

**American Legion monthly meeting**

**February 8, 2023**

Meeting opened at 4:00 by Susan Bickell, Commander.

Salute, Prayer, POW/MIA Opening ceremony, Pledge of Allegiance, AL Preamble.

Roll call by Adjutant, Antonio Gaspar:

Present: Susan Bickell, Commander

 Jim Traxler,2nd Vice Antonio Gaspar, Judge Advocate

 Rico Pacatang, 1st Vice Nestorio Domingo, Treasurer

 Jim Hussey, Historian Dave Carlson, Alt NEC

 Rex Corpus, Sgt at Arms Alex Okimoto, Chaplain

Guests: 2

Motion to approve January Minutes by John Ferris and seconded by Jim Hussey. Motion approved.

Motion to approve the Finance Officer’s Report, subject to audit, by Jim Hussey. Seconded by Alex Okimoto. Balance as of February 8th is $14,388.03.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: District IV Hawaii Report: Antonio Gaspar announced that the next “Adopt the Highway” clean-up will be on Saturday, March 11th, 6:00-8:00 AM. Antonio reported that Post 20 has performed as the best Post in the Department of Hawaii. Antonio also offered income tax assistance for Veterans every Thursday. He also covered many District 4 projects and activities.

HOMELESS PROGRAM: No report.

BUILDING/OPERATIONS: No report.

HONOR GUARD: Rico announced the planned shoots for the next month. There was discussion about the need for more American Legion members to support the Honor Guard as participants.

OLD BUSINESS:

Special Events/Activities: Jim Hussey gave an update on the 29 January Golf Tournament. It was a good turn-out and netted $7,311.54. Thanks to all the participants, the donors and helpers.

Jim Hussey also gave an update on the 19 February Oratorical Contest. There is at least one participant currently. He will ask for help as necessary.

Mel provided an update on the West Hawaii Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Dedication will be on March 29th. The Memorial is near completion and the program will be completed in the next few weeks to include the dedication and the reinterment of Rodney Yano, our Medal of Honor recipient.

Jim Hussey reminded the membership of the State Convention scheduled for 16-17 June. Location is still to be determined.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was a discussion about the scheduled Valentine Day Banquet. Jim Hussey moved that we allocate $600.00 for the band. The motion was seconded by Mel Behasa and was approved.

Susan reminded the membership that the election of new officers will be in May with installation in July. Please let her know if interested in an office.

BIRTHDAYS: 2/6 Rosemarie Eller, 2/10 Timothy Brady, 2/12 Daniel Malakie, 2/14 Edwin Ueda, 2/16 Peter Lindsey, 2/25 Peter Callahan, 2/28 Russell Faust.

 ILLNESS/DEATH: Peter Huff has had surgery and is doing much better and in good spirits.

Closing prayer, POW/MIA Closing ceremony, Salute

ADJOURN at 4:55 PM. Next meeting 1600 March 8th, 2023, Ekahi Loft

Submitted by Jim Traxler, 2nd Vice Commander