

**American Legion Auxiliary Winter Park Memorial Unit 112
General Meeting Minutes**

October 9, 2012

The October general meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112 was called to order at 7pm by President, Marge Berrios. The meeting was opened according to ritual and Marge was granted permission to deviate from the printed agenda as needed.

Members in attendance included:

Marge Berrios

Aunita Padgett

Nell Colbert

Debi Shannon

Nell confirmed that we have a quorum for this meeting.

Nell Colbert reported that the minutes from the last meeting that were emailed to all members. The minutes were also posted on the Unit's YahooGroups site and placed on our unit website. Nell had hard copies of the minutes available at the meeting for review by those who had not received them via email. Aunita Padgett moved (seconded by Debi Shannon) that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert gave the Treasurer's Report showing that we began the month with \$847.82, received income of \$41.53 and had expenses of \$77.66, leaving us with a closing balance of \$811.69 as of the end of the month. Nell reported that we received no additional income and had no expenses since the first of the month. Nell reported that the Treasurer's Report was emailed via the Unit's YahooGroups and was posted on the YahooGroups site. Nell also made hard copies available at the meeting for review by those who had not received the Treasurer's Report via email. Debi Shannon moved (seconded by Aunita Padgett) that the Treasurer's Report be filed for audit. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert shared items of correspondence received this month including: a gift card from Publix in the amount of \$100 for our holiday gift basket project, and the Department Call to Conference packet. Nell also shared the most recent issue of the Department Communiqué. Nell passed around our copy of the letter that we sent to the Orange County East Rotary Club requesting a donation from that organization to support our programs during 2012-2013 and shared the response from the Rotary Club asking her to both make a presentation about the auxiliary at their January 3rd meeting and their request that we complete their grant application.

Nell Colbert shared Information from the Post's Executive Committee meeting held last week, noting that the memorial service for Tim Healy will be held on Sunday, October 14th at 3pm, the Halloween party will be held on October 27th, and the Post's annual fall Yard Sale will be held on November 17th. The Post has asked for our help at the Yard Sale and the Halloween party.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **AEF:** Nell reported that she took \$11.50 out of the piggy and those funds were deposited in the bank.
- **Americanism:** Nothing in the works at this time. It was noted that since we salute the flag at each meeting, we should log this on our end of year report.

- **Cavalcade of Memories:** Aunita noted that she is working on our history book.
- **Children and Youth:** Aunita noted that the Post's Halloween party is on 10/27 from 6-8pm. Nell reported that she has the Halloween safety coloring books and will label them before 10/15. Nell will also have the flyer posted so that it can be stuffed inside each coloring book. Nell will deliver the coloring books to Eastbrook for their Kindergarten class during the week of 10/15.
- **Community Service:** Aunita noted that our traditional fall community service project, our food drive, is not being done this year because she has found that the locations at which we usually place collection boxes won't allow our boxes this year because their corporate offices have decided to have all stores support their own food drive.
- **Constitution and By-Laws:** Our Constitution and By-Laws do not need modification at this time.
- **Education:** Debi reported that when she spoke with Robin at the national convention, Robin noted that the Department would really like units to help spread the word about the scholarships that are available since very few candidates ever apply. Debi will get the information so it can be delivered to the schools when we deliver our Girls State information. Debi noted that the Department awards \$2,000 for 4 year college students and \$1,000 for junior college (2 year) students. There was a brief discussion about National Education Week coming in November. We have budgeted to do baskets for both Cheney and Eastbrook Elementary Schools. It was decided that Nell and anyone else who is available will go to the shopping for the goodies to go in the basket on Tuesday, 11/13 and the baskets will be assembled during our meeting that night. Nell will deliver the baskets to the schools on Wednesday. Nell also reported that we have not yet received the books that were ordered from Books-A-Million for our Reading Rockets project. The store indicated that the books should be delivered by 10/15.
- **Girls State:** Marge reported that she met the Guidance Counselor from one of our high schools and discovered that this lady was a Girls State participant and will fully support promoting this program at her school. There was also some discussion about including Haggerty High School as one of our schools. Marge will contact the 6th District Girls State Chair to see if any other unit works that school.
- **Juniors:** Nothing to report as no one has stepped up to chair this program.
- **Leadership:** Nell reminded everyone about the 6th District ABC School at Post 183 in Fern Park on Saturday, 10/13. Check-in begins at 9am and the class begins at 9:30am. Nell noted that Field Service training will be available immediately following the ABC School.
- **Legislative:** Aunita reminded everyone to watch the Vice Presidential debate on Thursday.
- **Membership:** Nell reported that we still need one more paid membership to achieve 100% membership. While we led the Department for the last 45 days, there are now units that have achieved 100%.
- **National Security:** Marge reported that she has lots of coupons to clip and count.

