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Flynn Phillips

The Pre DEC at Aloha, Oregon at the Beaverton Elks Club, June 22nd at about three o'clock. We're about five till three.

Don Weber

District nine. Who's district nine?

Flynn Phillips

District nine? That's Larry Hill. He is here. Mr. Eyebrows is standing right there on the corner.

Don Weber

Yeah.

Flynn Phillips

Mr. Eyebrows.

Bob Huff

Now I got to give resolutions.

Flynn Phillips

Oh, for the finance thing.

Bob Huff

Yeah. This doesn't go through you. This is the finance resolution.

Don Weber:

In DEC?

Bob Huff

We always vote on the DEC during the finance report.

Don Weber:

Okay.

Bob Huff:

No, it's just where we move money within an approved budget. It's helping Larry out for his cause. It's not changing. It's within the budget. But if it's a resolution, I don't know why I want to call it a Bob piece of paper. But, that's good, we can stop it.

John Reish:

The resolution supposed to be...

Group:

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I know Bob Huff

John Reish:

Well, no, cause we've done resolutions at DEC's before.

Flynn Phillips

But you're not going outside and doing any more or anything outside the budget, right? That's the way I understood.

Flynn

That's right. For showing up.

Dan Burks

So, is that resolution still Post DEC?

Dan Burks

I don't know what was scheduled for. I had said Post Convention, just make sense with the team, but then they asked me to ask you.

Dan Burks:

Think it has to be now.

John Reish:

Because it affects the money of the Posts, but like you said, we've got the option. I think it should be the other way around.

Dan Burks:

Well, basically the way that the resolution they have the option to do this.

Flynn Phillips

She could be putting on her makeup. Phyllis putting on her makeup. That was joke.

Dan Burks

What is it for the normal Post? That's the one I called you on the phone talked to you about.

Flynn Phillips:

Man, we have to almost nobody here for the DEC.

Bob Huff

This was good for the first sitting. I still think those commanders should be...

Don Weber:

How close are we on forum for convention?

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Bob Huff:

I've got to go back out and do it at the end of this. I've got other people coming.

Bob Huff

And so, guess who badge she lost? Hers

Flynn Phillips

Serves her right. I'm out there making badges.

Don Weber:

Take your seats. Oh yes, sir.

Don Weber:

Thank you. Sergeant at Arms, would you secure the doors? Thank you. Call is in place hand salute. Two. Uncover. Call on the department chaplain for the invocation and POW chair ceremony.

Steve Shollenburg:

Gracious Father, we come to you today to invite you to join us today. Bless our leaders as they conduct our Legion business, according to your will. Bless each person present father and special blessings for those who could not make it today, we pray this in your holy name. Amen.

Group:

Amen.

Steve Shollenburg:

As for resolution 288, adopted by the Legion 67th National Convention, calls for designating an empty chair at all official American Legion meetings, as a continual physical symbol of POWs and MIAs and the cause for which we stand, namely their return or full accounting. A POW/MIA empty chair to be placed at all official meetings of the American Legion as a physical symbol of the thousands of Americans, POWs, and MIAs still unaccounted for, in all wars and conflicts evolving The United States of America. This is a reminder for all of us to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity and repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely, in defense of Liberty and a full accounting of those missing. Let us rededicate ourselves to this vital endeavor.

Don Weber:

Call on the Sergeant at Arms to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Phyllis York:

Ladies and gentlemen, facing the flag of our country, we all stay together.

Members:

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which stands, one nation under God, invisible, with Liberty and justice for all.

Don Weber:

Cover. Please follow me in reciting the preamble to the constitution of the American Legion.

Group:

For God and country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes. To uphold and defend the constitution of The United State States of America, to maintain law and order, to foster and perpetuate a 100% Americanism, to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars, to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation, to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses, to make right the master of might, to promote peace and good will on earth, to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy, to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship to our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Don Weber:

I'd like to call on the first vice to make a motion to seat some officers.

Larry Wittmayer:

Commander. I move that we seat those individuals in districts one, five, and seven, in replacement for their District Commanders.

Don Weber:

They have to be Vice Commanders.

Larry Wittmayer:

The Vice Commanders for those districts be seated in place of their District Commanders.

Don Weber:

Okay.

Don Weber:

Have a second?

Steve Adams:

I second the motion to seat vice commanders.

Don Weber:

Motion second by the past commander. Thank you. Discussion. The three districts are District one, Susan Hughes, District five, Greg Marvin and District seven, Terry Brown. District six and District eight do not have anyone present today. Question. Discussion. All those in favor signify by saying, aye.

DEC:

Aye.

Don Weber:

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All those opposed. Nay. Motion carried. Thank you. I'll call on the department adjective for roll call.

Flynn Phillip

Roll call of officers. Department Commander, Don Weber.

Don Weber:

Here.

Flynn Phillips

First Vice Commander, Larry Wittmayer.

Larry Wittmayer:

Here.

Flynn Phillips

Second Vice Commander, Corey Brockman.

Corey Brockman:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

Immediate Past Department Commander, Steve Adams.

