

# **American Legion Post 512**

## **Meeting Minutes**

June, 1,2020

### **I. Call to order**

Brian Andrus, Commander Post 512, called to order the regular meeting of the American Legion Post 4512 at 1907 hours on 6 July 2020 at Post 512, Carmel, CA.

### **II. Roll call**

Roll call of the officers and/or board members was conducted. The following individuals present Sai Fernandez, Richard Connelly, Anastasia Gonzales, Gerry Paratore and Mario Gonzales. A Quorum was present, and the meeting was called to order. Chaplin invocation conducted and POW/MIA flag was posted

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved without corrections.

### **IV. Open issues**

- a) Induction of new member;
  - (1) Sai Fernandez, 1<sup>st</sup> Vise, introduced Raul Sandoval, a retired businessman and veteran seeking membership in the American Legion Post 512. Mr. Sandoval gave a brief summary of his service and the reasons he was interested in the American Legion.
  - (2) A motion was made and seconded to accept Mr. Sandoval into Post 512 and the American Legion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.
  - (3) Sai Fernandez, 1<sup>st</sup> Vise, also indicated that he had 6 additional potential members to interview and process.

### **V. Old business:**

- a) Closure and re-opening of the lounge: Open discussion of the continuing issue of the lounge and it's status vis-a'-vis county and state directives for restaurants and bars during the Covid-19 pandemic. How do we move forward?

- (1) It was noted that the virus was predominately in Salinas and the south county area, having little impact our area. But it was also noted that the bulk of the restaurant work force and labor in our area come from the impacted areas.
- (2) Discussion of our efforts to comply with county/state mandates that allow alcohol to be served only in restaurants in conjunction with food service. It was noted that the food wasn't very good, we didn't have sufficient staffing to run the kitchen with extended hours, members were complaining about having to buy food and some refused. Additionally, compliance with social distancing was an issue as well as wearing of protective masks, (some member refused to wear masks).
- (3) Additional discussion followed about changing the menu to heat and eat food (pizza and the like), are we pretending to be a restaurant to get around the county/state mandates and what would be the potential impact on our liquor license.
- (4) A motion was made, seconded and passed to follow county and state mandates for bars and restaurants. In light of the mandated closure of bars and our inability to comply with current restaurant mandates (outside service only) and issues with enforcement of safety protocols **the lounge will be closed pending county/state guidance on opening bars.**

## VI. New business:

- a) Changes to the by-laws for the Department of California were read and approved.
- b) A discussion of regular monthly SAL meeting followed. It appears these meeting haven't happened on a regular basis. Members wondered if the SAL had a general lack of active members. Several legionaries indicated that they were either current SAL members or were qualified to be SAL members and a discussion of attending SAL meetings, joining the SAL and inviting SAL members to participate in the Legion monthly meeting followed. It was agreed (but no one was assigned) that we would reach out to the SAL and invite them to have member present at the monthly Legion meeting and someone (?) would attend the monthly SAL meetings.
- c) A general discussion of the pricing of drinks in the lounge and it was determined that the guidance of the executive board wasn't followed when drinks were repriced. The pricing will be addressed and adjusted to be in accordance with the board's guidance (action: Paratore)

- d) General discussion of Brian Andrus' (Commander 2020-2021) desire to set down. Brian expressed his concern for a general lack of respect for the rules of the Post; conduct of the bartenders and overall supervision. Richard Conley stated that he thought Brian was doing a great job and wanted him to remain. The general consensus was the Brian should remain as Commander and while things weren't what they could be, they were improving slowly.
- e) Sai Fernandez is looking for a new place to live closer to Carmel. The membership was asked to check with their contacts to help.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Brian Andrus, Commander Post 512, adjourned the meeting at 2025 hours.

Minutes submitted by: Gerry Paratore

Minutes approved by: Approved as read, 4 August 2020, general membership meeting