- **Past President's Parley:** Aunita noted that our next tea at the VA is in February to celebrate Valentine's Day.
- **Poppies:** Marge reported that when she counted the poppies that were in the box we received, she discovered that the box was 100 short. She called the Department and they will ship us the missing poppies. Marge noted that she and JoAnne, if JoAnne is available, will handle the booth in Oviedo on 11/3. Aunita confirmed that she will handle the booth at Sam's on 11/24 and Nell indicated that she will try to get a booth set up at the Walgreens on Howell Branch at Lake Howell during the week of 11/12. Marge reported that Post 243 has asked about making a donation to the unit in exchange for poppies. Aunita Padgett moved (seconded by Debi Shannon) to give Post 243 the requested 86 poppies in exchange for their donation. Motion carried.
- **Public Relations:** Nothing new to report as no PR chair has stepped up.
- **Veterans Affairs and Rehab:** Nell reported that she will work with Cliff Collins at the Legion to get the names we need for our holiday gift basket recipients. Nell noted that we need to set dates for shopping and basket delivery.

Nell and Aunita introduced Ted Costello, the Department VAC Rep, to the membership. Ted came to ask for our assistance in putting on a Christmas party for the VA Clinic residents in December. There was a brief discussion about the kind of activities and food that could be served. Ted noted that the Legion gives him a budget for projects like this one so there would be no cost to the unit. Aunita will contact Natalie at the VA to try to schedule December 1st from 1-3pm.

LEADERSHIP SEGMENT:

Our Leadership segment for the evening dealt with membership and eligibility requirements. During the training segment, Nell showed everyone how to make membership packets that can be carried in a wallet or purse so that we have them available when we meet prospective members in the grocery store, during other community events, etc. Nell suggested that we schedule for after the first of the year another membership luncheon at the Olive Garden like we've done before as this would give us the opportunity to give a brief overview to all of our newer members plus any members we add between now and the end of the year.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Confirm Pending Committee Chairs - Since our attendance was light this month, it was agreed that we would table the discussion about finding chairs for our Juniors program and for Public Relations until December since the November meeting will be jam packed.
- Donation Requests – As noted earlier, we have received a \$100 gift card from Publix and Nell shared that she is working on the grant application for the Rotary Club. Nell also noted that she will also work on a letter to the David Maus Foundation seeking a donation.

NEW BUSINESS:

- New member orientation – It was agreed that we should hold a new member orientation at the Winter Park Olive Garden on Sundays, January 13th at 1:30pm.

- Holiday gift basket shopping – It was agreed that we would meet at the new Publix on SR 426 near SR 417 on 11/6 at 4pm to shop for the holiday food baskets.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Marge reminded everyone about the ABC School on Saturday and Nell reminded everyone about the AEF collection.

After everyone made their contributions to the AEF piggy bank, Debi Shannon offered the benediction and Marge Berrios adjourned the meeting at 8:24pm.

Respectfully submitted



Nell Colbert
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes approved _____

Nell Colbert, Secretary _____

Marge Berrios, President _____