

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Alaska
Executive Committee Meeting
April 24, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by Department President Beverly Eads at 6:58 p.m.

A prayer was offered by Sue Caswell. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Marge Blankenship.

MOTION: by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded by Doris Thomas (Unit 33) that the American Legion Auxiliary dispense with the opening ceremonies.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken with the following present:

ROLL CALL

Officers Present

President Beverly Eads
1st Vice-President Marge Blankenship
Secretary/Treasurer Linda Schmitt
Historian Penny Mazonna
Executive Committeewoman Deborah Gilchrist
Executive Committee Woman Doris Thomas

Officers Excused

2nd Vice-President Ashliey Purcell
Chaplain Jackie Ockert
Sgt-At-Arms Barbe Wolkoff

Committees Present

Americanism – Betty Randall
Audit – Michelle Giddings
Cavalcade of Memories – Penny Mazonna
Distinguished Guest – Ann Robinson
Education – Colleen Newman
Girls State – Debra Henderson
Leadership – Eva Aulston

Legislative – Doris Thomas
National Security – Sue Diaz
Past President Parley – Lynn Bash
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Marge Blankenship

Committees Excused

Auxiliary Emergency Fund – Barbe Wolkoff
Children and Youth – Beth Anderson
Community Service – Darlene Sheldon
Constitution and By-Laws – Lavonne Collier
Finance – Ruth Johnson
Junior Activities – Ashley Purcell
Membership – Ashley Purcell
Poppy – Judy Pusti
Public Relations – Leona Shank

Unit Representation

Present

Jack Henry Unit 1
Seward Unit 5
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11
General Buckner Unit 16
Robert G Blair Unit 17
Ninilchik Unit 18
George H Plumley Memorial Unit 20
Spenard Unit 28
Muldoon Unit 29
Con Miller Unit 30
Peters Creek Unit 33
Susitna Valley Unit 35
C. Russell Huber Unit 57

Absent

Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6
Lynn Canal Unit 12
Sitka Unit 13
Edward Locken Unit 14
Matanuska Valley Unit 15
Nome Unit 19
Gladys M. Heintz Memorial unit 27
Chappie James Unit 34

Excused

Ketchikan Unit 3

Past Department Presidents Present

Lynn Bash	Jean Shandy
Carolyn Null	Rehta Foster
Susan Caswell	Linda Gunvalson
Betty Randall	Lori Fitzsimmons
Jill Pawson	Sue Diaz
Lisa Williamson	Eva Aulston

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fall Workshop – The dates of October 5 & 6, 2013 or October 12 and 13, 2013 were suggested for the Fall Workshop.

MOTION: By Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded by Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) that the Fall Workshop be held on October 12 and 13, 2013

Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) asked how long before we get minutes of all the things that happened at National Convention. They will be ready in time for this workshop. The location of the workshop will be determined. However it was noted that Jack Henry Post 1 has both weekends reserved in anticipation of the workshop.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Poppy Production Update – Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) reported that we are in production making poppies. The residents of the Domiciliary are making poppies. They were making one a day per residents. There are 48 residents. Within three weeks they had done the initial 200 poppies. Linda is trying to connect with Dee to pick up the rest of the poppies that are done. She noted the residents are willing to continue. The only problem is that the 2013 tags are falling off. They are now taking a glue stick and gluing them on so they can't fall off. Eva Aulston reminded everyone that the residents of the Domiciliary change often and we would need to be sure the newcomers had instructions for making the poppies.

We also need to come up with a price for the poppies. California is giving the veterans 10 cents per poppy made. We will be making a donation to the Domiciliary. We need to decide the amount. Linda has a couple other veterans who are willing to do it on their own. Betty stated that she had been to the Senior Center in Ninilchik and that there are five veterans who would be interested in making poppies.

The plan is for poppy making to continue year round. Sue Diaz (Unit 20) asked about each unit submitting an order for poppies. Linda suggested that each Unit go through the Secretary/Treasurer so that we have a tally of how many to have made. There were approximately 34,500 ordered last year.

Betty Randall stated that she would love to see the poppies made in Alaska. However it is required that they are made in an authorized poppy shop. Units cannot get their own supplies and make them. Linda Gunvalson felt that the Domiciliary qualifies and that they have a full functioning workshop. It was suggested that Linda Schmitt check with National or with Judy Thompson to be sure they qualify. In light of this requirement, the individuals might not be able to make poppies.

Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) reported that she had received an email from the National Poppy Chairman. The United States is looking for people to make poppies for other states.

Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) indicated that Leona's husband is in the Pioneer Home and that might be something some of the veterans would like to do.

NEW BUSINESS

Poppy Project – It was noted that there has always been a poppy project at Western District. Department President Beverly Eads asked about moving it over to the Department.

MOTION: by Linda Gunvalson (Unit 28) and Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) to move the poppy project from Western District to Department.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Pins for National – At the last National Convention all of the Eskimo pins were distributed. A new design of a pin that represents Alaska will be needed. Linda Schmitt suggested a pin with forget me not flowers with a poppy in the center, tied with a yellow ribbon. There would be dog tags hanging from the ribbon with the American Legion Auxiliary emblem on one and the words “Department of Alaska” on the other.

Rehta Foster (Unit 28) said that Tom Henderson in Lawton, Oklahoma does pins. Jimmy Foster can give us the price and phone number.

Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) asked if it would cost more if we had 2 or 3 different colors on it. Linda Schmitt will find out.

Peggy noted they don’t normally charge extra for color, but they do have a one-time set up fee. It’s a set price per button quantity. Sue Waldhaus noted her experience is that every color you add has an additional expense. It depends on where you are getting them from. Penny Mazonna asked about the average cost for pin (99 cents per pin for 1,000 pins). It just depends on how many you ordered. Peggy was asked to get information.

MOTION: by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) that a Department pin be designed with discussion continuing on Saturday.

Linda Schmitt suggested having a contest on Saturday with different pin designs.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Petersburg Unit 14 Charter – Linda Schmitt reported that Petersburg has a lady who has been a member forever. She has paid everyone’s dues for the unit to keep them active. Last year they had 11 members, this year they have five.

MOTION: by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) to revoke the charter for Unit 14.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Past Department Presidents – Department President Beverly Eads indicated that they would like to include contact information (names and addresses) for Past Department Presidents in the new directory.

MOTION: by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) to include contact information (names and addresses) for Past Department Presidents starting with the new directory.

Rehta Foster (Unit 28) thought that telephone numbers and email should be optional if people wanted to include it. This will be just the Past Department Presidents. Lisa Williamson stepped out as Parliamentarian and noted that this directory is not on line.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Scholarship -- There has been a lot of confusion on scholarships. For instance, this year there were two who applicants for the National Presidents Children of Warriors Scholarship. Whoever wins automatically gets the Aggie Parks scholarship of \$1,000.00.

MOTION: by Sue Diaz (Unit 20) and seconded by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) to put the information about the Aggie Parks scholarship in the standing rules.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Each unit needs to provide their EIN number to National so they can update the tax exempt status. National has to send in a report providing each unit's EIN number. In the past, the Post was established before the Auxiliary was established. The Auxiliary used the Post's EIN number. However, each unit should have their own EIN number. Colleen Newman (Unit 17) asked about units who do not have an EIN number. They will need to get their own numbers. You can do it online. There is an inclusion letter and you would attach a copy of it with your EIN number and submit it.
- Gloria has to pick up the National President at 8:36 p.m. at Delta Airlines and she wants as many people as possible to go out to the airport to greet her.
- We need a Scholarship Committee. Colleen Newman is on that committee as well as Lori Fitzsimmons.
- We were told to not utilize the front door for access to our meetings as that is the business entrance. We should enter on the door on the right side of the building. If you go out the door and it closes, you will be locked out.
- Smoking needs to be away from the doors.
- Colleen Newman (Unit 17) noted she did not get all the Education Reports. She has forms available for people to complete so she can have an inclusive report.
- We have made our 80% goal for membership. We are at 85.09% and we are ahead of schedule. Department President Beverly Eads thanked everyone for their hard work.

- There is an “old bag drawing” at the Past Presidents’ Parley luncheon. Each unit was asked to bring an old bag for the luncheon. It will be set up here and taken to the luncheon.
- We are safe to leave things in this room overnight.
- Betty Randall asked about auction items. They should be taken to Post 28. The ALA Junior auction items are on the back wall where you register.
- Juniors are meeting across the hall in this building.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.