

Los Angeles County Council  
General Meeting – Candidate Night  
April 3, 2026  
Norwalk Post 359

1. Meeting called to order with ritual at 7:00pm by Commander La Sala, with a quorum being declared. 19 Post 4 District
2. Roll call of officers by LACC Adjutant
3. Introduction of distinguished guests by LACC Commander. NEC, Dept. Chaplain, PDC Van Kuran, Candidates, Judy Leonardi – Baseball Chair, PNVC Higuera. Denise Conrad PDP Ohio,
4. No Reading of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, as they are posted on the LACC Website. Motion to approve the actions of the Executive Committee by Alex Herrera. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Fuller. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Bravo Zulu to Post 359 commander for hosting and hospitality.
6. Reports:
  - A) Service Officer Steve V. Ramirez
  - B) Adjutant Robert C. Brown
  - C) Treasurer Gil Soto
  - D) Judge Advocate Hugh E. Crooks Jr.
  - E) Sgt-at-Arms Manny Vital
  - F) Chaplain Dave Whalen
  - G) Vice Commander for Women Rosio Palmero
  - H) Vice Commander Area 4 George Aguilar
  - I) Vice Commander Area 6 Auggie Galaviz

District Commanders:

1. District 17 Alex Herrera
2. District 18 Sam Cafiero
3. District 19 Karl Wilvert
4. District 20 Johnnie McDowell
5. District 23 Gregory Tayler
6. District 24 Kevin Niles

LACC Vice Commanders:

1. District 17 Stuart Chan
2. District 18 Irvin Flores
3. District 19 Fernando Gallardo

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 4. District 20 | Larry Van Kuran |
| 5. District 23 | James A. Hadley |
| 6. District 24 | Melissa Orduna  |

Executive Committee:

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. District 17 | Johnny Harris    |
| 2. District 18 | Dago Perez       |
| 3. District 19 | Angelo Maldonado |
| 4. District 20 | OPEN             |
| 5. District 23 | James H. Wilson  |
| 6. District 24 | Jacob O'Meara    |

**Service Officer Report:** Continued support for State Assemblyman Archuletta in Downey. VSO Romero has attained Level 2. Have an office in Long Beach, Karl Oakman will represent LBVA. Will cover SGV, Long Beach, East LA, West LA & Antelope Valley. Read Federal State Code 10 & 38. Written report submitted online.

**Adjutant:** No report – All reports will be posted on the LACC website. I need contact information for all officers for the website & upcoming LACC Roster. May meeting is slated for May 8<sup>th</sup> needs to be May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Finance Officer:** Financials are not available tonight. Will announce at Executive meeting and then post online. Need to change address for Storage Unit. Discrepancy about the \$1000 loan to District 19. Need the minutes from November 2025 meeting.

\$1,588,317.73 adjusted asset total per February report.

**Judge Advocate:** No report

**Chaplain:** Sick call : No report. Post everlasting: Post 288 Fred Knittle D20

**Area 4 Vice Commander Report:** No report

**Area 6 Vice Commander Report:** 6th Area caucus April 11<sup>th</sup> at Camarillo Post 741. Need to assist Helmets for Heroes. Need to update by laws every 7 years. Post Data Reports due April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Vice Commander for women:** No report

**District Commander Reports:**

District 17 – No report

District 18 – SAL National Commander & National President visit to Post 180 & 790 in March. Report will be online.

District 19 – Resolution to revoke charter of Post 27 was presented at DEC. \$1700 donation to H4H. Raised \$300 for suicide prevention. Elections coming up. Report online.

District 20 – Attended the DEC. Membership warrior pin for 2 new members. Fill the forms and get the pin. Post 150 Burbank is off suspension.

District 23 – No report

District 24 – No report

**LACC Vice Commanders:**

District 17 – No report

District 18 – No report

District 19 – Project respect food distribution at Norwalk Post 359. Mindset Mondays via Zoom.

