



DANIEL R. OLSEN AMERICAN LEGION POST 594
CORE TEAM MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2022

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

Old Business:

- \$5,000 from FunFest was received and deposited in the Post account
- John Rayman, Pat Graham and Barrett Kirchenwitz attended the Fall Conference in St. Cloud.
- The Post Color Guard Participated in several Veterans Day ceremonies in Eagan
- A Blood Drive was held at the community center in October and was a big success.
- A Post Office box and new mailing address has been set up at the Lexington Ave Post Office near Sam's Club. All future mailings will be sent to that address. The website has been updated and the new address provided to State and National.

New Business:

- The FunFest Committee has begun planning for the 2023 event. The dates will be Monday, July 3, 1600-2300, and all day Tuesday, July 4. Wayne will continue to serve on the committee but has asked John Rayman to join him on the committee as a transition to 2024. Wayne emphasized the importance in having a Post member on the committee so we continue to have a say on our beer tent fundraising efforts as well as the parade.
- The City of Eagan has requested a flag donation box at City Hall. Wayne has reached out to the Hastings Veterans Home to inquire if they would have an interest in making another donation box similar to the one currently located at Sam's Club. This topic will be discussed with Mike Anderson, the new Hastings Veterans Administrator, in early January 2023.
- The Post received an inquiry from an Apple Valley High School student regarding Boys State. Apparently, he contacted the Apple Valley Post but was referred to us. Wayne will follow up with the Apple Valley Post Commander.
- Paul Kovach reported there have been no inquiries about Boys State or Oratorical Contest from Eagan High School students. He will continue to get the word out. There is also a \$500 State American Legion scholarship available. This information has been provided to the EHS guidance office.
- Auxiliary president Paulette Stark, was unable to attend the meeting. Auxiliary and Post member Colleen Vaubel was present. Identified the need to further define the role of the Auxiliary and ways we can support each other's efforts. The ideal of having the Auxiliary plan at least one social event in 2023 was suggested. This is a role normally given the Second Vice-Commander. Since we do not have that officer position filled at the Post, this may be a significant way for the Auxiliary to support the Post. Notable is that social activities as was identified "need" in our 2022 Post survey.
- Wayne Beierman provided a summary of Post accomplishments in 2022, which was quite extensive.
- John Rayman notified the group that the lower level meeting room at Cedarvale has been reserved for the third Tuesday of each month, except for April 2023 which is already booked. This will allow us to have our regular Post and Core Leadership meetings in the meeting room.
- It was suggested that any local businesses providing financial or other significant support to the Post be highlighted on our Website - something to publicly express our appreciation and encourage people to visit those businesses. Currently, that list would be HyVee, Sam's Club, Costco, and Cedarvale Lanes.
- Cindy Yanchury advised the Scout Troop is looking for assistance with four specific merit badges related to Americanism/Citizenship. These badges are required for Eagle Scout. Cindy was asked to have the Scouts

provide details about what is required, what assistance the envision, how much time would be required of a Post member, etc., and have them present that information to present at our next Post meeting. We will then disseminate that information to the Post membership at large with a request for volunteers.

- Cindy Yanchury also advised she attended a Veterans Day ceremony at a local elementary school, where she presented “America’s White Table.” This is a children’s book geared that seeks to help children understand and appreciate the depth of sacrifice of armed forces members and their families. Cindy Yanchury indicated it was very powerful and something we could consider presenting in Eagan Schools.

Unfinished Business:

- Efforts continue to solicit financial support from local businesses. Wayne, Pat, and John will continue those efforts. So far, HyVee, Sam’s Club, and Costco have provided financial support.
- Communications continues to be an ongoing area of emphasis. A number of things continue to be address including remote access to meetings, a Post email account, SignUp Genius for volunteer needs, and website improvements. It was agreed a separate meeting with our communications people was appropriate and is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 0830, at Commander Beierman’s house.

Goals for 2023:

- There was discussion about goals for 2023 beyond the regular/normal Post activities (e.g. ceremonies, blood drive, FunFest). The goals seemed to focus on these areas:
 1. More emphasis on youth education/activities (e.g, Scouts, elementary, Legion Baseball)
 2. Post social events (at least one in 2023)
 3. Veterans support (e.g. Buddy Checks)
 4. Mentorship (i.e. succession planning for Post Leadership)

One of the challenges will be to continue efforts to engage Post membership to support these efforts. This will be presented for comment at the next regular Post meeting.

- **Next Meeting:** February 21, 2023, 1800, Fitz’s Bar and Grill