

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

May 21, 2024

The May 2024 general meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 112 was called to order at 7:03pm by President, Marge Berrios. The meeting was opened according to ritual.

Members in attendance included:

Marge Berrios
Terry Berrios
Nell Colbert

Maria Santiago
Debi Shannon

Guests in attendance were:

Bob Colbert, Post 112 Adjutant

Nell confirmed that we have a quorum for this meeting and Marge was granted permission to deviate from the printed agenda should the need arise.

The minutes from the last meeting were emailed to all members. Debi Shannon moved (seconded by Terry Berrios) that the minutes be approved as written. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert gave the Finance Report. Debi Shannon moved (seconded by Terry Berrios) that the Finance Report be filed for audit. Motion carried.

Nell Colbert shared items of correspondence received this month including:

- Department *The Florida Canvas* newsletter
- Unit Membership Credit Report
- Call to Convention packet

Bob Colbert reported on the Post Executive Committee meeting:

- The legion is preparing for Convention
- Bees were found under the back steps under the building. An exterminator has been called and should have the nests gone before the memorial Day program
- Billy Dover is the memorial Day program chair and would like Marge to read the poem "In Flanders Field"
- Billy would also like Auxiliary members to assist with set up and have Poppies available for distribution. Set up starts between 9:30 and 10am on the 27th
- Elections for the Legion are complete – Jim is staying on as Commander; Ted Costello is becoming Vice Commander; Bob is staying Adjutant and Finance Officer; Billy is staying as Chaplain.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Marge called on the Committee Chairs to give their updates if there was activity during the month.

- **Americanism:** The certificate and medal will be presented to our Essay Contest winner from Dommerich Elementary next week.

- **Constitution and By-Laws:** We learned at the 6th District meeting that changes are coming from national. More information may be available at Convention.
- **Education:** We will be presenting Scholastic Achievement medals and certificates at eight elementary schools in orange and Seminole Counties late next week.
- **Girls State:** No word yet as to whether our alternates will be picked up by other units for this summer's event.
- **Poppies:** Marge announced that we will not have a Poppy booth for Memorial Day as she has not been able to reach our contact at Tijuana Flats nor has she been able to reach Madelda.
- **Public Relations:** Nell did a mini presentation at the April Orange County East Rotary meeting and accepted the grant from their foundation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Banner – We received permission from national to use the new branding graphic on our proposed banner. Nell will order the banner from perfect printing as their quote was significantly lower than that from United Trophy.
- Election of Officers for 2024-2025 – Debi presented the slate as suggested by the nominating Committee. The slate was approved unanimously. Our current 2023-2024 officers will remain in place for 2024-2025. Nell will send in the paperwork to Department.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2024-2025 Budget – Nell emailed the proposed budget along with the budget vs actual for our 2023-2024 budget. It was noted that we went over budget on the food items purchased for the Eastbrook food pantry project and the cost of our school medals increased significantly. It was suggested that we go back to just what is on our list for the Eastbrook project and that we reduce our medals cost by presenting bronze Scholastic Achievement medals rather than gold medals, a savings of about \$145 overall or \$9 per medal for each of the 16 medals we need. Terry Berrios moved (seconded by Debi Shannon) that the budget be approved as amended. Motion carried.
- Convention delegates – In that Marge and Nell will be the only ones able to attend the full convention, they were elected to be our delegates. Debi and Laurel will be attending some of the sessions so they will be our alternates. Nell will handle our registration.
- Postage – Nell reminded everyone that postage is going up about July 1st. We will need more stamps for 2025. Nell will purchase before the price increase goes into effect.
- Marge announced that our Unit was recognized at the 6th District Constitutional Conference as one of the few Units who had 100% reporting again this year, and we were cited for our excellent work in all the Auxiliary programs. Marge also noted that Laurel received national recognition for the Post 243 website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS:

- Send service hours to Marge and Nell
- Department Convention is 6/13 – 6/16 at Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista

- Department Workshop is 7/19-7/21 at the Hilton Altamonte Springs
- National Mission Training is 11/16 in Nashville, TN
- National Convention is 8/23-29 in New Orleans, LA
- Fall Conference is 11/21-11/23 at the Caribe Royale Hotel in Orlando

Debi Shannon offered the benediction and Marge Berrios adjourned the meeting at 7:53pm.

Respectfully submitted



Nell Colbert
Secretary-Treasurer

Minutes approved _____

Nell Colbert, Secretary _____

Marge Berrios, President _____