

**The Daniel R. Olsen American Legion Post 594
Meeting Minutes
19 November 2024**

Please remember to make a nametag at every meeting if you do not have a permanent one.

Meeting Called to Order by Commander Rayman at 1900

Opening Prayer – Chaplain Jim Staloch. There will be moment of silence for Post Member, Gary Dahlmeir who recently passed away.

Sgt-at-Arms Mike presents the MIA flag.

Presentation by William Harvey, Eagan HS Boys State Rep

Presentation of the plaque to Cedarvale Lanes and Quilt of Gratitude to Gail Levesque

Introductions/Welcome to those new to the Post – Brye and Joe

Reports of Committees

1. Officer/Chair Reports:
2. Adjutant's Report/
 - a. Approval of Minutes – Motion by Jim Staloch, 2nd by Wayne Beierman. **MSC**
 - b. Update on Bylaws/Standing Rules/I Can Do That/Task Force vs. Committee
 - c. Proposed Army/Navy Watch Party - 14 December 1300
 - d. Second Vice Commander – focus on social activities & caring for members.
3. Commanders Report
 - a. Update on Vision planning – Be the One – report on Fall Conference and getting more active and getting the word out about our meetings. Make phone calls to post members we don't see on regular basis. Looking for folks to step up and make calls.
 - b. Shout out to those who helped with flag retirement and new solution. Jim Staloch – loaded all the flags and drove them up to Veteran's Campground. On Flag Day they'll have huge retirement ceremony. Date proposed for our retirement ceremony is 12 June 2025. Tom Mullen will assist with collection and hauling.
 - c. Shout out to Danny Senoa for leading the charge with the Color Guard at many events on 11 November.
 - d. Shout out to Paul for his help connecting us with the high school for their ceremony on 12 November.
 - e. Shout out to Neil Hetherington for his address to the students and veterans!
4. Finance Officer – Paul has created a file on the Google Drive with details. \$18318.83 is the current balance. \$40 spent to purchase service flags for Deerwood Elementary School. John shared thank you letters and pictures from the school.
5. Event Reports
 - a. Color Guard – Nothing coming up. Happy things went well for Veteran's Day this year. Thanks to the members of the Color Guard.

- b. Blood Drive – October 23. Goal was 36 people. Collected 48 pints of whole blood. Be on the lookout for the spring drive.
 - c. Flag Retirement – 11 November included Scouts and Girl Scouts along with many of our members.
 - d. Auxiliary – Wreaths across America on 14 December, volunteers needed. Register by the end of November. Registration is online. Auxiliary is purchasing 10 wreaths. Also looking for volunteers to serve at Lexington Point in January. Usually on Wednesday at 1500.
6. Post Service Officer Report – Veteran’s Health ID Card. Many are expiring! Check your card. State House and Senate has disbanded the Veteran’s Affairs Committee. Call for Legion members to encourage bringing it back. PACT Act – vets in a combat zone – contact Rob or Neil Hetherington for assistance.
 7. Communications Report – Dave reported he went to Rosemount BTYR project. Posting with more info is on the website. Info on Give to Max. Go to <https://give.mn/q256bf>
 8. First Vice Commander - Membership Goal is 248. Currently at 63%. If you haven’t renewed please do so soon.
 9. Third District Vice Commander, work on membership!
 - a. Proposed Fundraising Efforts - Past Commander
 - b. Bagging Groceries at Cub on Super Bowl Weekend.
 - c. Asking local stores for gift cards- SAM’s & Walmart
 - d. Grant writing to local service organizations – Request made to Noon Rotary Club for \$1000. Other organizations to approach are The Elks and The Lion’s Club.
 - e. Paul reports on Union 32 – has a fundraising effort 10% of proceeds to the post. Working on getting more info. Commander moves Jim Peterson 2nds to approve reports. MSC.
 10. QOH presentation
 - a. Pat Graham
 - b. David Hammer
 - c. Frank Russomanno
 - d. Jim Staloch

Closing Prayer ~ Chaplain Jim Staloch

Retiring of MIA flag and colors of our nation.

Meeting adjourned at 1958.

Next Core Team Meeting ~ 17 December/1800 – Lower Level Cedarvale Lanes.

Next Meeting: 21 January ~ 1830 Social Time/1900 Meeting.

- **Please Note: Agenda items are due NLT 14 January 2024**

On the Horizon

- Oratorical ~ One candidate has already expressed interest. If others wish to participate, we will need to have a selection team in place.
- Boys/Girls State
- Chief Searle ~ Eagan FF of the Year is Kevin Teat
- Police Officer of the Year - Chief New ~ Eagan PO of the Year is Detective Darrin Schultz

Explore:

Hy-Vee meals for homebound vets during the holidays/Kaci Short Manager

Marketing/Social Media