

12 April 2023

MINUTES PALM VALLEY POST 233 AMERICAN LEGION EXECUTIVE BOARD

OPENING: Conducted by Commander Caroline Merillat

QUORUM: A Quorum was not attained as determined by Adjutant Jerry Grause. In attendance in addition to the Commander and Adjutant were Allen Straw First Vice, Roy Havekost Judge Advocate Bill Hyatt Sgt at Arms and E Board members Lori Ringland and Derek Prince. Also in attendance were the 5th District Commander and Vice Commanders, and representative from State, the Northern Area Commander.

FINANCE REPORT: A Finance Report was not submitted.

DISCUSSION:

OLD BUSINESS:

Commander Caroline Merillat reported that:

- 1) Credit card fees for food & beverage purchases are averaging around 3% and it is recommended that these fees be added to members and guests bills. It is suggested that members and guests be appraised of this at the time of purchase and they be given the option of paying cash to avoid the credit card fees. Approval of this was again deferred because of the lack of a quorum.
- 2) The kitchen grease trap had been professionally cleaned and that a cleaning service had been secured to clean the trap going forward on a quarterly schedule for \$195.00 per quarter.
- 3) That two (2) CO2 cylinders needed for the operation of the beer tap and the soda gun had been replaced. There is a leak somewhere in the CO2 line to Coke that needs to be fixed.

Adjutant Jerry Grause reported that:

- 1) A status report on the efforts to get the Post Fresh/Potable Water System upgraded to comply with St. Johns County. Although the new well was drilled and capped since late last year, obtaining the Completion Report and Closed Permit from Scott Hulihan's company is not forthcoming. Multiple attempts with Hulihan's Project Manager (Martin Beckman – 904-449-8839) have been unsuccessful. Another attempt will be made as follow-up. In the meantime, two Engineering firms have been contacted for bids on upgrading the Post system to meet code and increase the system's capacity. Both firms have indicated they need a copy of Hulihan's Completion Report before they can come out and inspect and detail what needs to be accomplished. These firms and points of contact are:

Four Waters Engineering, Inc.
324 6th Ave, North
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
(904) 414-2400
Michael Klink (PM)

Mklink@4weng.com
Wet Engineering, Inc.
(904) 223-9773
Bill Snoot (PM)
Wts@wetengineering.net

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Commander Caroline Merillat reported that MamaSama's Catering would stop operating their Friday & Saturday dinners at the end of May 2023. Their plan is continue their venture utilizing a Food Truck and concentrating on local events and festivals. This will be a significant loss of revenue going forward for the Post as the bar has been averaging more than \$1,000/night in sales.
- 2) Commander Caroline Merilatt recommended that the Post pay our lawn maintenance service through the remainder of the year.
- 3) Commander Merilatt reminded the Board that last year when the central HVAC system required replacement for a cost of \$4,700, the ALA and SAL each contributed \$1,000 and an anonymous donor lent the Post the balance of \$2,700. She recommended paying the donor back as the funds were available. The anonymous donor declined repayment and made it a donation.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:00 pm

At 7:00 pm Commander Caroline Merilatt formally Called To Order the General Meeting for Post 233. In attendance in addition to those in attendance at the Executive Board were Julie Kay President of the ALA, Pete Lenio Commander of the SAL, Howard Sheble Vice Commander of the SAL and Mike Shaar of the SAL.

American Legion 5th District Commander, Lena Heredia-Perez advised the Post that since we did not have the required Quorum for the general meeting, the Post could not hold nominations for the election of Officers for Post 233, the ALA & SAL for the year 2023-2024, and that a Special Meeting needed to be scheduled for Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 7:00 pm for Floor nominations for all officers of the Post, ALA & SAL. A letter to all current members of Post 233 advising them of this Special Meeting and the need for attendance would be mailed out by the State of Florida American Legion Commander.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.