

Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 19 September 2020

Post Commander Rich Cheney called the meeting of Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 to order at 10:00 on 19 September 2020 via Zoom.

Opening Prayer:

Jason Caiado read.

Roll Call, Officers:

Commander:	Rich Cheney - Present
First Vice Commander:	Mac Cero – Excused, attending District 10 School of Instruction
Second Vice Commander:	George Driscoll - Absent
Quartermaster:	Claude Nave – Present, after end of District 10 School of Instruction
Chaplain:	Jason Caiado - Present
Adjutant:	Art Miller - Present
Trustee:	Carl Edwards - Present
Trustee:	Ellison Lockett – Present
Trustee:	Renato Asiain - Absent
Surgeon:	Stanley Rux - Absent
Officer of the Day:	Jorge Martinez - Absent

Members in Attendance:

Kandie Jones
Phil Daugherty

Minutes of previous meeting:

No corrections noted; Accepted as posted.

Quartermaster Report:

Claude Nave read the report. Rich moved for acceptance; Art seconded; passed.

New Members:

No new members.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Claude reported that with our 85 or 86% retention, we easily exceeded the standard goal of 75%. We will need 6 or 7 new members to make all state.

Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen and Teacher of the Year: Rich showed the current forms, available on the Post website, with our Post 1351 information pre-entered so candidates can print from the website. The due date for submissions is 10/31, then we will have two weeks to judge them and pass along to District.

Website: Richard showed the current state of the Post website, discussing updates.

Poppies: No update this month. Mac was at the District 10 School of Instruction, but there will be no new information until November at any rate.

Honor Detail: Ellison was at the District 10 School of Instruction, so no report.

Prayer for National Home: Jason led.

Update on Veterans Memorial Hall: Phil reported the installation of a new floor in the main room and bar. The suggestion last month for making the Hall available as a community cooling center was rejected due to lack of parking.

Sick and Distressed Members: Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, Ellison and Juanita Lockett, Stanley Rux, Mac Cero and Frank Kastl.

New Business:

- Rich reported that he has prepared a PDF form for reporting activity hours based on the form the Department has.
- Claude reported that memorial trees have been planted for Emmett, and that allocated money remains available for a memorial event.

Closing Ceremony: Jason led the closing prayer and Rich closed the meeting at 10:38.

Submitted 26 September 2020
Art Miller, Adjutant

Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 15 August 2020

Post Commander Rich Cheney called the meeting of Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 to order at 10:02 on 15 August 2020 via Zoom.

Opening Prayer:

Jason Caiado read.

Roll Call, Officers:

Commander:	Rich Cheney - Present
First Vice Commander:	Mac Cero - Present
Second Vice Commander:	George Driscoll - Present
Quartermaster:	Claude Nave - Present
Chaplain:	Jason Caiado - Present
Adjutant:	Art Miller - Present
Trustee:	Carl Edwards - Present
Trustee:	Ellison Lockett – Present
Trustee:	Renato Asiain - Absent
Surgeon:	Stanley Rux - Absent
Officer of the Day:	Jorge Martinez - Absent

Members in Attendance:

Kandie Jones
Roger Edwards

Minutes of previous meeting:

No changes noted; Accepted as posted.

Quartermaster Report:

Claude Nave read the report. Carl moved for acceptance; Rich seconded; passed.

New Members:

No new members.

Committee Reports:

Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen and Teacher of the Year - Rich reported that National and District requirements are now posted on our site and linked from our site. Our site has the application form ready to print, with our post info pre-entered. Entries are due to us by 31 Oct, and to District from us by 15 Nov. Rich proposed that our stipends be set at \$300, \$200 and \$100 for first, second and third places. The measure passed. Teacher of the Year stipend of \$200, seconded by Mac, passed.

Website – Rich summarized current content of the website, including a report that Rep. Thompson added MINC (Mare Island Naval Cemetery) funding to the NDAA (National Defense Auth. Act).

Student Veterans – Schools are closed for the semester.

Poppies – Mac reported that nothing can be done until the stores authorize. Maybe November.

Honor Detail – Ellison reported no activity this month.

Prayer for the National Home: Jason led.

District Meeting: The August meeting was held 15 Aug via Zoom. The next two meetings will be: (9am Sat 1-16-2021 at Pleasanton) and the District Convention (2pm Sun 4-18-2021 at Concord).

