



DANIEL R. OLSEN AMERICAN LEGION POST 594
CORE TEAM MEETING MINUTES
December 15, 2021

The Core Team consists primarily of elected Post Officers, although Committee Chairs and Project Leads are included as needed to provide updates and enlist leadership support.

New Business:

- Primary purpose of the meeting was to further detail efforts toward our goal of communication and member engagement.
- A proposed calendar for 2022 was presented by Commander Beierman. After some discussion and minor revisions, the calendar was approved and will be posted on the website.
- Kevin Gutknecht was present as he had expressed interest in being involved in our website management and social media efforts. Kevin was provided our current webmaster, David Hammer's, contact information and encouraged to contact him to determine how they might work together to manage these platforms.
- The group reviewed the Post survey developed by Rob Cahalan based upon our previous discussion on this issue. After review and minor revisions, the survey was approved for dissemination to the Post. The survey will be sent via email to those with email addresses. Hard copies will be sent to members without an email address. The goal is to get the survey out by year end.
- Oratorical contest is February 26, 2022. Paul Kovach is working to identify candidates to represent the Post.

Old Business:

- John Rayman provided a treasurer's report. The Post currently has \$3,075 in the account.
- Vice Commander Kirchenwitz will be sending membership renewal reminders to all Post members. A separate letter will be sent to the residents of the Hastings Veterans Home advising the Post will no longer be paying annual dues. Financial hardship will be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if Post funds should be used to pay the membership.
- Fall Conference is October 21-23 in Mahanomen, Minnesota. Wayne will be attending. The core team had no specific questions or concerns to address relative to the conference.
- The Post will be involved in several Veterans Day activities. The color guard will be involved in raising the colors at Thompson Reuters; a program at Eagan High School; and a program sponsored by the Rotary Club at Lost Spur Golf Course. St. John Neuman Catholic Church will be sponsoring a veterans appreciation dinner and wants to know how many Post members may be interested. Wayne Beierman will get more details, and John Rayman will send out a notice.
- Mike Peiffer is working on the second blood drive of the year. Core team settled on Friday, December 10 as the date for the next drive. Mike will coordinate with Red Cross and advise accordingly.
- Discussion around fall flag inspection and retirement. Decided flag inspection will occur on October 27, 2021, at 1800, and flag retirement will occur October 30, 2021, at 1400. Wayne will finalize with the city. Efforts will be made to include Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts, and/or AL Auxiliary. Also, discussion on future flag burning. Rob Cahalan noted concerns about air quality and the general ecological soundness of this practice. The group agreed alternatives should be looked at, and Rob will see about the cost of third-party destruction of flags. Future events could still be held but with a smaller number of flags that are vetted so no polyester is being burned.
- The Hastings Veterans Home will allow small groups of 5 members at a time to come to the home to decorate for holidays. This could occur late November or early December. Participating members must have proof of vaccination and a picture ID.

- A proposed calendar for the 2022 calendar year was presented by Commander Beierman in the hopes of getting it on the website sometime in December. The Core Team reviewed and approved the calendar and were encouraged to let Wayne know of any additional confirmed events. The calendar will be updated as new events arise.
- Lengthy discussion about communications. Thanks to David Hammer, the website has been updated and reconfigured. We should continue to get new updates and pictures to David to keep the website up to date and relevant.

Unfinished Business:

- Adjutant Rayman suggested the Core Team spend some time answering the question posed on the website – “Who Are We?” If we can answer this question, it can guide Post activities going forward, much like a mission statement. All agreed we should work on accomplishing this; however, this will be a discussion following the conclusion of the Post survey.
- **Next Meeting:** February 15, 2022, 1800, Fitz’s Bar and Grill