**American Legion Mandarin Post 372**

***Celebrating 100 Years of Service to Veterans***

***General Assembly Meeting Minutes***

***August 8, 2019***

The August 8, 2019 General Assembly of The American Legion Mandarin “Fallen Heroes” Post 372, Inc was held at the Mandarin/St. Johns Elks Lodge #2866 with 18 members present.

Alan Painter, *Commander*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, *Adjutant*

Barry Litsky, 1st *Vice Commander*

Craig Bernat, 2nd Vice Commander

Wayne Lee, *Chaplain*

Dan Hempsall, Judge *Advocate*

Don Severns, *Finance Officer*

Paul Arambula, *Sergeant-at-Arms*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, *Historian*

Barry Litsky, *Service Officer*

**Executive Committee:**

Dan Hempsall, *Past Commander*

Franklin Hunt, *Past Commander*

Jim Hughes

Joe Maltese

Steve Sullivan

Frank Nichols

**Committees:**

Audit, *Steve Sullivan*

Americanism, *Dan Hempsall*

Blood Drive*, Brian Lawn*

Boys State, *Tom Schneider*

Cancelled Stamps, *Marty Kaufman*

Children & Youth, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

JROTC, *Martin Schwartz*

Law & Order, *Barry Litsky*

Membership, Barry Litsky

Public Relations, *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

Social Media, *Don Severns*

Teacher of the Year,*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

VA&R, *Service Officers*

# Opening

The meeting was promptly called to order at 7:00 PM by Commander Painter and opening ceremonies were conducted.

# Guests

* Ian Keane, Crawford Contractor Connection
* Joe Maltese, ALR Chapter 372 President and SAL Squadron 372 Commander

# Quorum

The Sergeant At Arms presented the sign in roster to the acting Adjutant and it was determined that the Post’s by-laws requirements for at least 7 members were present.

# Guest Speaker

The Commander invited Ian Keane to speak to the General Assembly. Mr. Keane spoke about the project his company (Crawford Contractor Connection) is planning for the 5 Star Veterans Facility at 40 Acme St., Jacksonville. His company has about 80 volunteers lined up to do a landscaping project at the facility on October 19th. They need help with materials. Steve Sullivan has graciously agreed to chair our donations effort. The items requested are:

* Picnic table kits – 4 or 5
* 12”- 18” pavers for table legs – 4 for each table.
* Sand for setting pavers - 8-10 bags
* Mulch – Multiple bags. Need to look at new fence configuration to get a better idea of what we need to do.
* Edison lights - Minimum of 8 strings (approx. 200 linear feet total)
* 4”x4”x10’pressure treated post. 4ea
* 18” -24 “ Heavy flower pot – 4 ea
* 4 bags concrete mix
* Sand and Gravel for each pot.
* Black cable ties

**Guest Speaker (continued)**

* Galvanized Wire Rope 1/16” – 250 lf
* Zinc plated clamps and thimbles for the wire rope 8 each.
* Galvanized hooks 4 each
* Turnbuckles for wire rope. I am thinking 4 ea.
* Cases of bottled water

**Minutes**

* The May, 2019 minutes have been posted.
* The Commander reported that the July, 2019 minutes are posted online and approved.
* Motion to suspend the reading of the minutes from the May and July General Assemblies and approve them was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.
* Motion made, seconded, and approved to suspend reading of the August Executive Board meeting.

**Correspondence**

* Thank you note from W. Nickerson for the honorarium we pay for our WWII members.
* Ian Keane request for materials
* Speaking request from Christine Mershell of UF Health Product Therapy Institute.

**Reading in of New or Transferring Members**

1st Vice-Commander Litsky presented the below and recommended a motion to accept their application for membership ofn our Post.

***Name Branch of Service War Era Info***

Roger MacEwen Army VietNam Transfer from FL Post 137

Joe Maltese USAF Legion Act Member of SAL & ALR

Motion to approve new and transferring members was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Motion made by Executive Jim Hughes to add Joe Maltese to the Executive Board as a member Executive At Large. Motion was seconded and approved.

**Officers’ Reports**

* **Commander Alan Painter**

Attending the 5th District meeting this Sunday.

* **1st Vice-Commander Barry Litsky**

Membership as reported at Department shows we are at 55.11% of our quota. Total renewed is 97 and our quota is 176.

* **2nd Vice-Commander Bernat**

Excused absence. Membership rally on September 2nd at Hagan Ace Hardware on San Jose Blvd.

* **Finance Officer Don Severns**

Summary of July Finance report presented with the actual report available for review.

Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve the report subject to audit.

* **Executive Steve Sullivan**

Reported that the 4th quarter audit was conducted and no discrepancies noted.

**Program & Committee Reports**

**Recycle program** – Steve Sullivan reported that the price of aluminum has decreased and a recent truckload (124 pounds) was paid $44 for our building fund. Steve encouraged everyone to continue bringing in the aluminum cans as it is basically free money.

**ALR & SAL** – Post 137 is having a steak night this Saturday and the riders will be attending. If we want other Posts to support us we need to support them. The Riders will be going on the Legacy Ride and probably sending one of the largest contingents with 12 people. The Legion Act expands membership eligibility for the ALR, SAL, and the Auxiliary. Elks need a new roof on the pavilion.

**Cancelled Stamp** – Marty Kaufman reported that he has received several thank you notes from the Stamp for the Wounded program. The Auxiliary has now started their cancelled stamp program. Talked about a letter received from Mary Merrit of Illinois requesting information about the program and has been submitting cancelled stamps every week. We gave her a Certificate of Appreciation. The Cancelled Stamp resolution passed at Department of Florida.

**Business**

* Finance Officer reported that he now has the required IRS forms to submit the W-2G to close out the final action from the motorcycle raffle.
* Commander presented Certificates of appreciation to:
  + Paul Arambula
  + Marty Kaufman
  + Martin Schwartz
  + Steve Sullivan
  + Joe Maltese
  + Sheri Rodriguez
  + Tom Schneider
  + Black Creek Mariana
* Quilt Raffle – A quilt was donated to us courtesy of the Honeybee Quilters Guild and arranged by Auxiliary President Kathy Helmly. We need a plan to conduct the raffle and a Chair. No volunteers were found. Joe Maltese said he would ask the ALR and SAL.
* Elks need a new roof over the pavilion. The cost is estimated to be about $3600. There is collection jar in the lounge.
* Italian dinner this month, 8/17 from 5 – 7 pm, and is hosted by the Auxiliary this month.

**Business (continued)**

* Website Ads – Business Sponsor get a business card add for 1 year is $50. A booster ad is $20 for 1 year.

**Closing Ceremony**

* Commander announced upcoming meetings as posted on the website calendar.
* Closing ceremonies were conducted.
* The General Assembly adjourned at 8:09 pm.

*Don Severns*

Don Severns   
Finance Officer