Platt- Judge Advocate – Absent
Stanley Rux – Surgeon - Present
Paul Steelhammer – First Year Trustee - Scout Chairman – Excused
Art Gomez – Second Year Trustee - Post Service Officer – Excused
Gus Kritikos – Third Year Trustee – Absent
Jorge Martinez - Sergeant of Arms - Absent

Membership Present:

Rubin Avila – Absent
Richard R. Akin - Absent
Macario N. Cero Jr. – Absent
Danny Johnny Contreras Jr – Absent
Brian Chauvin - Present
Lennie Dombach – Present
Michael Driggers – Absent
George Driscoll – Excused
Roger Edwards - Excused
Ramon Fernandez – Excused
Phil Dougherty – Present
Alex Grimes – Absent
Jose Guzman – Absent
Bill Harbin – Present
Terrance Holmes - Absent
Dennis C Hughes – Absent
Frank Kastl – Recreation Chairman – Present
Mike Keppel – Past Commander – Present
John Lytle III – Absent
Frank Macan - Absent
Lisa Maloney – Moved to Virginia
Jack Marino – Absent
Josh McKay - Absent
Shea E. Rooney – Absent
Stephanie Cornejo- Absent
Emmett Schumer – Absent
Robert (Bobby) Siebenrock – Present
Ruben Tapia – Absent
Patrick Whalen - Absent
Tom Zamaria – Excused
Richard Cheney – Present
Bruce Bauer – Present
Kelly Thach - Present
Marjorie Detiege – website – Absent

Nathan Padilla, Post Adjutant, read the minutes for July 16, August 20, and September 17, 2016.

Nathan Padilla made a motion to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Trazena (Kandie) Jones.

The motion was voted on and passed.

Claude Nave reported that 5,000 new Buddy Poppies have been purchased and have arrived for distribution for Veterans Day. Carl Edwards also informed the post that the post has been approved to distribute Buddy Poppies at Safeway this Veterans Day. Carl Edwards also reported that he has a point of contact on Main Street that will help the post use them to make a display for the VFW State Convention this year.

Finance Report read by Trazena (Kandie) Jones – Senior-Vice Commander

New Members:

Claude Nave reports that the new year for new members started July 1, 2016 and that we already have six new members signed up since then. Ellison Lockett announced a new member, Bruce Bauer, a Navy veteran. He served on nuclear submarines in the Navy. Bruce announced he was proud to be in the post and hopes to contribute to the veteran community. Frank Kastl made a motion to accept the new member. The motion was seconded by Jason Caiado. The motion was voted on and passed.

Committee Reports:

Carl Edwards had nothing to report on the Patriots Pen or the Voice of Democracy, except Hidden Valley has not responded to the presentation that he gave them in April. Carl Edwards reported that he is interested in advertising Voice of Democracy to fifth grade classes to garner more interest and applications to the program. The program is limited to only sixth, seventh, and eighth graders.

Frank Kastl - Recreation Officer had nothing to report on the post's activities as it is already the end of the Summer season and most of the activities have been completed. The post picnic went well and was a huge success.

Phil Dougherty reported on the bocce team. The season is over and the team finished in eight place overall in the league from tenth place last year. Phil is looking into creating two bocce teams since there was so much interest in playing this year.

Phil Dougherty reported that he needs a professional painter to paint the kitchen and a plumber to install a sink into the kitchen. If anyone knows anyone that can help contribute to the project, they can call Phil to pass along that information.

Trazena Jones (Kandie)-Buddy Poppy's-The dates for Buddy Poppy distribution have been setup for the 3rd, 4th, and 5th of November, 2016 at Wal-Mart, Nob Hill and Safeway. Members should inform Trazena Jones (Kandie) when they can volunteer for Buddy Poppy distribution prior to November 3, 2016. Carl Edwards is going to work to setup a Buddy Poppy distribution site at Safeway at Virginia Hills on the same days.

Claude Nave reported that we will have our Veterans Day program at the Martinez City Hall park. The service will be at the cemetery beforehand. VFW and American Legion will provide the firing detail and provide brunch afterward. Everyone is encouraged to attend the event and help if they can.

Claude Nave reported that there will be a memorial service at the hall for Paul Gouveia on October 23rd at 2:00pm. The post may be providing assistance via a firing detail for the burial service in Dixon. Paul was involved with the American Legion Post 29 and served on the Board of Directors for the Veterans Hall. It would be appreciated if anyone can attend or participate in the honor detail as well.

The National Home: Prayer was given by the Chaplain Jason Caiado.

New Business:

Claude Nave reported that the post's honor detail has participated in twenty veteran memorial services since June 1, 2016 and averaging one per week. The post does this for veterans as volunteers and if anyone is available to assist, let the post know.

Lennie Dombach reported that people who sign up to volunteer working concessions at Levi's Stadium events need to follow through with their commitment or communicate to Lennie that they cannot make it. If this continues, the post may lose the ability to fundraise and it is a vital funding source for the post. So far the fundraising events have been successful and if anyone wants to volunteer, they can contact Lennie.

Lennie reported that he signed up for a Leukemia and lymphoma Walk to raise money. Lennie is asking for donations and has a goal of \$500 for the walk. The walk will be at civic park in Walnut Creek on November 5th with a check-in time of 5:00 pm and the walk starting at 7:00 pm. Lennie made a motion to donate \$100 to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Walk. The motion was seconded by

Trazena (Kandie) Jones. The motion was voted on and passed.

Art Miller reported that the post has not been following rituals and regulations put out by the VFW. The post should be following proper regulations and not following their own rules. A discussion followed with the membership in agreement. All resources can be found in the Commanders Handbook available from Nathan Padilla, Post Adjutant.

Carl Edwards reported that Merle Longacre is staying at the Martinez VA Hospital recovering from cancer surgery and radiation therapy. People paying him a visit from time to time would be appreciated. He is a World War II veteran and a part of VFW Post 6158. Carl will send an email out with more information.

Ellison Lockett reports that if there is anyone going out of town to please let him know so that we can prepare for your absence. It is hard getting hold of people and this would be of great help to the post.

Closing prayer was given by Jason Caiado – Chaplain.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:22a.m. Next meeting will be on November 19, 2016.
Nathan D. Padilla – Post 1351 Adjutant