



American Legion LTC George Franklin "Ben" Aiken Post 407

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LTC GEORGE FRANKLIN "BEN" AIKEN
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DATE: 21 November 2020

COMPILED BY: Post Adjutant, Dennis O'Leary

ATTENDANCE: MEMBERS PRESENT: 7 VISITORS: 0 TOTAL: 7

Cdr opened the meeting at 1000 hrs. Sgt-at-Arms Raul Romero secured the meeting room. Cdr then asked Raul to post the colors. Cdr then led the members in the reciting of our Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble of the Constitution of the American Legion.

Roll Call of Officers was taken by Adjutant Dennis O'Leary. The following Officers were absent: 2d Vice Cdr Olga Kalpakgian (was sequestered in her home due to the chinese virus) and 2d Exec Committeeman James Foster (chronic physical issues).

Cdr asked if there was a motion to suspend the reading of the Oct 2020 meeting minutes and consider them as posted. Motion to do so was made by 1st Vice Cdr Hank Braun and seconded by Hubmaster/Historian Martin Lawrence. Motion was then passed by the members.

Committee Reports:

1. Veteran Affairs & Service: Cdr stated, "There will be a new Clinic opening up in the NE, on Sanders; probably in Jan 2021. All veterans living in the NE will be assigned there, they will not be going to the main Clinic except for CT's and MRI's." Raul stated, "I've been driving all over town and the VA still won't pay me for my mileage." Cdr and other members suggested that Raul go to Pt Advocate to resolve this situation. Hank stated, "I've tried to get a hold of someone at Wm Beaumont for my wife's eye issue but can't get in touch with anyone." Once again, the Cdr suggested that Hank go to Pt Advocate for resolution. Hank cont'd, "I do want to say, though, I had to go to Freedom Crossing for medication refills and there were five windows open, and it went very well. Even went to Mendoza Clinic, and it went smoothly, also."
2. National Security: Cdr stated, "Everybody knows what's going on with the virus, wear your masks. Just keep your eyes open - beware of everything."
3. Americanism: Cdr stated, "We all are aware of the trouble with the election. We will see what happens."
4. Children & Youth: Cdr stated, "The Adjutant and I have made multiple attempts to contact the principal at Zavala Elem Sch without success, so we don't know yet when we can take school supplies to them. They're doing construction very close to the school, so it's closed til January." Hank stated, "I've still got boxes full of books to donate to Zavala whenever they open up again. My grandson goes to high school and the teacher is using the computer in class for the online students - doesn't make sense."
5. Membership & Post Activities: Adjutant O'Leary stated, "We still have fifty-seven members in our Post. We have forty-six paid-up members which is right at 80%. We are doing very well." Cdr stated, "We remain in the top ten in the District for paid-up members." Raul stated, "I left fifteen membership applications at my barber shop last month and they were all picked up. Two people came to be at our meeting on the 17th of Oct., but that was the Sat. when our Cdr was ill."
6. Public Relations: Cdr stated, "When you are out and about, please wear your hat or shirt or jacket which displays the American Legion emblem. Or just wear one of the new Legion facemasks. It can and does generate discussion."
7. Hubmaster: Martin stated, "The website is up and running and we are getting an average of thirty hits a day."

- 8. Service Officer:** Cdr stated, "I haven't been able to assist service people for months due to the virus."
- 9. Legislative:** Cdr, "Nothing going on in Congress right now."
- 10. Finance:** Dennis stated, "Our current balance is up to \$1,300.00 now, so we're doing really well with our finances."
- 11. Economic:** No report.
- 12. House:** No report.
- 13. Graves & Memorial:** Adj O'Leary stated, "No members went on to Post Everlasting this last month, so that's always a good thing."
- 14. Sick-Call & Relief & Employment:** Cdr asked Bill how he and his wife are doing. Bill stated, "Well, she's not doing very good. She just won't eat and she won't drink that protein drink, either. She will drink a little bit of Ensure." Hank asked Bill how old she was, Bill answered, "She's eighty-two. Her two daughters and her son are here to help. They took her to Providence on Transmountain but after four hours, they sent her home." Raul stated, "They're charging \$4,000 for shots in my eye; and it looks like it will from now on." Hank stated, "They used eight shots on my wife to try to fix her eye issue."
- 15. Unfinished Business:** Cdr stated, "If you have any school supplies, please keep them at your home for the time being."

New Business: Cdr stated, "Please let us thank Hank for his donation of the American Legion masks. I'll pass them out after the meeting."

For the Good of the Legion: Hubmaster Martin stated, "I recently got scammed by who I thought was Microsoft because they are using the proper phone number. So, we all need to be very cautious whenever we get a call, even those which appear to be legitimate."

Cdr asked, "Does anyone have anything else to come before this meeting?" There was no response. Having no further business to discuss, members and guests stood and uncovered while Cdr offered the closing prayer. Raul performed the POW/MIA ceremony by removing the cover from the empty chair. Meeting adjourned at 1105 hrs Saturday 21 Nov 20.

Note: Next Post meeting will be at 1000hrs, 19 Dec 20.

Adjutant Dennis O'Leary

Commander Allen Lawrence