Steve Adams:

Here.

Flynn Phillips

Department Adjective, Allen Phillips is here. National Executive Committeeman, Kevin Owens.

Kevin Owens:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

Alternate National Executive Committeeman, Gene Hellickson.

Gene Hellickson

Here.

Flynn Phillips

Department Finance Officer, Bob Huff.

Bob Huff:

Present.

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Flynn Phillips

Department Chaplain, Steve Shollenburg.

Steve Shollenburg:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

Department Historian, Dick Winders.

Dick Winders:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

Department Judge Advocate, Gene Hellickson.

Gene Hellickson:

Here.

Flynn Phillips

Department Service Officer, Ed Vandyke. Excused. Department Service Officer, Jody Marsh. Excused.
District One Commander, Lou Neubecker. Excused.

Don Weber:

District One Vice Commander is present.

Flynn Phillips

District Two Commander, Juan Palacios.

Juan P:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

District Three Commander, John Morford.

John Morford:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

District Four Commander, David Applegate.

David A:

Here.

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Flynn Phillips

District Five Vice Commander.

Robert Marvin:

Here.

Flynn Phillips

Okay. Greg Marvin. Okay.

Speaker 3:

Robert Marvin.

Flynn Phillips

Robert Marvin. District six.

Don Weber:

Absent.

Flynn Phillips

Anymore? District Seven. Vice commander is Terry Brown.

Terry Brown:

Here.

Flynn Phillips

District Eight Commander, Vice Commander. Absent. That was William Christofferson. District Nine Commander, Larry Hill.

Larry Hill:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

District 10 Commander, Daniel Burks.

Daniel Burks:

Here.

Flynn Phillips

Department Sergeant at Arms, Phyllis Yard.

Phyllis Yard:

Present.

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Flynn Phillips

Department Sergeant at Arms Assistant, Ward Allen.

Ward Allen:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

Department Assistant Sergeant at Arms, Mike Morris.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Roll call of living past department commanders. Robert D. Scott, Post 51, 1982 to 83.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Patsy Nester, Post 158, 1986 to 87.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Richard A. Shenfield, Post five, 1993 to 94.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Robert D. Liebenow, Post six, 1996 to 97.

Robert L:

Here.

Flynn Phillips

Donald E. Epperson, Post 61, 1997 to 98.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

George Toby Potter, Post 12, 2002 to 2003.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Charlie Schmidt, Post 63, 2004 to 2005.

Don Weber

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Sid Carter, Post 29, 2005 and six.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Kevin Owens, Post 34, 2008 and nine.

Kevin Owens:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

Jackie Collison, Post 34, 2010 to 11.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

John Marsh, Post 99, 2011 to 12.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Robert Huff, Post 192, 2012 to 13.

Bob Huff:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

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Mike Morris, Post 21, 2013 to 14.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Andy Mallar, Post 24, 2014 to 15.

Don Weber:

He is absent.

Flynn Phillips

Okay. Gene Hellickson, Post 86, 2017 to 18.

Gene Hellickson:

Present.

Flynn Phillips

Tom Harris, Post 119, 2018 to 19.

Don Weber:

Excused.

Flynn Phillips

Steve Adams, Post 51, 2019 to 21.

Steve Adams:

Present.

Don Weber:

Do we have a quorum?

Bob Huff

Yes.

Flynn Phillips

We have nine.

Terry Brown:

Terry Brown, District Seven. What post was Tom Harris?

Flynn Phillips

119

Terry Brown:

Says 158 here.

Flynn Phillips/Bob Huff

He's transferred.

Terry Brown:

At the time of his service. So, do we record at the time of their service or the current Post?

Flynn Phillips

That's a good question.

Bob Huff

It's not in the constitutional bylaw current Post.

Bob Huff

If you go back in history, when they transfer, they usually transfer them on this sheet.

Don Weber:

We will count those on the unit, the post that you're currently in. Distinguished guests, I'd like to recognize Ralph Bozella, who has joined us, our National VA and our committee. Thank you for joining us. Well, it's that time of year. Thank you for the opportunity. Oh, I'm looking back there. I see we have our SAL Alternate NEC, Larry Horne. Good to see you, Larry. Okay. This week we had the opportunity to host the national commander who came to join us. We went to visit several posts on Monday in District One, and then District Two on Tuesday. During that time period, he talked significantly about the legislative work that the national organization has done for it. It's very clear listening to the responses from the people in the post that they don't realize how much work national really does to take care of veterans for us. His example, as he traveled, was the Pact Act, PACT. I cannot remember the acronym that stands for.

Terry Brown:

Political Action Committee.

Don Weber:

No, no. The Pact Act is PACT. It's a legislative action to protect veterans who have been exposed to toxic exposures on all deployments. It covers all war areas and it eliminates the need to prove that they were in a designated area that had that exposure. In the future, with the passing of the Pact Act, if they have the campaign ribbon, then they are covered by the presumed assumption of the exposures to all of the toxic elements, the air conditions, agent orange and anything else that is determined. That particular act was passed by Congress a couple of weeks ago. They sent it to the Senate. The Senate passed it with some modifications, which required it to go back to the Congress for approval of the modification. The national commander indicated that they fully expected the Congress to approve the modifications that the Senate had put on it.

