



THE AMERICAN LEGION – September 2023 Meeting
SSgt Robert C. Melberg Virginia Beach Post 110
P.O. Box 62384
Virginia Beach, VA 23466

Call to Order: The September 27, 2023 meeting of American Legion Post 110 was called to order by Commander, Ron Basso.

Introduction of Guests, Prospective and New Members:

Guests: Jessie Basso, American Legion Auxiliary member

New member (transfer from Post 141) Ron Jacquet introduced himself.

Post Everlasting: None.

Sick Call, Relief, and Employment: Prayers were requested for Sandy Wendell, wife of Historian Bert Wendell who is battling cancer.

Officer's Roll Call: A roll call of Post 110's Officers was conducted, and having a quorum, business was discussed. 10 members were present.

Committee Reports:

- Service Officer: Eric Bell. Absent
- Adjutant Fred Kinkin: Current paid membership renewals for 2024 is 179 vs target of 297 (60%). August ytd volunteer hours were 211 and miles driven was 1,970. Thank you to Ron Basso, Tim Richardt and Bob Russell who manned the Post 110 table at the recent NAS Oceana Airshow. \$33 in contributions were received for the post at the show.
- Finance Officer Bob Russell: Financial status was: \$3,292 in building fund savings account; \$15,398 in building fund CD and \$2,848 in Post Checking account.
- Chaplain Dave Smith : made contact with Bert Wendell to check on status of his wife Sandy who is battling cancer. Has tickets available for the 2nd District Prayer Breakfast to be held at Post 190, Portsmouth on November 4th at 9:30am. Tickets are \$10.
- Sgt. At Arms Jeff Kocab: absent
- Historian Bert Wendell: absent
- Communications Officer Jon Asher - Absent
- 1st Vice Commander: Vacant
- 2nd Vice Commander: Vacant
- Commander Ron Basso: The Commander has tickets for the November 11th Veteran's Luncheon which are available for \$25. Investigating Post 110 sponsoring an American Legion Baseball team; cost is \$6,000. Counselors needed for Boys State in 2024.

Reading of Minutes: The meeting minutes are posted on the vapost110.org website.

Guest Speaker/Special Recognition:

Jessie Basso, member of the ALA and Master Gardener offered various seed packets to members for their 2024 gardens. She also discussed an idea to have the Post work with the new Jones-Cabacoy Veterans Center in Virginia Beach to develop and help maintain a flower and vegetable garden for their residents. The idea will be pursued later this year after the Veterans Center officially opens on November 11th.

Major Topics Discussed

1. A new member incentive of \$30 dues for new members will be in effect until the end of December. This is a \$10 reduction of normal annual dues. Thus far we have two new members this year.
2. The Post will participate in a Veterans Day celebration at OLPH on Friday, November 10th at 10am. Post 113 has been invited to attend.
3. Fred Kinkin summarized current legislation initiatives being supported by the American Legion.
4. A new building committee has been formed for Post 110 consisting of Ron Basso, Jon Asher, Joe Mahalick and Dave Smith. Commander Ron Basso is scheduled to meet with Councilwoman Barbara Henley on September 28th to discuss Virginia Beach city assistance finding a property.
5. Flame of Hope update: Ken Golden provided an update citing that the VB Jaycees (led by Brandon Bledsoe) have repaired the gas line and are working to replace the sconce on the Flame of Hope to get it operational again.

Long Range Goals:

1. Obtain permanent Post Home.
2. Increase active membership participation.
3. Increase number of youth programs sponsored by the Post.

Recently Completed Events:

- Aug 1 – National night out at Fort Story
- Aug 20 – District Planning Meeting at Post 5, Norfolk
- Sep 16 – Air show at NAS Oceana
- Sept 21 – Flame of Hope ceremony
- Sept 24 – 2nd District Fall Conference

Upcoming Events:

- Oct 25 – Post 110 monthly meeting and Post Oratorical contest
- Oct 27-29 – Department Fall Conference at Williamsburg
- Nov 10 – Veterans Day ceremony at OLPH at 10am
- Nov 11th – Veterans Day Parade and Luncheon, Virginia Beach
- Nov 11th – Grand Opening Jones-Cabacoy Veterans Care Center, VB at 2pm
- Dec TBD – Post Holiday Dinner
- Jan 20 – District Oratorical Contest at Post 327, Norfolk at 10 am

Good of the Legion: Rick Jones shared that a Navy veteran coworker had committed suicide recently. Rick reminded all about the Legion's "Be the One" campaign and to be aware of the signs of depression that could lead to suicide.

Building Fund 50/50 Raffle: Won by George Schmidt who donated proceeds to the building fund.

Next Monthly Meeting: Wednesday, October 25th at VFW 392 Post located at 2408 Bowland Parkway, Virginia Beach. **START TIME 7PM.** .

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by:
Frederic M. Kinkin
Post Adjutant
American Legion Post 110