Veterans Memorial Building – Ellison reported that there is no update. Rich suggested opening the building as a community cooling center. Discussion followed, with Ellison expressing doubts that the County would allow it. George volunteered to ask. [Subsequent to the meeting, it was found not to be allowed.]

Sick and Distressed Members – Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, Ellison and Juanita Lockett, Stanley Rux, Frank Kastl and Mac Cero. Ellison reports his chief issue is intestinal cancer; Mac is undergoing chemo therapy. Carl reported that Emmett's wife has purchased a crepe myrtle for Emmett's memorial tree.

Closing Prayer: Jason led.

Meeting ended at 11:00.

Submitted 22 August 2020

Art Miller, Adjutant

Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 18 July 2020

Post Commander Rich Cheney called the meeting of Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 to order at 10:05 on 18 July 2020 via Zoom.

Opening Prayer:

Jason Caiado read.

Roll Call, Officers:

Commander:	Rich Cheney - Present
First Vice Commander:	Mac Cero - Present
Second Vice Commander:	George Driscoll - Absent
Quartermaster:	Claude Nave - Present
Chaplain:	Jason Caiado - Present
Adjutant:	Art Miller - Present
Trustee:	Carl Edwards - Present
Trustee:	Ellison Lockett – Present
Trustee:	Renato Asiain - Absent
Surgeon:	Stanley Rux - Present
Officer of the Day:	Jorge Martinez - Absent

Members in Attendance:

Terry Horton
Kandie Jones
Paul Steelhammer

Quartermaster Report:

Claude Nave read the report. Rich moved for acceptance; seconded; passed.

New Members:

No new members.

Alex Grimes (not in attendance) wishes to rejoin this Post. Rich moved to accept him; Ellison seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen – Rich reported that the new requirements were not yet out, but that he expected them by next month.

Scouting – Paul reported that there is nothing new to report.

Website – Rich displayed the website and went over the changes since June's meeting.

All State – Claude reported that we are one of only 20 posts to make All State this year. Criteria for All State include community activities, e.g., our flag raising on 4th of July, etc., and guarding the Hall during the Black Lives Matter demonstrations this month.

Student Veterans – Rich reported his intention to reach out to local student groups in Contra Costa County.

Poppies – Mac reported that he intends to meet with the store managers to arrange for access.

Honor Detail – Ellison reported on one honor detail on 11th July at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

Prayer for the National Home – Jason led.

Next District Meeting – Scheduled for 15th August, 09:00 at 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette. Rich will find out whether the meeting will be on site or virtual. Minimum post attendance requirement is for the commander, quartermaster and one trustee.

Veterans Memorial Building – Ellison reported that there is nothing new. The meeting room has not yet been sanitized, but Dave can get the work done on short notice. Although the Covid-19 lockdown has curtailed rental revenues, the bills continue, but the building has enough savings to pay them.

Sick and Distressed Members – Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, Ellison Lockett, Juanita Lockett, Stanley Rux and Frank Kastl.

Emmet Schumer's family is in mourning due to his recent passing. Carl reported that Emmet's wife, Jane, would prefer that we plant fruit trees in the family yard in lieu of flowers. After discussion, Carl moved that we set aside \$250 for that and other memorial expenses; Mac seconded; passed. However, any large memorial gathering must be postponed until after the shutdown.

Next Meeting – 15 August, hopefully at the Hall

Closing Prayer – Jason led.

Meeting ended 10:50.

Submitted 21 July 2020
Art Miller, Adjutant

Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 20 June 2020

Post Commander Trezina (Kandie) Jones called the meeting of Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 to order at 10:05 on 20 June 2020 via Zoom, hosted by Rich Cheney.

Opening Prayer:

Rich Cheney read.

Roll Call, Officers:

Commander:	Trazena (Kandie) Jones - Present
First Vice Commander:	Mac Cero - Present
Second Vice Commander:	Art Miller - Present
Quartermaster:	Claude Nave - Present
Chaplain:	Jason Caiado - Absent
Adjutant:	Rich Cheney - Present
Trustee:	Carl Edwards - Present
Trustee:	Ellison Lockett – Present
Trustee:	Shae Rooney - Absent
Surgeon:	Stanley Rux - Present
Officer of the Day:	Jorge Martinez - Absent

Members in Attendance:

Terry Horton
Renato Asiain
George Driscoll
John Lyttle
Roger Edwards

Quartermaster Report:

Claude Nave read the report. Rich moved for acceptance; seconded; passed.

