

Navy League Minutes 3 Feb 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Miltenberger and guests were welcomed: Capt Ron Drew, Norm and Myrna Cahill, Tom Clackalac, and Dennis Shewberg. New member Ron Abbe was welcomed. Forty nine members and guests were present.

Dick Owens moved and Joy Johnson seconded that the minutes of the last meeting be approved. The motion passed.

Jim Brophy, Treasurer, reported a balance of 137,743 pesos in the bank. The split between Navy League and Toys for Tots will be reported at the next meeting. Bunny Ribbs moved and Carlos Fregoso seconded that the report be approved. The motion passed.

Old Business:

Laura Joachin requested signatures of all attending. A complete roster of all members is needed for the State of Jalisco eligibility for charitable matching funds.

Toys for Tots Silent Auction: much was learned from the problems encountered with this years' auction. To avoid any problems next year, we will show all the qualifications of gifts being auctioned.

Toys for Tots Golf Ball Sales: we are still trying to make a deal with one of the golf clubs to sell the practice balls left over from the Taylormade tournament.

ComRels: Bill Clark reported that the ship due this month has been reassigned and will not be coming. Next Comrels are scheduled for Feminil and Las Mojoneas. Bill said we always need suggestions of future Comrels because planning needs to be done beforehand.

Norm Yellowlees reminded all that Local Dues of 200 pesos are being collected and that National Dues can be renewed online at www.navyleague.org.

The "Old Salts" statue was once again brought up. The City allegedly has stored the 8 ton statue that was at the former park near the Naval Museum . Capt Ron Paul reported that a petition, signed by some Navy League members, was delivered to the city office responsible. He would like to see the Statue of the Three Mariners reinstalled as a Peace Memorial for all Mariners lost at sea. Jose Guerrero has been asked to check with City Hall to try to find out where it is.

Fred Piontkowski's report on the playgrounds was read:

Guamuchil, Nayarit: lost a retaining wall in the summer rains, the Municipio needs to replace it.

San Vicente, Nayarit: the grommets on the soft swing seat being tested failed; the Navy League/Toys for Tots Plaque is not in place yet.

Aurora , behind Liverpool : a swing set has been added by someone, perhaps from our storage area with DIF (with the city).

San Esteban, Pitillal: is being kept meticulously, the NL/TFT Plaque is not in place yet.

New Business:

Donor Recognition Plaques: In Bill Semeyn's absence, Norm Yellowlees and Clemente Celis offered to get the job done. The process is that Josefina prints the certificates and they are framed at Memo's for a good price of around 50 pesos each and then delivered to the donors. Discussion was held on whether it is cost beneficial to frame all the certificates, for instance, in the case of a breakfast donation of \$150 pesos. Several alternatives were offered: laminate the certificates for the lesser value donations, deliver the certificate in a nice paper portfolio, develop a sticker that can be updated every year for recurring donors. Also a suggestion was made that perhaps these plaques are not always displayed because the business runs out of room on their walls.

Bunny Ribbs moved and Bill Clark seconded that frames be delivered to the \$500 pesos and up donors. The motion passed. In conjunction with this discussion, Irv Readerman reminded all that the restaurant discount process of hanging a plaque agreed upon a while ago has not been done. A solution might be to resolve both issues with the one visit. Norm solicited help to get the jobs done. Irv Readerman volunteered. Bill Semeyn reportedly designed a Discount Plaque that will be used for both Navy League Members and visiting Active Military members.

Brock Squire: each year, Brock is asked to solicit his clients for contributions to Toys for Tots. This year the process brought in \$5750 US. Each donor will receive the Press Releases, photos and a personal letter they can use for evidence of Tax Donations.

Gourmet Dinner: Laura Joachin and Irv Readerman reported that only two places were left for the dinner at Trio's.

Next Playgrounds: Bill Clark, Fred Piontkowski, Laurie Ailworth, Laura Joachin and Kelly Trainor met to review sites in Nayarit. The probable next sites are: Las Mojoneas and El Colomo. We need to find out from DIF where our few pieces left over from other sites are stored.

Staffing: we need a Secretary. We also need a Publicity person. Most of the Toys for Tots publicity was placed in the Spanish language newspapers by Josefina or DIF, and we lost opportunity for timely English newspaper coverage. We are also losing good PR for any Comrels. If you can help in any way, even partially, please contact Jeff.

Fun Stuff: Capt Ron Drew needs a Santa Claus replacement to come forward. He is CEO of the Single Moms of Vallarta and gave a comic report on the foster children he is helping to support.

Each year he dresses as Santa at the Soriana in Pitillal and collects funds for his program. He says he is getting too old for the job as it takes him months to recover from the "little

kid” germs that he gets from lifting tons of kids onto his lap each year. Jo Liggett moved and Jerry Lafferty seconded that Dr Irv Readerman become the replacement. The motion passed unanimously except for one dissenter....Irv Readerman.

Ann Lafferty, Secretary of the Day