District 20 – No report

District 23 - No report

District 24 - No report

**LACC Executive Committee:**

District 17 – No report

District 18 - No report

District 19 – Bus trip coming in May. Lakewood post Hosting a Kentucky Derby on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Area 4 Award Celebration at Proud Bird in LA. Passed out Crayons for all Marines.

District 20 - No report

District 23 - No report

District 24 - No report

**Committee/Commissions:**

**Hall of Fame: Sam Cafiero** – Plaques are ordered for current and past inductees. May 1<sup>st</sup> is HOF Night.

**Finance Commission:** Payroll was not accepted by ADP. Need to add funds to account. \$15k check was returned for NSF.

**Boy's & Girl's State** – JR Duarte Did not participate this year. Will bring back next year.

**Membership: Manny Vital**

Department made goal of 88.62%. We are 47<sup>th</sup> in Nation. Next target is 95% in April. May 13<sup>th</sup> is the cutoff deadline for 100% awards. Districts should hold revitalizations.

**Resolutions: Scott Sinclair** – No report

**Sons of the American Legion** – Jesse Bradshaw. National Commander visited greater LA area. Membership is up and doing great.

**Personnel : Larry Van Kuran** – In process of bringing on new Adjutant. Job description coming and job responsibilities.

**Baseball:** Legion Baseball fundraiser May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Seal Beach. \$1250 for a table. Julie will come and speak to us about sponsorship. A donation of \$ 220 was made to Legion baseball on behalf of LACC.

**Commander Report:** Next month meeting is Hall of Fame night. We will recognize all inductees. Speaker next month. Hector. Audit will be next month. Will be campaigning this weekend.

**LACC Website:**

All documents will be posted on the website. Flyers for Post events. Hall of Fame, Officers. Scott Sinclair will work with Dave Mushinskie to set it up.

Documents – Events – Officers – VSO Contact info. – HOF

**Special Presentation** by Judy Leonardi – Legion Baseball.

**Old Business:** Was the wreath sent for Jere Romano? No. Motion to put \$200 credited towards the Jere Romano scholarship fund by Jim Higuera 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sam Cafiero. Motion passed unanimously. Will refer to instructions online for donations.

**New Business:** Long Beach peer program feed veterans. They are in need of food and funds. A non-budget Motion to donate \$500 to Long Beach VA Peer Program food pantry by Fernando Gallardo. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karl Wilvert. After much discussion, Motion was defeated.

5 minute recess.

Motion to rescind the motion from March 18, 2026 approving \$300 a month for 6 months donation for hygiene items for WLAVA by Larry Van Kuran. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Higuera. After much discussion motion was defeated.

**Good of the Legion:** May 21<sup>st</sup> @ Smith Park @ 6:00pm Purple Heart Ceremony. Mindful Veteran Project via Zoom April 15 @ 11:00am. Post 252 Anniversary @ Post 314 Hawthorne. Past Dept. Cdr. Foxworthy April 10<sup>th</sup>. Sacramento Valley Cemetery is family only. St. Helena Post will host reception. Bring hygiene items to future meetings. Sam is a public notary if you need his services. Fundraiser for JR Duarte May 9<sup>th</sup> 4-8pm @ Post 180. Thanks to all that showed up to Jere's funeral. May 16<sup>th</sup> Celebration of life for him at Post 43 from 10-2:00pm. 11,885 surviving WW2 veterans in California. Duffy Boat rides for Female Veterans on June 6<sup>th</sup> in Long Beach. Post 359 will have a new Chapter. April 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the Post 291 muster. Centennial celebration for Post 280 November 21<sup>st</sup>. Coins available for \$10.

\$6 fine collected.

**Candidate Night:** Candidates spoke about their lofty goals, wants and desires.

Next LACC Executive Meeting will be April 15<sup>th</sup> @ BHPH @ 6:00pm.

Next meeting May 1<sup>st</sup> Post 359 Norwalk. 7:00pm HOF Night

No further business to come before the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm by Commander La Sala.

Respectfully submitted

Scott Sinclair

LACC Assistant Adjutant