Don Weber:

And in fact, this morning, the national commander received a call calling him back to DC. Last night Congress did approve the modifications from the Senate and it could potentially go to the president's desk tomorrow. So, he had to go back to DC for that. That's why he is not here with us today. It was indeed an honor to travel with him. The posts that we visited all did just an excellent job of sharing with him, the things that they do in their areas, the programs that they're working and the things that we are doing here in the state of Oregon. His comments at every stop were just remarkable. His visit was very productive and I certainly enjoyed being on it. I'd like to call on the judge advocate for reading of the standing rules.

Gene Hellickson:

Members of the department executive committee, here and after, referred to as the DEC as used in the standing rules are as set forth in article seven, section one of the department constitution and article four, section two of the department bylaws. Minutes of the previous meeting shall be sent to all DEC members at least 15 days prior to the meeting date. The meeting agenda shall be sent to all DEC members at least 15 days prior to the meeting date. Roll call shall include past department commanders. No other visitors will be introduced.

Gene Hellickson:

A voting member of the DEC may request a suspension of a standing rule, that a non-member of a DEC be given the privilege of the floor, for the purpose of explanation of a specific proposal that has been proposed to the DEC and is under discussion. Time shall be limited to five minutes. However, additional time may be granted to answer pertinent questions. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the members of the DEC shall be required for an extension of time. All requests for expenditure of funds in excess of the budget adopted of the annual convention shall be sent to the DEC members and the members of the permanent finance commission at least 15 days prior to the DEC meeting date and must be in resolution form.

Gene Hellickson:

The proposed annual budget, as prepared by the permanent finance commission, shall be sent to all members of the DEC not less than seven days prior to the DEC meeting. Voting shall be by roll call on all resolutions in the following order. History Commanders, Department Vice Commander, Department Finance Officer, Junior Past Department Commander, and the National Executive Committeeman. The department commander shall vote only in the case of a tie. Members of the DEC should submit their reports in writing and reports shall be limited to five minutes and a copy of saying be given to the department administrative assistant.

Gene Hellickson:

All chairman of department standing commissions and committees shall submit their reports in writing. All motions must be originated by a voting member of the DEC. All codes and procedures shall be submitted in writing to members of the DEC at least 15 days prior to the date of the fall DEC meeting. These standing rules may be suspended for a specific cause by a two thirds affirmation vote of the DEC members present. The advanced time notices are waived for the Post Convention DEC and any time a poll is needed, the Department Adjutant shall send out a letter of explanation with a ballot, to be returned within five working days.

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Don Weber

Thank you, sir. I call on the Adjutant for reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

Steve Adams:

Steve Adams. I make a motion that we pass some minutes as published and distributed.

Terry Brown:

Second. Terry Brown, District Seven, second it.

Don Weber

Thank you.

Don Weber:

The meeting minutes will be filed as published. Report from the National Executive Committeemen.

Kevin Owens:

I want to speak too much. My report is in the book report, but I'd like to say that we did have a great visit with the national commander who is Abe Walter. I thank all the posts for your hospitality. He was impressed by all of you. It was a long couple days. We really traveled all over the place, and I want to thank the Legion riders for escorting us all the way. That was awesome and he appreciated that. We look forward to the next national planner coming and standby, you might be one of those posts that we're coming to the next year. Thank you again and let's have a good productive convention.

Don Weber:

Thank you for your report, sir. I'd like to call for the vote on the meeting minutes. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

Dec:

Aye.

Don Weber:

All those opposed signify by nay. Motion carried. Thank you. Media Past Department Commander, Steve Adams. Yeah. We don't have much time.

Steve Adams:

My reports in the book of reports. I only have one thing to add. In my book of reports, I stated that sweet home Post 133 had a buyer for their land that their building is on. Their building is condemned and must be torn down. They did an appraisal on the land and found out that in the last three years, it has raised drastically in price. They put the price out and now they have three people that are working with each other to try to buy the land. They also have a tentative agreement with another building that they can purchase, and that building is in excellent shape. End of my report. Thank you.

Don Weber:

Thank you, sir. First Vice Commander.

Larry Wittmayer:

My report is in the book of reports. I will make one correction to that report and that is that I stated we were at like 29th or something nationwide, as far as membership. Not so, 13. Congratulations Dan, and to the Department. That's it, thank you.

Don Weber:

Second Vice Commander.

Cory Brockmann:

Cory Brockmann, Department Second Vice Commander. As you look at your book of reports, you'll find an outdated report. So, please ignore it. I know this just taking a quick look. My report's three pages long and I'll work with our good Adjutant here and we'll get that corrected. If you would, as you read through the book of reports, just as importantly, when you get back home, to your home Post, please distribute that book of reports to your membership. Department Adjutant Flynn will get it published online quickly after convention. Please make sure that your home Posts get that. This year, Commander Don's theme was reconnecting veterans. That theme was born largely out of the pandemic and the COVID restrictions we've felt the last couple years.

