

Monthly Minutes
For Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351
Martinez, CA 94553
Saturday, 21 January 2018

The meeting of the Sidney Severns VFW Post 1351 was called to order on 21 January 2018 at 1003 by Post Commander Ellison Lockett. Opening Prayer by Art Miller – acting as Chaplain, and pledge of allegiance led by Ellison Lockett.

Roll Call:

Officers:

Ellison Lockett – Commander – Present
Trazena Jones (Kandie) – Sr. Vice Commander – Present
Art Miller – Jr. Vice Commander – Present
Claude Nave - Quartermaster – Present
Richard Cheney – Adjutant, Website - Present
Carl Edwards – Asst. Adjutant – Present
Jason Caiado – Chaplain –Excused
Mike Keppel - Judge Advocate – Present
Stanley Rux –Surgeon – Present
Stephanie Cornejo –First Year Trustee- Scout Chairman –Present
Art Gomez – Second Year Trustee - Post Service Officer – Moved to Las Vegas
Paul Steelhammer – Third Year Trustee – Absent
Jorge Martinez-Sergeant of Arms Absent

Membership :

Marjorie Detiege – Absent
Rubin Avila – Absent
Macario N Cero Jr– Present
Danny Johnny Contreras Jr – Absent
Brian Chauvin - Absent
Lennie Dombach – Present
Michael Driggers – Absent
George Driscoll – Absent
Roger Edwards – Excused Lives in Salt Lake Utah
Ramon Fernandez – Deceased
Phil Dougherty – Present
Alex Grimes – Absent
Jose Guzman – Absent
Bill Harbin – Absent
Terrance Holmes - Absent
Dennis C Hughes – Absent
Frank Kastl – Recreation Chairman – Absent
John Lytle III – Absent
Frank Macan – Absent
Lisa Maloney – Moved to Virginia
Jack Marino – Absent
Josh McKay - Absent
Shea E. Rooney – Absent

Emmett Schumer – Present
Robert (Bobby) Siebenrock – Absent
Ruben Tapia – Absent
Patrick Whalen - Absent
Tom Zamaria – Absent
Bruce Bauer – Present
Kelly Thach – Absent
Edward Aderholt – Absent
John Platt – Absent
Gus Kritikos – Present
Jason Capeno – Present

Guests:

Cora Young
Ryan-Thomas Brown

Guest Speakers: Cora Young works in Rep Mike Thompson's Vallejo office and Ryan-Thomas Brown works in Rep Mark DeSaulnier's Walnut Creek office. Although the Federal government shut down effective today, they were here to discuss what their Congressmen can do to assist veterans and how to reach them when an issue arises that can be solved through Federal intervention. They made a special pitch for the Korean government's "Ambassador for Peace" medal. Information on the medal may be found at <https://mikethompsonforms.house.gov/news/email/show.aspx?ID=NSYJYMWDQZHKC>.

Financial Report: First Year Trustee Stephanie Cornejo provided the update, which was provided under separate cover by Claude Nave. Motion to accept by Mac Cero and Carl Edwards seconded it, it was voted on and passed.

Committee Reports: Membership – Claude Nave – 15 members still need to pay their dues by 1 June. There is a need for 3 new members by 31 May to meet the requirements for All State (it allows all members to purchase and wear a white service cap). Mike Keppel asked if there was a list of those who need to pay; Claude will make it available.

Carl Edwards reported that there was nothing to report for the Voice of Democracy or Patriots Pen program. Ellison Lockett asked if anyone had volunteered to assist Carl – Carl said no.

Scout of the year program - Paul Steelhammer was not present.

Activity Chair – Frank Kastl – not present. Elliot asked for another person to take over this role from Frank.

Bocce ball – Phil Dougherty – reported the team was full and begins play every Thursday morning beginning in April. He's started a new format with 2-man teams.

Logistics – Trazena Jones – reported hanging the Sidney Severns lithograph and is looking to hang a picture of the membership celebrating the arrival of the lithograph.

Martinez War Memorial – Rich Cheney – reported that Monument Art of Hayward said the granite stone shipped from India this past week and will arrive in California in about 6 weeks. Rich is now an intern for the City of Martinez (part of his graduate school requirements) and will shepherd the project as a member of the city staff. Everything is on track for a June 2018 dedication. See website

for updates. Service hours for volunteers working on researching the names of Martinez war dead were reported to Claude Nave.

Website – Richard Cheney – Most pages have new content: home page has link to Rep Mike Thomas' call for Korean War vets; local news will have meeting minute concatenated for the entire year (you can this month's info and then the previous month's immediately after). Rather than send out copies of the minutes to each e-mail address, there will be a link to the minutes on the website. Photo album – new pictures from the Christmas dinner, and additional pictures of Buddy Poppy activity at Safeway, along with the group photo of members with the Sidney Severns lithograph.

Old business: None

National Home Prayer: Given by Art Miller acting as Chaplain for today.

Donations: Claude Nave reported we annually give \$100 to the National Home and Army Historical Museum.

New business: Ellison Lockett said post elections are coming up for commander, Senior vice commander, junior vice commander, quartermaster, chaplain, and one trustee. Nomination and election will follow Bylaws, Sections 216-217. Nominations will be sent to Trazena Jones and Art Miller through March. Elections are in April with installation during the District Convention in June.

Information on officer duties can be found here:

<http://www.vfw9785.org/thevfw/PostOfficerDuties.html>. The information is a little dated, but 90% accurate. Ellison also reported the American Legion District 9 will have a crab feed at Veterans Hall on 3 Feb from 1700 to 2100. Tickets are \$50 each, limited to 100 participants. Contact Jeff Roubal at 925-957-1662. There will be a district meeting in Antioch at 0900 on 24 March.

Needy and Distressed: Ellison Lockett and his wife Juanita, Sharon Steelhammer, Jack Hafen, Terrance Holmes, George Driscoll, are on our remember sick list.

Closing Pray: Given by Art Miller acting as Chaplain for today.

The meeting was adjourned at 1135.

Next meeting will be on 17 February 2018

Post 1351

Richard Cheney – Adjutant