Installation of Officers:

Commander Jones Trezina passed the gavel to past commander Carl Edwards for the swearing in ceremony. The ceremony proceeded in the virtual environment. At the end of the ceremony, Carl passed the gavel to the new commander, Richard Cheney. The new slate of officers, elected and appointed, is:

Commander: Rich Cheney
Senior Vice Commander: Mac Cero
Junior Vice Commander: George Driscoll
Quartermaster: Claude Nave
Chaplain: Jason Caiado
Trustee (1st yr): Still open
Trustee (2nd yr): Ellison Lockett
Trustee (3rd yr): Renato Asiain

Appointed officers

Adjutant: Art Miller (new to this position)

Judge Advocate: Bruce Bauer

Surgeon: Stanley Rux

Service Officer: Still open; awaiting feedback from nominee.

Officer of the Day / Guard: Jorge Martinez

New members: None

Committee Reports:

Membership: Claude reported that we have met All State requirements.

Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy: Rich reported that this year's requirements have not yet been announced.

Scouting: Paul is absent, so no report.

Website: Rich reported on updates to the Post website contents, notably that the Mare Island Naval Cemetery has had some maintenance completed and that the Army cemetery in Benicia has been turned over to the VA and will become a National Cemetery.

Bocce: Phil – The season has been cancelled for 2020 and moneys will be refunded.

Student Vets: Rich reported that there are no updates.

Poppies: Mac Cero reported that November has yet to be set up.

Independence Day: The 4th of July parade has been cancelled, but George is coordinating with the Martinez police for a flag raising ceremony at the Veterans Hall.

Honor Detail: Ellison reported that there have been no ceremonies this period.

Building: No change.

Prayer for the National Home: Rich led.

Carl moved that we conduct future meetings in person at the Hall as soon as possible, beginning with July; Ellison seconded; passed.

Claude has hats for Terrance, Renee and Charles Guthmann.

Ace Hardware has donated a box of commemorative grave flags. Next meeting we should decide how to make use of them on Veterans Day.

Sick and Distressed Members:

Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, Ellison Lockett, Juanita Lockett, Stanley Rux, Frank Kastl.

Emmett Schumer was reported to be in hospital after a heart attack. But later in the day, we learned

that he had passed away. We will organize a memorial service for him once Covid-19 restrictions are relaxed.

Closing Prayer: Rich led.

Next meeting: 18 July 2020

Meeting Close: Commander closed meeting at 10:48.

... Art Miller, Adjutant

Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 16 May 2020

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was called to order on 16 May 2020 at 1015 by Commander Kandie Jones. The meeting was by Zoom teleconference

Roll Call, Officers:

Trazena (Kandie) Jones – Commander - Present
Rich Cheney – Adjutant – Present
Mac Cero – First Vice Commander - Present
Ellison Lockett – Trustee – Present
Carl Edwards – Trustee - Present
Claude Nave – Quartermaster - Absent
Jason Caiado – Chaplain - Present
Art Miller – Second Vice Commander - Present
Stanley Rux – Surgeon – Absent
Bruce Bauer - Absent
Paul Steelhammer – Service Officer – Absent
Shae Rooney – Trustee - Absent

Members in attendance:

Phil Dougherty
Roger Edwards

Opening Prayer: Jason Caiado led the opening prayer.

Minutes of 17 April 2020

Rich Cheney reported that there were no corrections to the April minutes published on the Post website. Rich proposed the minutes be accept; Kandie seconded; Motion approved.

Quartermaster Report

No report was available.

New Members

None

Committee Reports

Membership – No report.

Voice of Democracy (Rich) The 2019 program has closed out.

Patriots' Pen (Rich) The 2019 program has closed out.

Teacher of the Year (Rich). The 2019 program has closed out.

Student Veterans of America (SVA). No changes.

Bocce Team (Phil). Season is probably cancelled due to the coronavirus. More news available in June.

Mare Island Cemetery (Rich) No news.

Honor Detail (Ellison). All honors and burials cancelled due to the coronavirus. Memorial Day activities have been cancelled.

Prayer for the National Home - led by Jason.

Memorial Building – Ellison reported the building was sanitized. Our meeting room will also be sanitized before we hold meetings in it again.

Sick and Distressed - Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, Ellison Lockett, Stanley Rux, and Juanita Lockett, Mac Cero and family members.