Corey Brockman:

As I shared briefly at our Boy State and Girl State closing last weekend, comedian Milton Berle quipped once, "If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door." Comrades, I think that's where we're at right now. We can't wait for something to happen; we must make it happen. Opportunity doesn't always come knocking. I think we've had an outstanding year. I think we can do better. We can build on this year and take it the next step next year, both in membership. Congratulations to the membership and Post Activities Commission and the chair and the committee workers, but also all our youth programs. We're able to conduct youth programs this year, where we didn't last year. Just one quick note on Americanism. I do want to share in this, from these spring NDC meetings in Indianapolis. In 2022 first quarter flag sales were \$898,000, which was the largest first quarter for flags in the history of emblem sales and a 32% increase over last year. Just in the month of March, they had flag sales of just under \$500,000.

Corey Brockman:

Comrades, our flag is my pride flag and I hope it's yours as well. I know not all Posts in our Department are participants in the flag rewards program with Emblem Sales, but I strongly urge you to sign your Post up because you make money back for every flag sold by every member in that post. So, please get your Post signed up. Lastly, it has been an honor to work alongside each of you, with you, but also for you, as your department second vice, representing you at national meetings and on my duties throughout the department. So, thank you.

Don Weber:

Thank you, sir. Finance officer, Bob Huff.

Bob Huff:

Thank you, Commander.

Don Weber:

You're welcome. Sir.

Bob Huff:

I'm speaking to the group up here. Okay. I'm going to get a little bit off the finance officer, since the finance officer's doing the convention stuff, he's going to speak to that. Out on that board, where you register today, there's a board for all the convention committees that are going to have to meet tomorrow. There are only two Districts that turned in any of those names. We have people asking what commissions or committees are on. Would you please, after this meeting go out and put your people's names on those boards. Seriously, we go through this almost every year. They're out there.

Bob Huff:

Number two, we all get email. Every one of us, we get mail from department. I put in every Legionnaire magazine and probably for the last 15 years, during all these meetings during the year, talk about submitting your delicate forms and paying your delicate fees. We are out here right now, accepting delicate forms and fees and people are coming in and came to the post yesterday that their posts haven't submitted their names or paid their fees. Please check on that with your Post. It's helping your own people.

Bob Huff:

Three. In front of each one of you, you have a copy of this budget sheet. This is 2021- 2022 budget sheet. There's no proposed budget on here. The funds that have been expended through the month of April are on here. That is your budget information right now. What happens on Saturday at the post DEC meeting must be voted on before we put it out. I have 50 copies of that also, with resolutions and stuff we talked about. We came out with a proposed budget. It was in the Legionnaire in May. We had a revision to that because of business that'll be discussed tomorrow and the next day in convention. That is what is in your packets and that is what is in the Legionnaire. It has been a great year. Thank you.

Don Weber

Thank you, sir. Good job. Permanent Finance Committee and the foundation.

Kevin Owens

Please, when you go back tonight and look at this budget, just what's going on, you know next year we're going to have some challenges. Just like every other business, we have challenges. There are opportunities for us to be better and I think we could do better. I know membership is discussed a lot, but it's how we survived, and we need to take that to heart. Just last night, we signed up three people at Forest Grove. Three people. Took about what, 10 minutes? 10 minutes. We had an application.

Kevin Owens

We signed up the mayor, the police chief, and the gentleman that owns Dalton's Winery that we had dinner last night. It's not hard, you just got to ask. As our past commander, Charlie Schmitz would say, "Make something happen." It's all up to you. It's all up to me. We need to get on it. With that, we have a resolution. We need to move some money around in our budget to fill some holes. This resolution, I don't know if you wanted to read all this, or you want me to read the resolve. Judge advocate that we need to read the whole thing and can just read the resolve.

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Gene Hellickson:

You just read the results.

Kevin Owens

Okay. Resolved at \$7,434 excess of The Department of Oregon budget for 2021-22. \$3,000 you transferred to the Past National Commander Department Guest Fund budget line. \$1,000 be transferred to the Oregon Legion College Training budget lines. \$250 be transferred to Training and Development budget line. \$1,000 be transferred to the Alternate NAC budget line. \$500 be transferred to the passenger van budget line. The remainder of \$1,684 be transferred to the Permanent Finance Reserve Fund budget line excess, for the department budget year 2021, and be a further resolved that this resolution be approved upon the Pre DEC in Hillsboro, Oregon on June 22nd, 2022. Take effect and so implemented. As leader, I so moved.

Larry Wittmayer:

Larry Wittmayer, second.

Don Weber:

Chair recognizes first vice for a second.

Larry Wittmayer:

I second.

Don Weber:

Thank you. Can't second until you've been recognized. Any discussion?

Cory Brockmann:

Commander Cory Brockmann, Department Second Vice. Were in Beaverton, Oregon, not in Hillsborough. I would just make a technical correction to that result.

