

Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 19 January 2019

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was called to order on 19 January 2019 at 1028 by Post Vice Commander Richard Cheney after an informal meeting with guests that began at 1000.

Roll Call, Officers:

Trazena (Kandie) Jones – Commander - Excused
Rich Cheney – First Vice Commander - Present
Ellison Lockett – Second Vice Commander - Present
Claude Nave – Quartermaster - Present
Jason Caiado – Chaplain - Present
Art Miller – Adjutant - Present
Carl Edwards – Asst. Adjutant - Present
Stanley Rux – Surgeon - Present
Gus Kritikos – First Year Trustee - Absent
Stephany Cornejo – Second Year Trustee - Absent
Paul Steelhammer – Third Year Trustee – Absent
Jorge Martinez – Sergeant of Arms - Present
Brian Chauvin – Service Officer - Absent

Members in attendance:

Phil Dougherty
Emmett Schumer
Mac Cero
Everett Della Rosa
Frank Kastl
John H Lyttle III
Bruce Bauer
Frank Macan
Emmett Schumer

Guests:

Raul Andrade
Diego Andrade
Joe Prado
Matthew Prado

The official meeting started late to accommodate two guest presentations. The guests were not present for the official meeting.

Guest Presentations (before official meeting)

Matthew Prado, accompanied by his father, Joe Prado, offered to assist the Post with service projects. Matthew is an Eagle Scout, and wishes to attend the U.S. Naval Academy. Suggestions included maintenance work on the Hall and on the Mare Island cemetery.

Diego Andrade won the Patriots Pen competition at the Post 1351 level, so was awarded our \$250

stipend at this meeting. He was accompanied by his father, Raul Andrade.

The official meeting was called to order at 10:28.

Opening Prayer: Jason Caiado led.

Minutes of 15 Dec 2018:

Motion to accept minutes posted on website by Ellison Locket, seconded by Claude Nave. Approved with one correction - that the financial report be deleted and that all future minutes be annotated to state that financial data are excluded.

Quartermaster Report: Carl Edwards presented the financial report as of 31 Dec 2018. Financial data are available only to members so are excluded from this published copy of the minutes.

New Members: None.

Returning members: John Lyttle, George Driscoll

Committee Reports:

Membership: Claude Nave reported that we have one new this year, and should have another 5 or 6, but it is not a qualifier for all state this year.

Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen and Teacher of the Year: In the pre-meeting, Rich Cheney described each competition and their prize levels and encouraged Matthew Prado to continue participating. 2019 is a new year for these competitions. Schools are given the information on the student programs, but they don't generally produce entrants. Claude suggested following the Martinez Gazette's lead for Teacher of the Year.

Scouting: Paul Steelhammer was not present, so did not report.

Website: Rich Cheney reported updated entry re Mare Island Naval Cemetery. He has asked the city contact, Erin Hanford (Economic Development for City of Vallejo) to assist with a campaign to shame the VA into taking up the maintenance.

All State Status: Claude reported that we get points for each community activity we complete, and support for military unit.

Bocce: Phil reported that we need 4 more for our team. Meets on Thursday morning (0900), practices on Tuesday morning.

Poppies: Rich suggested doing both Walmart and Safeway the weekend of Memorial Day, rather than separate weekends, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Student Veterans of America: Rich attended the 2019 conference 3-5 Jan. Our post contributed \$250; District gave \$1000. Contributions were distributed among the SFSU participants. At least 1500 veterans attended the conference; 75 agencies attended including VFW and American Legion. There were over 100 breakout sessions covering veterans' issues and employers' needs. Prospective employers interviewed vet attendees.

Honor Detail: Three funerals since Veterans Day. In one, only two attended. Of the other two, we received donations of \$700.

Prayer for National Home: Jason Caiado led prayer.

New Business: Carl reminded us of the American Legion's corned beef dinner in March.

Next district meeting 0900 on 23 March at 815 Fulton Shipyard in Antioch.

Next building meeting 16 March. The commercial stove that leaks gas will be replaced by two home kitchen stoves.

Sick/distressed members: Kandie Jones, Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, Ellison Lockett, Stanley Rux, Sharon Steelhammer and Juanita Lockett.

Closing Prayer: Jason Caiado led.

Meeting closed: 11:20