New Business.

- a. Rich presented a Post challenge coin PowerPoint. The design was generally accepted with minor modifications. See attached. Carl Edwards said the Post establishment date on the coin differs from his records and he will provide an update. Cost estimates varied from \$433 to \$774.
- b. Rich proposed purchasing 100 coins at a cost not to exceed \$550. There was no second.
- c. Ellison proposed we incorporate the design changes and review after we are through the coronavirus shelter-in-place and we are meeting in person again. Art seconded; the motion passed.

Officer elections. The following officers were elected at this meeting to take office in May or June:

- Commander: Rich Cheney
- Senior Vice Commander: Mac Cero
- Junior Vice Commander: George Driscoll
- Quartermaster: Claude Nave
- Chaplain: Jason Caiado
- Trustee (1styr)
- Trustee (2ndyr): Ellison Lockett
- Trustee (3rdyr): Renato Asiain

Appointed officers (from the e-mail):

- Adjutant: Art Miller (new to this position)
- Judge Advocate: Bruce Bauer
- Surgeon: Stanley Rux
- Service Officer: Still open; awaiting feedback from nominee.
- Officer of the Day / Guard: Jorge Martinez (new to this position)

Closing Prayer - Jason.

Next meeting will be 20 June 2020, 1000. Members can anticipate that it will be a teleconference.

Meeting adjourned at 1109

- Richard Cheney, Adjutant



Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 18 April 2020

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was called to order on 18 April 2020 at 1013 by Commander Kandie Jones. The meeting was by Zoom teleconference

Roll Call, Officers:

Trazena (Kandie) Jones – Commander - Present
Rich Cheney – Adjutant – Present
Mac Cero – First Vice Commander - Present
Ellison Lockett – Trustee – Present
Carl Edwards – Trustee - Present
Claude Nave – Quartermaster - Present
Jason Caiado – Chaplain - Present
Art Miller – Second Vice Commander - Present
Stanley Rux – Surgeon – Excused
Paul Steelhammer – Service Officer – Excused
Shae rooney – Trustee - Excused

Members in attendance:

Art Gomez (from Las Vegas)
Phil Dougherty

Opening Prayer: Jason Caiado led the opening prayer.

Minutes of 15 February and 21 March 2020

Rich Cheney reported that there were no corrections to the February minutes published on the Post website. The March meeting was cancelled and there were no minutes. Ellison Lockett moved that both reports be accepted; Carl Edwards seconded; Motion approved.

Quartermaster Report

Claude Nave read the Quartermaster Report of the Post's financial books. Art Miller moved that they be accepted as read; Rich Cheney seconded: motion passed.

New Members

None

Committee Reports

Membership - Claude reported we are at 101% and need two new members to make All State honors.

Voice of Democracy (Rich) The 2019 program has closed out.

Patriots' Pen (Rich) The 2019 program has closed out.

Teacher of the Year (Rich). The 2019 program has closed out.

Student Veterans of America (SVA). No changes.

Bocce Team (Phil). Season is probably cancelled due to the coronavirus.

Mare Island Cemetery (Rich) No news.

Honor Detail (Ellison). All honors and burials cancelled due to the coronavirus.

Prayer for the National Home - led by Jason.

District Meeting – Cancelled due to the coronavirus.

Memorial Building – Ellison reported the lights have been installed. Ellison proposed the building be sanitized before we hold meetings in it again. Rich Cheney proposed VFW contribute up to \$200 for this sanitization (assuming a like amount by the American Legion) the week prior to our meeting (unknown when that may be). Ellison seconded: Motion approved.

Sick and Distressed - Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, Ellison Lockett, Stanley Rux, and Juanita Lockett, Mac Cero and family members.

New Business.

- d. Rich proposed the Post create a Post challenge coin that would be issued/offered to each member. Carl said the VFW has a lock on the design and charges \$1000 for 300 coins. Rich Cheney said he thinks he can beat that price. Kandie asked that he come back with specific pricing by the next meeting for further discussion.
- e. Carl Edwards proposed we teleconference future meetings so our members who cannot attend (out of state, etc.) can participate. Art Miller second: Motion approved.