Don Weber:

Thank you. Further discussion, all those in favor of the motion as modified, please signify by saying, aye.

DEC:

Aye.

Don Weber:

All those opposed, nay. Motion carries. Thank you.

Dan Burks

Matter.

Don Weber:

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Yes, sir.

Dan Burks

With it being a resolution, does it not have to be a roll call vote?

Don Weber:

Judge Advocate?

Bob Huff:

That's a resolution.

Don Weber:

Call on the adjective for roll call vote.

Flynn Phillips

Thank you. Roll call vote to move the money. District One Vice Commander, Sue Hughes.

Susan Hughes:

Yes.

Flynn Phillips

District Two Commander, Juan Palacios.

Juan P:

Yes.

Flynn Phillips

District Three Commander, John Morford.

John Morford:

Yes.

Flynn Phillips

District Four Commander, David Applegate.

David Applegate:

Yay.

Flynn Phillips

District Five Vice Commander, Robert Marvin.

Robert Marvin:

Yes.

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Flynn Phillips

District Six Commander is absent. District Seven Vice Commander, Terry Brown.

Terry Brown:

Yes.

Flynn Phillips

District Eight Commander is absent. District Nine Commander, Larry Hill.

Larry Hill:

Yes.

Flynn Phillips

District 10 Commander, Dan Burkes.

Daniel Burks:

In favor.

Flynn Phillips

First Vice Commander, Larry Wittmayer.

Larry Wittmayer:

Favor.

Flynn Phillips

Second Vice Commander, Corey Brockman.

Corey Brockman:

In favor.

Flynn Phillips

Department Finance Officer, Bob Huff.

Bob Huff:

In favor.

Flynn Phillips

Immediate Past Department Commander, Steve Adams.

Steve Adams:

In favor.

Flynn Phillips

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National Executive Committeemen, Kevin Owens.

Kevin Owens:

Yes.

Flynn Phillips

I think we have an approval.

Don Weber:

Motion carries.

Kevin Owens:

The budget in all the packets? And the delegates, is it all...

Bob Huff:

Are you talking about this?

Bob Huff

Yeah, is it in the packet for next year's budget?

Bob Huff:

The proposed is.

Kevin Owens:

District Commanders, looking at that list out there, I looked at the finance committee list for the convention and I know there's a lot of holes in there. If you don't have these people sign, please assign somebody for that commission. This is a committee. This is very important. We're going to discuss some very serious stuff at the convention about what we're going to do with our budget. It's up to you. You're the district commanders. I can't do it. They can't do it. Lynn can't do it. So please, before you leave, look at those lists and put somebody in there. And please also, if you have new delegates that have never been to the convention before, help them out, look at the budget, explain it to them because they will not know what's going on. They'll just look at it and throw it in the bag and call it a day. Please, you're the mentors for your district. I encourage you to help them out. That's the end of the per finance commission report. Commander.

Don Weber:

Please.

Kevin Owens

When you registered today, as the President of the Oregon American Legion Foundation, you all received a ticket for a PUFL. Free. Free PUFL. We want to thank you for your generosity towards the foundation. We want to give back to what you've been doing. Somebody's going to get a PUFL. Again, if you are already a PUFL, we'll give you half of the cash value of that cost that it would be for your Post. Thank you

Kevin Owens

We've got some buckets here, it says Veterans Children's Foundation, as you know, each department passed for the goal of collecting money for the next seven years. We are approximately, I would say a little over 15,000 and we've got about 14,000 roughly, that we're going to turn in at the national convention. But why stop there? We want Oregon to be proud and all of you. These buckets, before you leave today, there's an exit fee. We're not asking you for a hundred dollars. We're not asking you for \$20. Now we'll take that, don't kid you, we'll take that. But I encourage you to take the change out of your pockets. Every day that you come in, these buckets will be around here, and we'll put them around. Put the change in when you come back from lunch. Quarters, pennies, we don't care how much it is. We're not monitoring to you, but we encourage you. We want to collect some money to this weekend so, please do this.

Kevin Owens:

I would say the foundation has been very active this year. We've met every month. We've met every month, except this month, because we were at the convention. Just recently we attended the Hillsborough Hops game. Very productive. Thanks to Cory Brockman that happened to know somebody at the hops or had connection with them. We were able to go there on a veteran's appreciation night. We had a flyover by the Coast Guard helicopter from Astoria. We were interviewed for the big screen on the second inning. Fortunately, they had to interview me, but I don't know it turned out alright. We talked about one of the key issues that we're facing today and that's veteran's suicide. We talked about that. That's why we were there. The message is, be the one. Be the one, you be the one to prevent veteran's suicide. One veteran suicide is too many. Ralph will probably expand on that. He's very knowledgeable. I would encourage you to talk to Ralph about VA&R, veteran suicide. Anything you want to know about veterans, Ralph's the man, that guy knows everything, everything. He might not to say that.

