

The American Legion Riders Department of California



For God and Country

DEC Minutes

November 22, 2016

Called to Order - President Mick Sobczak 1900 Hrs

Invocation – Chaplain Gerald Stockert

Pause for MIA - President Mick Sobczak

Pledge of Allegiance - George Smith

ALR Preamble - President Mick Sobczak

Roll Call - Secretary Monique Clemons

Additions to the Agenda –

Approval of Minutes – August, September and October 2016 DEC Minutes
Minutes received by everyone but George Smith he did not receive any emails of the agenda or the financial report Mick advised he should double check is spam folder.
James Adames motioned to accept minutes for all three months as presented
Randy Brennaman Seconded
Motion Passed

Financial Report – Anthony Serio

Current Balance is \$42,545.33 The complete report was emailed to the DEC and committee. With regard to a going forward our budget for next year and three years out there can be no change to the current numbers unless members agree to a Per-Capita increase. Without a basic increase, that in my and others estimations is long overdue, they yearly budget may need to shrink and our yearly donation may need to be examined to ensure we have a plan to fund for years to come.

Line item accounting is another recommendation I am making at this time. In order to best achieve this I feel it is important / imperative that we hire an outside firm to keep our book and provide audits. Given the changes coming, unless we can find a member that is a retired CPA, or accountant, I am not sure how to provide proper guidance and counsel.

With that in mind I have been instructed by my employer to step aside at the convention due to

my new role and the changing regulatory environment. I will be here for as long as it takes to find and fully train staff or a new Treasurer for the ALR. I am not dropping the ball on you but wanted to provide a heads up. Again, I am not leaving until there a full and proper turn over post-convention.

Randy Brennamen Motion to accept the finance report pending audit
James Adames seconded
Motion Passed

Presidents Report – Mick Sobczak

Emails- We send emails out and are not getting responses. Please send a response when we ask for a response.

Committees- Area VPs need to verify that their committee members are still in place so they will be available to represent their area during convention.

Vice President Report- Randy Brennaman

I am working on membership; I have been working with trying to get the membership committee back up and running. I have been sending emails out and have not received answers; part of the problem is the emails are not correct on the website. I have had no responses from some areas at all. Area 1 and 3 is set but nothing from 2 and waiting on more information from 5.

I have been made aware that some chapters are operating outside and independently from their post instead of with their post. We have to work with our post as Legionnaires, sons or auxiliary first and riders second.

Area Reports

Area 1 VP- David George

The Area has been busy we had our Veterans Day parade and also our first Presidents meeting as well. We had two chapter as well as my own attend. Discussed the issues the VP just did and after the meeting we sent out copies of the minutes to all the chapters.

Area 2 VP-Pete Calvert

No Report – concerns about area 2 were voiced. Mick will send an email out regarding the concerns.

Area 3 VP –Ralph Racacho standing in for Ed Chacon

Ed has planes to visit the chapters in the Area things are going well.

Area 4 VP - Vacant

Area 5 VP – Rey Ruiz

No Report

Area 6 VP-Don Marriott

San Luis Obispo had an event for Veterans Day for the first time. It was small but will grow. We had other events for the Marine Corps Birthday also. Jim Oxley is now one of our newest presidents in area 6 and suggested an area 6 ride. We will have a presidents meeting in January on the 14. We are working on the Ramp the block of rooms at the Lexington had sold out but they did go ahead and gave us another block of rooms so if you want a room, make a reservation soon.

Committee Reports

Quartermaster – Patrick Tafoya

Ordered 50 centers so we don't have the problem we did last year during the holidays with them closing. We should be set for orders we receive. I will have a better report at

the next meeting but due to a computer crashing some files have to be rebuilt. If orders need to be done for berets for convention they should be done soon because the quartermaster only brings a few to convention. Jim Oxley is hard at work with getting the website ordering system up.

Convention and Rally – Dee Pittinger

Currently working on a flyer for convention. The Best Western is having some difficulty making reservation for the blocked rooms. Will be calling again tomorrow to work it out. Mick was able to make his reservation. Anthony has concerns because Chapter 31 has not requested the seed money yet. Anthony also said he is will to help with the flyer if Dee can send him the information for it.

Rally – we have had a couple of chapters that have sent letters regarding being interested in hosting the Rally. Mick stated we will vote on the location at the convention.

Terry was on the call and said that Hollister Chapter does have everything done that they need for convention. He also said he will help Dee to get any information she is missing.

Judge Advocate Report – John Bart

No Report

Service Officer – George Smith

Please contact him with any questions regarding benefits.

Safety Committee – Ken White

The ALR safety trophy will be in hand within the week, Chapter 684 is still leading with the most miles. Currently working on the resolution regarding the Safety manual to present at the convention.

Webmaster – Jim Oxley

Created a new search feature to find forms on the website. A table of contents was also added so everything is easily found on the website.

Membership Committee –

No Report

Historian – Jeff Gallagher

No Report

Jr. Past President – James Adames

No Report

Dept. Commissioner – Vince Cole

Thanked everyone for the prayers and good wishes for his wife,

Old Business

No Old Business

New Business

New Chapters – Area 1, Chapter 96

David George motioned to accept Chapter 96

Randy Brennaman seconded the motion

Motion passed

National Commanders Visit -

12/9 -12/18 we need to get out and escort him. Steve Story will be organizing the escorts.

Sick / Memorial – Chaplain Gerald Stockert

Glad to hear Vince Cole's wife is doing better and hope that Jeff Gallagher's father will be better soon. We will be saying a prayer near the end of the meeting for him.

Good of the Riders

Next Meeting Date – 13 December 2016

Benediction - Chaplain Gerald Stockert

Adjournment – President Mick Sobczak 2013Hrs