Officer elections. The following officers were elected at this meeting to take office in May:
Senior Vice Commander: Mac Cero

Junior Vice Commander: George Driscoll

Quartermaster: Claude Nave

Chaplain: Jason Caiado

Trustee (2ndyr): Ellison Lockett

Trustee (3rdyr): Renato Asiain

Since the Commander's position was competed, the membership agreed to a secret e-mail or phone-in vote to be delivered to Claude Nave. Claude will prepare an e-mail and send out to all our members, with a required response by 24 April 2020. The candidates are Rich Cheney & Kandie Jones

Closing Prayer - Jason.

Next meeting will be 16 May 2020, 1000. Members can anticipate that it will be a teleconference.

Meeting adjourned at 1120

- Richard Cheney, Adjutant

**Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 21 March 2020**

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was cancelled due to the county-wide shelter-in-place order due to the coronavirus outbreak. The Post will reconvene next month, if possible. The next meeting is scheduled for 18 April, 2020.

**Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 15 February 2020**

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was called to order on 15 February 2020 at 1009 by Post First Vice Commander Max Cero

Roll Call, Officers:

Trazena (Kandie) Jones – Commander - Excused
Rich Cheney – Adjutant – Present
Mac Cero – First Vice Commander - Present
Ellison Lockett – Trustee - Present
Claude Nave – Quartermaster - Present
Jason Caiado – Chaplain - Present
Art Miller – Second Vice Commander - Present
Stanley Rux – Surgeon - Present

Members in attendance:

Timothy Gillet
Phil Dougherty
Emmett Schumer
Renato Asiain
Terry Horton
Frank Macan
George Driscoll
Frank Kastl

Opening Prayer: Jason Caiado led the opening prayer.

Minutes of 18 January 2020

Rich Cheney reported that there were no corrections to the minutes published on the Post website. Cheney moved that they be accepted; Frank Kastl seconded; Motion approved.

Quartermaster Report

Claude Nave read the Quartermaster Report of the Post's financial books. Claude moved that they be accepted as read; Ellison seconded: motion passed.

New Members

Frank Rossetti is new to our post. He served in Vietnam in the Army. Claude moved we accept his application; Art second: Motion approved.

Committee Reports

Membership - Claude reported we need one or two new members to make All State honors.

Voice of Democracy (Rich) The 2019 program has closed out.

Patriots' Pen (Rich) The 2019 program has closed out.

Teacher of the Year (Rich). Matt Harrison was the post candidate and District winner. No news on the Department competition.

Student Veterans of America (SVA). Our post sponsored students from SFSU with a \$500 donation. SFSU sent us a letter of thanks for the contribution (attached).

Bocce Team (Phil). Team held its first practice; looking forward to a new year of competition.

Mare Island Cemetery (Rich) Rep Thompson and Sen Dianne Feinstein are still pursuing VA responsibility. No change in the current Congress.

Honor Detail (Ellison). Nothing to report. Honor Guard demonstration in Napa for Max's granddaughter's class. Seeking new members.

Social Events. Kandie organized a Community social 29 March 2020 (1500 – 2100).

Prayer for the National Home - led by Jason.

District Meeting - Next District meeting is in Lafayette, April 18, 2020, 9am. 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Memorial Building (Ellison) County working on the lights.

Sick and Distressed - Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, Ellison Lockett, Stanley Rux, and Juanita Lockett, Carl Edwards' family member.

New Business. Rich proposed the Post contribute \$250 for the flower wreathes used by Martinez at the Memorial and Veteran's Day activities. Second by Claude. Unanimous approval.

Upcoming Dates – Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner – 8 March 2020. Cost will be \$15 for all you can eat.

Officer elections in April. Nominating committee is Max and Rich.

Closing Prayer - Jason.

Next meeting will be 21 March 2020, 1000.

Meeting adjourned at 1107

- Richard Cheney, Adjutant

1 Atch
SFSU letter, 30 Jan 2020



**SAN FRANCISCO
STATE UNIVERSITY**

UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT

1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94132

main: 415/338-1042
fax: 415/338-0918
web: develop.sfsu.edu

January 30, 2020

Veterans of Foreign Wars Sidney Severns
930 Ward Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Friends:

Thank you very much for your generous gift of \$500 to support the V.E.T.S. @ SFSU, a student organization at San Francisco State University. We received your generous donation on January 28, 2020.

SF State is the proud home of a variety of outstanding student organizations. We are grateful to have your partnership in enhancing student life and promoting leadership and engagement through these organizations.

