MINUTES

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1 in DC

Date | Time Tuesday, August 13, 2013 at 6:37pm | Meeting called to order by Unit President Victoria Pridemore

In Attendance

Debbie Chen (Vice President), Victoria Pridemore (President) and Sharon Riegsecker (Secretary/Treasurer)

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Minutes: It was moved that the minutes from the regularly scheduled May 14, 2013 meeting, e-board June 23, 2013 meeting and regularly scheduled July 9, 2013 meeting be approved as submitted without reading. The motion was seconded and passed.

Membership: Unit 1 closed the 2012-2013 membership year with 17 members. For the 2013-2014 membership year, we welcome Lisa Ziehmann!

Update on Fuddruckers: No update. Sharon Riegsecker is working with Fuddruckers to get everything figured out.

Finance Report: The general fund account balance is \$960.31. At our July meeting, the balance was \$669.26. Expenses included \$3.95 for web hosting. Deposits included dues of \$150.00 and a donation of \$145.00 from the first items sold from the post's yard sale items. The poppy fund is at \$0.00. We three outstanding checks written to ALA Department of DC totaling \$43 (2 membership checks for \$14 each written on March 30, 2013 and April 27, 2013; 1 convention delegate fees check for \$15 written on April 27, 2013). Once these checks are deposited, we will reimburse Sharon Riegsecker as they were written prior to establishing our account.

Service Hour Reporting: Members are strongly encouraged to report their service hours monthly. Unit 1 averages 4.25 members reporting each month; since April, Unit 1 members have collectively averaged 49 hours per month.

Unfinished Business

Upcoming Service Projects:

- 1. Washing Vietnam Memorial Wall—VVA Chapter 641's Wall wash for the rest of the year are Saturdays, September 7, October 5 and November 2.
- 2. Honor Flight
 - a. 9/7—SE Florida and Indy—<u>https://Unit1HonorFlightSept13.eventbrite.com/</u>
 - b. 10/5—Orlando and Twin Cities—<u>https://Unit1HonorFlightOct13.eventbrite.com/</u>
 - c. 11/9—West Central Florida—<u>https://Unit1HonorFlightNov13.eventbrite.com/</u>
- 3. Military Spouse Service Project on 9/11 (Coordinated through the DC Office)—The sponsorship of the military spouse employment opportunity has fallen through. More information to follow if any members from the department will be needed.
- 4. Military parent outing/Playseum—Tabled until the next meeting as Lauren Lloyd was not present.

New Business

Revisiting Additional Honor Flights: Unit 1 will collaborate with Team Red, White and Blue, like we did with AmeriCorps Alums in May, to greet veterans from the Florida Space Coast on September 28. Victoria Pridemore is the POC with Team RWB (DC).

Post 1 Member Deployed: A Post 1 member is currently deployed. After discussing possible options, Sharon Riegsecker will email the Legionnaire, to see what we can do for him and his family. Ideas we proposed included sending a care package of items of the servicemember's choice and/or sending a gift card so the spouse could get a manicure/pedicure and provide for a baby sitter. An amount of up to \$100.00 was authorized.

Donations to Annual Funds: Unit 1 will be making a donation of \$1 each, per 2014 member, directly National Headquarters for the Auxiliary Emergency Fund and the Children of Warriors National Presidents Fund.

CRRC for October Drive: Victoria Pridemore will check with the CRRC to see what they need for our October drive.

Announcements

Easter Seal got their grant funding to help veterans get jobs. Projects might be forthcoming. Victoria Pridemore will work to connect them with Final Salute.

American Legion Night with DC United on Saturday, August 24. Tickets are \$29.69. Buy tickets via Eventbrite at: <u>https://post1dcunitedtickets.eventbrite.com/</u>. Tickets must be bought by Sunday, August 18.

National Commander's Testimony to the U.S. Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committees on Tuesday, September 10 at the Dirksen Senate Building, GS-50. Open to all, and you need to arrive by 9:30am.

The Mission Continues is looking for volunteers to pay tribute to firefighters and first responders in conjunction with 9/11 Day of Service on September 7 from 1-5pm. They will be repainting, cleaning, improving the landscape and adding an outdoor break area at the DC Fire and Emergency Services Training Academy (in SE and not easily Metro accessible). To register visit: <u>http://missioncontinues.org/event/9-11-day-of-service-dc-2013</u>

The Corporation for National and Community Service has a candidate for their annual Service Impact Awards that is a veteran, American Legion Auxiliary AmeriCorps alum and past speaker at the ALA's Washington DC Conference. James Casey has been nominated in the Veterans and Military Family category. Voting ends August 14 at 5pm ET. http://2013serviceimpact.challenge.gov/submissions/16307-veterans-and-military-families-americorps-the-mission-continues-for-james-casey

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at the National Veterans Center.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.