

NALC BRANCH 421
January 11, 2024
General Branch Meeting

- 1) The regular branch meeting of Alamo Branch 421 was held on January 11, 2024 via ZOOM virtual meeting and in person. The meeting was called to order by Louise Jordan at 7:00 pm.
- 2) There were 54 members in attendance in person and 25 on zoom.
- 3) Invocation - Burnie Miller
- 4) Pledge of Allegiance - Jim Ruetze
- 5) Louise Jordan called all incoming officers in front of stage. Mary Pardo was excused due to a family emergency and will be sworn in during the February General Branch Meeting. Louise Jordan then called Richard Gould up to swear in the new officers.

President	Homer Hernandez
Vice President	Esteban Ramirez IV
Recording Secretary	Dennis Alltop
Financial Secretary	Cornelia Lashley
Treasurer	Jose Rodriguez
Assistant Recording Secretary	Kevin Welch
Sgt-At-Arms/Assistant Treasurer	Alex Alcorta
Trustee	Rigoberto Hidalgo
Trustee	Gerarado (Jerry) Garcia
Trustee	Raul Reyes Jr.

- 6) Richard Gould had the pleasure of introducing your new president Homer Hernandez. Homer Hernandez thanked all the members for their support and votes.
- 7) Roll Call - Dennis Alltop
 - a. All members were present except Mary Pardo who was excused.
- 8). Homer Hernandez appointed Dan Torres as Director of Retires. Dan Torres accepted the appointment. Richard Gould then swore in new Director of Retires Dan Torres. Homer Hernandez presents Richard Gould with a plaque in appreciation for his hard work and dedication for the NALC union.
- 9) Reading of Official Communications - Dennis Alltop
Martin Luther King March – January 15, 2024
Reading of Christmas Cards
- 10) Letter Carrier Political Fund – Anthony Mitchell

Explained purpose of Carrier Political Fund and how to sign up.

Louise Jordan – Asked Anthony to explain t-shirt she was wearing. At the last National Rap

came up with t-shirt that says up yours, meaning up your political contribution.

11) Application for Membership – Esteban Ramirez IV

a. There are 1195 active members, including 5 signed up but not on the roster.

There are 444 retirees and 5 that have not submitted their 1189. 9 new members.

11) Unfinished Business – Carlos Harris Beacon Hill follow up to article 10 charge.

Esteban Ramirez IV selected a committee Dan Torres Chair Person.

Abraham on line follow up on LWOP status. Dennis Alltop working on it, to get back with him on it the following day.

12) New Business – Carlos Harris Beacon Hill fellow carrier passed away at Laurel Heights. Carlos Harris made a motion to take up a collection to purchase an arrangement for deceased carrier.

2nd. Richard Gould

Discussion – Dan Torres Retired understands the motion, but it's his understanding that the branch gives every member or immediate family member a bible. Said that we should continue to give a bible and that the station take up a collection for individual, or that we could take up a collection here tonight.

Tony Boyd Retired – against the motion. Said that most of the carriers at the stations are pretty generous with regards to making a donation.

Joseph Bosin Retired – Last 30 years Branch 133 has always done a wreath.

Carlos Harris Beacon Hill – should contribute more then just a bible to show support for individual and family.

Tony Boyd Retired – Understands Carlos point of view. But past presidents including self have given bibles out personally to the family at the funerals. An that if we start doing something different and miss a funeral someone might get offended that they didn't receive the same treatment.

Steven Ross Thousand Oaks – point of information that as Dan Torres brought up we already have a budget set aside for this type of situation.

Bible might not necessarily be the right choice.

Raul Reyes North East Annex – agreed with Ross because individual might not have the same religious belief that we do.

Nancy Feldt Retired – Given out the bible for 20 years never had one rejected.

Cornelia Lashley – Not everyone may want a bible is there anything else we might be able to give the individual?

Burnie Miller Retired – We have all kinds of bibles, they're not specific to just one religion.

Louise Jordan – Went and got examples of the current bibles that are given away to show everyone.