If you have any questions about your gift, or if you would like to receive this letter via email for future contributions, please contact the Office of University Development at develop@sfsu.edu or 415-338-1042.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Rouah".

Andrea Rouah
Associate Vice President
University Development

In accordance with University policy, your donation will be deposited with and administered by The University Corporation, San Francisco State, which is a non-profit auxiliary organization of the University and is tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Your donation, for which no goods or services were exchanged, is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Please retain this receipt for your records.

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**Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 18 January 2020**

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was called to order on 18 January 2020 at 1007 by Post Commander Kandie Jones.

Roll Call, Officers:

Trazena (Kandie) Jones – Commander - Present
Rich Cheney – Adjutant – Present
Mac Cero – First Vice Commander - Present
Ellison Lockett – Trustee - Present
Claude Nave – Quartermaster - Present
Jason Caiado – Chaplain - Present
Art Miller – Second Vice Commander - Present
Carl Edwards – Trustee and Asst. Adjutant - Present
Stanley Rux – Surgeon - Present
Shae Rooney – First Year Trustee - Present
Jorge Martinez – Sergeant of Arms - Present

Members in attendance:

Timothy Gillet
Phil Dougherty
Emmett Schumer
Rianato Asian
Bruce Bauer
Terry Horton
Chuck Guthman
John Littell

Opening Prayer: Jason Caiado led the opening prayer.

Minutes of 8 December 2019

Rich Cheney reported that there were no corrections to the minutes published on the Post website. Cheney moved that they be accepted; Claude seconded; Motion approved.

Quartermaster Report

Shae Rooney read the Quartermaster Report of the Post's financial books. Shae moved that they be accepted as read; Art Miller seconded: motion passed.

New Members

Tim Gillette is new to our post. He served in Iraq in the Army and received his commission through ROTC using the Army's Green to Gold Program. He lives in Martinez. Cheney moved we accept his application; Mac second: Motion approved.

Committee Reports

Membership - Claude reported we need 6-7 new members to make All State honors.

Voice of Democracy (Rich) The 2019 program has closed out.

Patriots' Pen (Rich) The 2019 program has closed out.

Teacher of the Year (Rich). Matt Harrison was the post candidate and also won the District award. He will next compete at State.

Student Veterans of America (SVA). Our post sponsored students from SFSU with a \$500 donation. The District also kicked in \$1500. With that money SFSU sent 5 veteran students to SVA's National Convention in Los Angeles. We're attempting to get them to speak to us on their experiences at the convention.

All State (Claude) we're at 80% need 6-7 new members.

Bocce Team (Phil). Signup now for the team with competition starting in a couple of months. This will be our fourth year of play, with each year's performance improving from the year before.

Mare Island Cemetery (Rich) Rep Thompson and Sen Dianne Feinstein are still pursuing VA responsibility. No change in the current Congress.

Honor Detail (Ellison). Nothing to report. Asked for honor guard to be ready for short-notice requests. Mac said his daughter asked for the honor guard to provide her school in Napa with a demonstration of how honors are rendered during a funeral.

Christmas Party Planning. Phil said the post needs to do a better job of organizing this event. Everyone left after eating and spent no time socializing. He and Ellison spent more time setting up than the actual party. Kandie said we would organize a committee to put this together starting next month. Phil also needs permanent help in the kitchen. Terry Horton volunteered.

Social Events. Kandie organized two events to open the hall to all vets: 19 January 202 – 49ers NFC game (1500 – 2100); Community social 29 March 2020 (1500 – 2100). These are experiments – participation will be the key to see them continue!

VFW National Convention will be held in Reno 18-23 July 2020. Carl said it is not too late to use his free access to rooms in town for this event. Contact Carl for more information.

Prayer for the National Home - led by Jason.

District Meeting - Next District meeting is in Lafayette, April 18, 2020, 9am. 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Memorial Building (Ellison) County finished repairs in Scout Room.

Sick and Distressed - Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, Ellison Lockett, Frank Kastl, Stanley Rux, and Juanita Lockett.

Upcoming Dates – Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner – 8 March 2020. Details next month.

Computer and Printer – Up and running, available for everyone's use. Jorge Martinez asked if the Sea Cadets could use the computer for their tests under adult supervision. Second by Ellison; approved.

Closing Prayer - Jason.

Next meeting will be 15 February 2020, 1000.

Meeting adjourned at 1100

- Richard Cheney, Adjutant