

**David F. Lilley, Post 14,  
Puerto Vallarta and Banderas Bay  
The American Legion, Department of Mexico**

**Executive Committee Meeting, 5 June 2014**

**M-I-N-U-T-E-S**

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:10 a.m. by Commander Dennis Rike, who also gave the Invocation in the absence of Chaplain Janson. There was a moment of silence in respect for the flag. Our host was Sea Monkey.
- II. **Member Introductions:** Ron Abbe, Jim Brockway, Steve Favro, Ed Griffin, Russ Mills, Jon Murphy, Ken Ragatz, Dennis Rike, Nick Scott, and José Vega. José was raised in Minnesota and served in the North Dakota Army National Guard.
- III. **Approval of Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting of 1 May 2014:** Dennis Janson had informed the undersigned that there was an error in the last line at the bottom of the first page, that where it says that the family had been paying \$50,000 pesos per month for Ken Maloney's support in the rehabilitation facility here in Puerto Vallarta, before his return to the United States, it should have said \$15,000. It was **MSC to approve the Minutes, as corrected.**
- IV. **Committee Reports:**
- A. **Finance Committee:** Ed Griffin reported no change.
- B. **Community Relations:** Dennis Rike reported that there had been a question about how projects are chosen, and he gave a short explanation. The important distinction is that community relations projects do not come out of membership dues, which are Post 14 funds. Our own Post 14 funds are used exclusively for veterans' needs. Projects have to have special donations or funding. If someone identifies a need, the money has to be found. It may come from special fundraising efforts, private donations, or our raffle proceeds.

At the *Aurora* playground we got approval to build some workout benches for young guys, many of whom had helped us work on the playground. We've contributed some weights also. At *Corazón de Niña* we have painted the bazaar room. We had the funding for the paint, as well as the volunteers. We are looking at weather proofing for the ceiling, and flower boxes in which the girls can grow vegetables.

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Individuals wishing to send money to Post 14 may do so by visiting [www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com). Register to enter the site. Then type in [americanlegionpost14pp@gmail.com](mailto:americanlegionpost14pp@gmail.com) (all small letters). The page will ask for your paypal account or, if you don't have one, your credit card number.

- C. **Membership:** Ron Abbe reported that Post 14 and the Department of Mexico are both doing well.
- D. **Chili Cook-off:** The Navy League is paying \$2,000 pesos for the certificates of appreciation for the sponsors.
- E. **Busca Un Amigo:** Questions are being raised about non-payment of *IMSS* for employees. Some Board members are concerned about this, and may be leaving the Board.
- V. **Old Business:**
- A. **Memorial Day/Norm Deveraux:** The Memorial Day ceremony at Steve's Bar went well, as did the social and the memorial for Norm Deveraux, all on 26 May. Dennis Rike bought a PA system for \$2,800 pesos, which the Post now has available, and which was used for the 26 May events. Dennis read a nice note from Norm's sister-in-law, thanking the Post for its support, and the text of that note is at the bottom of these minutes.
- B. **First Vice Commander Position:** This position had been left vacant at the time of the April election, out of respect for Norm Deveraux who had been First Vice Commander at the time of his passing. Dennis Rike appointed Nick Scott to the position, pending ratification by the Membership at the regular meeting on 17 June.
- C. **Senior Cards:** The card, which offers significant discounts to Mexican citizens over the age of 60, is also available to non-Mexicans who live here with the appropriate resident papers. It is now available at the Jalisco State office building in *Fluvial*. Persons wishing to apply must have: (1) Copy of their birth certificate (although it does **not** have to be translated into Spanish); (2) FM-2, FM-3, or equivalent resident document; (3) Passport; (4) Proof of residence, i.e., water, electric, or telephone bill; and (5) 2 color fotos. The size for the fotos is "*Tamaño Infantil*," which means baby or infant size, and these can be easily obtained at *Farmacia de Guadalajara*. (Note: Individuals who are Mexican citizens can use a Mexican passport or electoral credential (I.F.E.) in lieu of the resident document.) Shortly the full procedure will be written up and linked to the Post 14 Web Page.
- D. **Flags:** We have a Post flag and an American flag. Irma was going to get us a Mexican flag, the same size as the American flag.

## VI. New Business:

- A. **Date of July Executive Committee Meeting:** At the 17 June Membership Meeting, we will consider changing the date of the July Executive Committee Meeting from Thursday, 3 July to Friday, 4 July. This would be a one-time change, just so that we can have our meeting on the U.S. National Holiday.
- B. **Request from Navy League:** We need to finalize our new logo for the Toys for Tots golf poster. We need to put our membership meeting time and place on all our posters in the future.
- C. **Change at D.I.F.:** Our main contact has left, which is a loss for us.
- D. **Norm's Bequest:** Norm's family offered his motorcycle to the Post. We sold it for \$30,000 pesos. Two or three thousand pesos were used for the microphone and speaker and the publicity for Norm's service; \$27,000 pesos will go into the treasury, 50% for veterans' benefits and 50% for general expenses, community relations, etc. The family gave the truck, which is only worth about \$2,000 U.S. dollars and insured until mid-July, to Commander Rike, and suggested that it also could be used for Legion business, thinking about our Community Relations Projects. Two options were discussed: (1) the Legion figure out a way to legalize the truck, perhaps with help from *I.J.A.S.*, pay insurance, maintenance, gasoline, etc.; and (2) Commander Rike legalize the truck, pay all costs as shown above, but when the time comes to sell the truck, he would keep the proceeds. The main use for the truck would be Community Relations Projects. It was also noted that an American Legion logo will be placed on both doors. After discussion, option (2) was considered in the best interest of Post 14, but a final decision will be made at the 17 June 2014 Membership Meeting. The family wants the truck kept running, in honor of Norman, rather than being sold. It was **MSC to authorize Dennis Rike to order the logo to be put on the doors of the truck.** There was some confusion about Norm's computer and printer, which the family donated to us. The computer was actually Ron Abbe's, and it went back to him. Norm's clothing was donated to charity.

- VII. **Next Meeting.** The next Membership Meeting will be at 11:00 a.m. On Tuesday, 17 June 2014, at Steve's Sports Bar. The next Executive Committee Meeting will be at a location and on a date (either 3 or 4 July 2014) to be announced.

**VIII. Adjournment.** Dennis Rike gave the Benediction, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully,

(s) Russ Mills, Adjutant

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**Text of Note from Norm Deveraux's Family**

Just wanted to let you all know we arrived home safe last night . . . And to thank you all for all the HELP and SUPPORT over the last month. You are all just as AWESOME as we thought. Our time in P.V. was so relaxing and comforting and we are so lucky to have met you all and now have you as family. Maru, please pass this on to the owner of the condo and give them our THANKS. Love to all and keep in touch. Darwin, Deana, Troy, ReNia, Gwen, and Lew & Majel.

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