Kevin Owens:

Ralph is very knowledgeable on VA&R. Please listen to his message tomorrow and encourage your members to stay in their seats and not wander off. He has a lot to say that's important and we're going to have a mixer on Thursday. Free to all of you. We're going to have a corn hole tournament. We had one last year. I think it was very successful. We had people that had never played corn hole in their life, won that tournament. We don't allow you to be ringers if you think you're good, Steve Shollenburg

Kevin Owens:

It's 10 bucks to join, to sign up. We expect everybody to sign up. We want you to sign up. It's fun. People laugh. We're having a good time. The best part of it is we're going to have free food and we know how much veterans love free food. Free, that's the key. Come and join that. Patronize the Post and let's support the Oregon foundation because that money gives back to your progress. We give 100%. We don't take money, we don't get paid, we don't get travel money, none of that. 100% of that goes to veterans. Please fill these buckets up. Let's them up every day. It doesn't take much. A dollar quarter penny. So, with that Commander, that's my report and go Yankees.

Don Weber:

I'd like to call on the Judge Advocate to explain the rules of voting.

Gene Hellickson:

Whenever we have a motion or a resolution, to present a motion, you need to be recognized by the chair or in this case, the commander. When he's asked for a second, you just don't say, I second the motion. You must be recognized by the commander and then you can say that you're seconding the motion. When we get into the discussion phase, the only person the person who has an item of discussion talks to is the commander. You do not talk to the person next to you. You do not talk to the person across the table. Everybody gets at least five minutes. One time. It goes around and when everybody that wants to speak has had a chance to speak, if somebody wants to speak a second time, they can. Okay? The other thing is... That made me lose my train of thought. Let me see.

Gene Hellickson:

The roll calls. All resolutions that affect money and other pertinent things require a roll call vote. The reason that this resolution, to move money around, didn't require a roll call vote, that one if it doesn't affect the money or anything like that, we don't necessarily have to have a roll call vote. A roll call vote can be called by any member. I think that was about it. When it comes to the time for somebody who would like to call the question, you do not sit there or stand and just say, question. It's the same thing. You must be recognized by the commander and then you can state that you're calling for the question.

Gene Hellickson:

The commander has the right to not agree to calling the question. If he feels that most of the people or people that really want to speak and haven't had the opportunity to speak, he can call that out of order, until he feels that everybody that wants to speak, can speak. When we go to discussion, one person can't just say, I call the question right away and stop everybody from speaking. We've been kind of sloppy over the years and we need to get back into trying to follow the Robert's rules of order on how we do some of this stuff. Thank you Commander.

Don Weber:

We'll call for the District reports and we're most interested in who your replacement will be for next year. District one.

Susan Hughes:

Susan Hughes, Vice Commander District One. Lou's report is in the book of reports. He is in rehab right now because he had his hip replaced. Next year's District one commander will be me.

Don Weber:

Congratulations.

Susan Hughes:

My Vice Commander is Tim Miller, from Post 119.

Don Weber:

Excellent. Thank you. District Two.

Juan Palacio:

Juan Palacio of District Two. Juan Palacio is District Two. I'll just let you know that our District is now third place. We worked hard and I'm proud to say that we had five Posts that were above 100%. One of

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my Posts, Kaiser Post 17, took itself from zero, all the way to first place. I am proud of Fred Broadwater, are you here? He's a new Commander and I'm very proud of him and what we've done. That's my report.

Don Weber:

Commander next year?

Juan Palacio:

No, no commander. Betty Fish-Ferguson is our new Commander for Second District and we have my Vice Commander, Mike.

Don Weber:

Thank you.

Juan Palacio

You're welcome.

Don Weber:

District Three.

John Moreford:

John Moreford, District Three. My book is... My report's in the book of reports. Dale Jenkins is going to be Commander of District Three next year.

Don Weber:

Say the name again?

John Morford:

Dale Jenkins.

Don Weber:

Oh Dale. Okay.

John Moreford:

That is my report.

Don Weber:

Thank you. District Four.

David Applegate:

Dave Applegate, District Four. My report is in the book of reports. I did put out the word after 10 years in this, I'm expecting someone to step up, but so far going is jumping. However, I will work on that.

Don Weber:

Okay, so that means you're the District Commander next year.

Bob Huff

Absolutely. Yes.

Don Weber:

Thank you.

Bob Huff:

He won by a 100%.

Don Weber:

District Five.

Greg Marvin:

Greg Marvin, District Vice Commander for District Five. Book report has a report that's under my name, but I believe it was done by Lance or your Past Commander. Proud to report that we have seven out of 16 posts that made gold this year. We were in first and second place quite bit of the year. In the last couple three reports, we fell to I think four, but that's not that bad.

Don Weber:

That's because of the excellent work that District One did to jump up quickly.

Greg Marvin:

Our new District Five Commander for next year is John Reish, from Proof County here. District Vice Commander [inaudible 00:49:20].

Don Weber:

Excellent. Thank you. District six, District seven. By the way, we do need to move along here because we need to give them time to set up the room for the opening. So, that's why we need to move right along.

Terry Brown:

Terry Brown, District Seven Vice Commander, the District Commander's report is in the book of reports.

Don Weber:

Thank you.

