



American Legion LTC George Franklin “Ben” Aiken Post 407

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LTC GEORGE FRANKLIN “BEN” AIKEN
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DATE: 18 January 2025

COMPILED BY: Post Adjutant, Dennis O’Leary

ATTENDANCE: MEMBERS PRESENT: 4 VISITORS: 1 TOTAL: 5

(NOTE: Our visitor again today is, “Nancy”, the caretaker for Cdr Lawrence.)

Members present were Post Cdr, Allen Lawrence; Adjutant, Dennis O’Leary; Sgt-at-Arms, Raul Romero; and Post Chaplain Hank Braun.

Sgt-at-Arms, Raul secured the meeting room, and the Cdr opened the meeting. Cdr asked if there was a motion to accept the minutes of our January meeting as read. Motion was made to do so by Hank and was seconded by Raul Romero. Motion passed by members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Veteran Affairs & Service: Hank stated, “I’ve had nothing but excellent care at our VA. I’ve had light-headedness for some time now, and after multiple tests, my doctor said, ‘Welcome to old age.’ I’m just a little slow, running on fewer cylinders these days. But, as they say, it is what it is.” Raul stated, “The Audiology Dept Chief, Ms Zuniga, has a very informative four-week class on Wednesdays which lasts about ninety minutes. Just call her to see when the classes begin. (Allen, Hank & Raul all report getting their hearing devices through the VA.)
2. National Security: Cdr stated, “Be aware of your surroundings. And be aware that there are scams out there targeting veterans and senior citizens. If you aren’t sure who is calling or sending you an email, simply block call or delete the email.”
3. Americanism: Cdr reminded members to please wear the American Legion hat while performing activities in town. Cdr stated, “Yes, thank all of you for representing the American Legion when you are involved with these activities. But please remember, do not wear hat or other clothing with the Legion emblem while attending any political event.”
4. Children & Youth: Our school liaison, Manny Romero, was not present today.
5. Membership & Post Activities: Adjutant O’Leary stated, “We now have forty-six paid-up members out of fifty-two on our membership rolls. Thankfully, we have very loyal members.” Cdr stated, “We’re doing much better than most of the other Posts in District 16.”
6. Public Relations: Martin, Manny and Raul are all out there in the community and are heavily involved with veterans.” Raul stated, “I talked with some vets while I was up at the VA inviting them to our meeting today, but unfortunately, no one showed up.” Dennis stated, “I, too, invited a former Marine to our meeting, but he didn’t show up either.”
7. Finance Report: Dennis stated, “Our current balance is \$768.07. And just to remind everyone, our Post receives zero money from membership renewals. We have passed a motion some months ago to change our dues from \$40 to \$50 so the Post will receive some compensation next year.”
8. Legislative: President Trump has been very active, making executive orders, nominating his Cabinet Secretaries and creating a government body to investigate fraud, waste and abuse. And conferring with both allies and adversaries.”
9. Service Officer: Allen stated, “Nothing new.”
10. Hubmaster: Absent today.
11. Historian: Absent today.

12. Sick-Call Relief & Employment: Hank stated, "I've slowed down a bit, but I'm making it ok." Raul stated, "I'm still getting eye shots every month. I did get an increase in my VA disability due to stints and a pacemaker." Allen stated, "With my stroke and other issues, I, too, received an increase in my VA disability." Dennis stated, "I'm doing pretty well; getting stronger, thankfully."

13. Unfinished Business: No report.

14. New Business:

15. For the Good of the Legion: Nothing presented.

Cdr asked if there was anything further to come before the meeting. There was none.

Meeting adjourned at 1100, Sat. 15 February 2025 Note: Next meeting will be at 1000hrs Sat. 15 Mar 25.

Adjutant Dennis O'Leary

Commander Allen Lawrence