

MINUTES

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1 in DC E-Board Meeting

Date | Time Tuesday, October 27, 2015 (by email) | *Email started by* Unit President Victoria Pridemore

In Attendance

Lauren Lloyd (Vice President), Victoria Pridemore (President) and Sharon Riegsecker (Secretary/Treasurer).

Donation of Scarves and Gloves

Last winter, we were one of 20 organizations nationwide that received sets of mittens, scarves and hats from DollarDays. The donation was 60 sets for women and 60 sets for men. We were unable to get them donated before the weather warmed. Now that fall is upon us again, what do we want to do with these items?

We discussed donating half to the Christmas Gift Shop and half to Winterhaven. Given the number, we decided to donate them all to the department for the Christmas Gift Shop. President Victoria Pridemore will take them with her to the November department meeting.

Christmas Gift Shop at the DC VAMC

At present there is no date set for the Christmas Gift Shop., but it's expected to be the first Saturday in December. We will prompt the event like any other service project and see who goes. Secretary/Treasurer Sharon Riegsecker will write a membership donation check (budgeted at \$1 per projected member for the year) for Victoria Pridemore to take to the November meeting as well.

Female Veterans Dues

National Headquarters is waiving the national portion of the dues for new female veterans. The department has decided to waive the departmental portion of the dues for these new members as well. We revisited how to charge new female veterans wishing to join the Auxiliary.

Ultimately we decided to proceed with our decision from the May 13, 2014 meeting. It would be confusing to charge different members different rates and then ask for additional money the following year, so we decided to keep the dues the same, "however the National dues portion (and the department dues portion, if they so decide) will be transferred from general funds to poppy funds."

Online Payments

Department announced they will cut checks monthly for any members that renew online. For months we do not have a department meeting, the checks will be mailed to us.

2015-2016 Department Meetings and Convention

The department meeting schedule for the rest of the 2015-2016 year is:

- Meeting: November 14, 2015
- Meeting: January 23, 2016

- Meeting: March 12, 2016
 - Victoria Pridemore is unable to attend this meeting. Vice President Lauren Lloyd will attend in her absence.
- Convention: June 11, 2016

November Service Project

We identified serving Thanksgiving dinner at the Southeast Veterans Service Center, a co-ed transitional housing facility for veterans, with the HUD Veterans Affinity Group, on Thanksgiving (November 26) from 2:30pm-5:30pm as our November service project.

December Service Project

We identified sorting toys for Toys for Tots as our December service project. Lauren Lloyd will reach out to the Marines to see how we can make this happen in the beginning of December.

Boot Drive for Winterhaven

Last year we were able to donate 24 pairs of new boots for the Winterhaven Stand Down with leftover donated funds, so we discussed if/how we could donate this year. We decided to not put general or poppy funds towards purchasing additional boots for the next Winterhaven, but we will ask our email list if they'd be willing to donate funds directly to this cause. If so, Sharon Riegsecker will Black Friday shop again to make the most of the donations.

Army/Navy Game Social with Post 1

Post 1 Commander Jacob Gadd expressed interested in having a joint Army/Navy Game party. Without further guidance from the post, we decided to host the party at Froggy Bottom Pub, and use our \$5-to-cover-group-appetizers-social model. Sharon Riegsecker will set up the information in Eventbrite, we'll circulate the information and see who shows up. Victoria Pridemore will follow-up with the post further.

#GivingTuesday

Given our social media success last year, we decided to participate in #GivingTuesday (December 1) as an awareness tool. With 4 #UNselfies last year, we discussed having at least 5-10 this year. We will use the same sign that we used last year.

Membership

We talked about our struggling membership numbers and ideas to increase our numbers. We will make a more cognizant effort to recruit new members.