Terry Brown:

We had a caucus, and we didn't have enough Posts there to have a vote, for the next incoming District Commanders. I'm not sure if the current one stays in place?

Don Weber:

That's right.

Terry Brown:

La-Tee-da. End of my report.

Don Weber:

Thank you sir. Nine.

Larry Hill:

I think we had three posts that made the big time. It's not so bad considering we were terrible. There's a retreat. That's going to be district commander next year. Right here again, okay? Same vice Commander for several years and he's going to stay vice and then he's walking at the end of this year. That's it.

Don Weber:

Thank you, District 10.

Daniel Burks:

Dan Burks, District 10. My report is in the book of reports, just a couple additions. I am very excited. Our Prairie Post 106 have, for the last several years, have now doubled in size and just made its all-time high beating a 1954 record. We're proud of that. We had three of our post mates 100%. I would like to officially say, I'm sorry district one, district two and five, for beating you all as we ended in number one. End of my report.

Don Weber:

By how much was that?

Daniel Burks:

0.3%.

Flynn Phillips

Yeah. It's a nose.

Don Weber:

Thank you sir.

Juan Palacios:

Recount.

Larry Wittmayer:

Yes. I apologize for my phone. I hope you all turn your phones off. Otherwise, throw 20 bucks in that can.

Don Weber:

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We're going to go through the reports from the chairs of the standing commissions Americanism. Do you have anything? There's no requirement for report here.

Cory Brockmann:

Commander. Just point of order. I am not the chair of Americanism commission this year and I don't even know if one was supplied for the book of reports.

Don Weber:

Okay.

Cory Brockmann:

So, I will provide nothing at this time.

Don Weber:

Okay. Convention Commission. I don't think he's here right now. Internal Affairs.

Steve Adams:

My report is in the book of reports, and I have nothing to report.

Don Weber:

Okay. Thank you. Legislative Commission.

Legislative Commission:

No report.

Don Weber:

Thank you.

Legislative Commission:

I tried to find the Fact Act. Couldn't find that acronym either.

Don Weber:

Media Communication Commission.

Flynn Phillips:

No report. Okay.

Don Weber:

Membership and Post activities. No, okay. National Security.

Greg Marvin:

I have here the book of report. It says it has my report and nothing to change.

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Don Weber:

Okay. Thank you. Permanent finance. Okay. Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation.

Bob Huff:

It's in the book of reports.

Don Weber:

Okay. Thank you sir. Employment education.

Bob Huff:

It's in the book of reports.

Don Weber:

Foundation. Good. Do we have any awards? For the Pre DEC?

Flynn Phillips

No, we do not.

Don Weber:

Okay. Unfinished business. We do have, I believe we have four policies that were submitted that we can review at this committee. The responsible person for the inventory accountability is the Adjutant. So, I'll call on him to discuss that.

Bob Huff:

Commander.

Don Weber:

Yes, sir.

Bob Huff:

Since those were all handed out at the last DEC and we were asked to review them and then sent out again, I would make a nomination that they'd be accepted as written.

Don Weber:

Okay. Thank you, sir. There's a motion to accept all four policies as read.

Larry Wittmayer:

Commander. Did you recognize?

Don Weber:

I see you.

Larry Wittmayer:

I second the motion.

Don Weber:

Thank you. Motion second to accept the resolutions as read. Discussion. No discussion. All those in favor, signified by saying, aye.

DEC:

Aye.

Don Weber:

All those opposed by nay. Motion carries. Thank you. That waves the reading of the motions. Is there a motion to pass the standing rules now?

Gene Hellickson:

I can't vote.

Don Weber:

I know you can't vote, but you raised your hand. I thought you had a point of order here.

Gene Hellickson:

No.

Don Weber:

Okay. We have four policies that were read last DEC. They were submitted again this time. If someone would like to make a motion to accept those policies...

Flynn Phillips

We just did. We just did that. You just voted yes.

Don Weber:

No. We've voted not to read the policies.

Flynn Phillips:

Oh, okay.

Don Weber:

Now we can just simply vote on and you're out of order. Steve is already up. Thank you, sir.

Steve Adams:

Steve Adams. As commander, I motion to approve the policies...

Don Weber:

As written?

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Steve Adams:

As written.

Don Weber:

Thank you. Would you like to be recognized for a second?

Larry Wittmayer:

No.

Don Weber:

Okay.

Larry Wittmayer:

Commander.

Don Weber:

Recognized.

Larry Wittmayer

I second the motion.

Don Weber:

Thank you. There's been a motion to second to approve the policies. Discussion. All those in favor, signify by saying, aye.

DEC:

Aye.

Don Weber:

Not opposed, nay. Motion carries. Thank you. Is there any further unfinished business to come before this meeting?

Gene Hellickson:

Commander?

Don Weber:

Yes, sir.

Gene Hellickson:

One thing.

Don Weber:

I probably missed something. Didn't it?

Gene Hellickson:

No. For everybody's information PACT stands for Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins act.

Don Weber:

That's it.

Flynn Phillips:

Yes. Awesome. That's what I said.

Don Weber:

I heard that a dozen times in the last couple of days, but I couldn't remember all those big words. Any new business to come before this meeting tonight? Thank you. Anything for the good of the order? Yes, sir.

Kevin Owens:

Just briefly. I spent a week at Boy State for the first time in 32 years. I've been the member of the American Legion and I've always been the opening or closing, one or the other. I spent a week and I encourage all of you to go at least one day. At least one day. You will see a change in young men and ladies that is, they are awesome. They change your life. They make you feel proud about being an American and they're proud to be an American. I encourage you to go next year and see the change because for people to go there that don't know each other, different cultures, different beliefs, football players, people that are nerdier, like Larry.

Kevin Owens:

For them to come together and have a common thread is amazing. Rob was there and you do see the change at the end of the year. The other thing is, when you're old like us, four-foot beds to get on is ridiculous. Ridiculous. Ask Andy, he fell out of bed. He would tell you a different story, but I fell, going to the class one day and the kids are concerned. So, they came, made sure I was alright. I fell. What a dirtball. It is a parachute. A concrete parachute landing. So, it's not fun. I'd encourage you to go, really. You send kids, we need to send both boys and girls to Boys and Girls State. It's a great program and you will find that they are the future. They are great young men and women. They will humble you beyond belief. There you go.

Don Weber:

Thank you, sir. I would submit that was not a valid five-point landing, as you only had an injury in one location. Not at all five locations that should have made contact.

Kevin Owens:

I had two on the knees, one in the elbows and one in the head.

Don Weber:

Chair recognizes Past National Vice Commander, Past Department Commander, Rob Liebenow.

Kevin Owens:

Can we just forget him?

Robert Liebenow:

I only have two things. First, Kevin has turned from the department of [inaudible 00:58:49] to Humpty Dumpty. Second, if everyone read the agenda that I received today and looked at your white box ticket that says, breakfast is tomorrow. It's not. It's Friday. So, the ticket's wrong and the agenda's wrong.

Bob Huff:

Whoa.

Robert Liebenow:

I talked to Adam, the Post Commander. He said White Tops is Friday morning.

Don Weber:

Okay. Thank you.

Bob Huff:

That's a problem because the cook is coming in tomorrow. We better verify that.

Don Weber:

I've had several people express a misunderstanding of the convention committees. I want to take a minute just to try and explain it a little bit. We have standing committees and commissions that operate throughout the year for the business of the American Legion. Those committees and commissions work throughout the year as a branch of the department executive committee. At our commission every year, we want the opportunity to gather input from the delegates that are coming directly from the post to convention. We create temporary convention committees that mirror our standing committees. We ask the standing committee chairs to chair those meetings and gather input from all the delegates that the posts are bringing to the convention. That is why, on the day that we present awards, the commission chairs will give the reports of those convention committees and they will close those committees at the end of their report. That's the difference between the convention committee and the standing committees. So, if it's still not clear, get with me afterwards and we'll go into it a little bit more than that. Department Adjutants report.

Flynn Phillips:

It's in the book of reports.

Don Weber:

Thank you. Time and place for the next DEC?

Flynn Phillips:

I believe that it hasn't been voted upon, but it is supposed to be in the McMinnville Post 21.

Don Weber:

Negative.

Flynn Phillips:

Oh.

Don Weber:

It'll be on Saturday.

Flynn Phillips:

Oh, you got me. Yeah. There you go. When is it?

Larry Wittmayer:

It's 20 bucks.

Don Weber:

What time is it?

Bob Huff:

What time is it? The Post DEC.

Don Weber:

Oh.

Larry Wittmayer:

I don't know.

Flynn Phillips

It follows the Convention.

Don Weber:

The Post Convention DEC will follow photos of all incoming officers that will be taken, which follows the closing of the Department Convention.

Bob Huff:

To be called by the new Commander.

Larry Wittmayer:

Is that yeah, we have 1:00 PM approximately.

Don Weber:

Approximately, 1,300 hours. We have had a problem gathering the photos. Everyone is here with their Legion business dress on, so please show up 30 minutes before the Post DEC convention to have your photos taken. Thank you. Adjutant preferred the non-answer.

Flynn Phillips:

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Caught me off guard.

Don Weber:

I'd like to call on the chaplain for benediction. Uncover.

Steve Shollenburg:

Heavily Father, we just thank you for being with us for this DEC and we just now ask you to remain with us as we get ready to open our convention, have the opening ceremonies. Father, just thank you for very much for the blessings you have received, that we have received this day. We pray this in your holy name. Amen.

Membership:

Amen.

Don Weber:

Cover. Until we meet again, let us remember our obligation to our country can be fulfilled only by the faithful performance of all duties of citizenship. Let service to the community, state and nation be ever the main objective of the American Legion and its members. Let us be ever watchful of the honor of our country, our organization, and ourselves that nothing shall swerve us from the path of justice, freedom, and democracy. Colors in place, hand salute. Two. I now declare this meeting adjourned. Thank you.

Kevin Owens:

Watch the exit pack.

Flynn Phillips:

Clear your tables.