Pamela Graham Thousand Oaks – received a bible when her mom passed and was thankful that the union thought that much of her to do that. What we do at Thousand

Oaks, we always take up a collection. That's how we send a wreath, give money or whatever. Doesn't think it should be the whole union, just the stations.

Richard Godfree Retire – call the question

Homer Hernandez – Motion was to buy a floral arrangement for a member who passed away from Laurel Heights.

Vote Was taken No's have it.

13) Reports of Special Committees

Dan Torres, AFL-CIO. As I reported last month the November and December meetings were combined at the end of November. Just want to remind the delegates for 2024 to attend the meetings. Would be nice for them all to attend the next meeting January 24, 2024.

Phil Jordan Neca Social and Recreation Committee. Talked about sending Fiesta Texas flyers out to members Fiesta Texas event on June 9, 2024.

Members outside of San Antonio make up the majority of people helping to fund our Christmas dinner. Price to be around \$60.00 compared to about \$150 per family.

14) Ernest Gonzalez Beacon Hill – Make a motion to start a social media committee.

Joseph Blancarte Retired 2nd. Motion

Dan Torres Retired - Nominate Ernest Gonzalez to lead team.

Richard Gould Lockhill Station - Against it as is.

Steven Gross Thousand Oaks - Against motion.

Esteban Ramirez IV - Agreed with Richard against motion

Matthias Dearsyne Hackberry Station – don't committees have to be paid and where's that going to come from?

Raul Reyes North East Annex – in favor of motion. Need to have the committee to be able to determine what is true and not true.

Louise Jordan Thousand Oaks – Call question

Richard Gould Lockhill 2nd.

Vote on question – Yeah or Neah

Neah wins

15) Sgt-At-Arms/Assistant Treasurer - Alex Alcorta close sign in sheet and login for zoom 8:08.

16) Joseph Blancarte Retired – Make a motion to create a special Committee for Veterans made up of 5 people, chair person David Meed to help assist Veterans with questions regarding wounded warrior leave and other questions veterans might have. David Meed has volunteered to be the chair person on that committee.

Richard Gould 2nd.

Dan Torres Retired – Most committees aren't paid. It's a great idea but committee should be volunteer.

Jim Rutzie – in appropriate to call a question while there is still a discussion going on. You have to have a motion and a second before you can start a discussion on a motion.

Dan Torres Retired – understands what Jim Rutzie was saying but you can parliamentary procedure states you can have debate just by asking. The previous

question and that speaker may not be interrupted, it must be seconded and is not debatable not amendable it takes two thirds vote which I don't think we've been counting.

Louise Jordan Thousand Oaks – I just like to say when we are selecting committees to represent the branch I believe it should be people that attend the branch meetings and are involved in the branch.

17) Esteban Ramirez IV – Good of the Association & Improvement of the Service Burnie Miller, talked about the NALC Health Plan page 10 of the timely messenger.

Homer Hernandez asked all stewards to stand up, was 11 present and 15 on line. I want to appreciate each and everyone of you for being a steward. He went on to say we need more help, would like to have a steward at every station.

Collected \$88 for the Ted Carter fund.

Homer Hernandez talked about ECOMP setting up a class so people can come learn about it and how to fill out the information on line. He also talked about voting with the up coming election, how important it is to get out there and vote.

Jose Rodriguez Beacon Hill Talked about NALC Region 10 Active Letter Carriers Retirement Seminar Austin Branch 181 Hall 601 Williams Street Austin, Texas 78752. Sunday, January 21, 2024. 10:00 – 3:00.

Heather Calhoun North East Annex – talked about department of labor and how we are supposed to get CA-17 from our supervisor. No matter how many times she asked for one she doesn't get one. She has to fight with them to get a CA-17. Homer Hernandez said we will be fighting back. She said the supervisors and managers aren't doing their job.

Homer Hernandez – talked about the up coming cold weather, take care of your pets, take care of yourself.

Richard Gould Lockhill – talked about a lot of moving part in the MBA office. Shawn is the right person for the job. Any issue that comes into that office he has someone on top of it. We have him as an advocate in the MBA office and one of the best Richard has seen. Not to take anything away from the previous MBA's, they were all good. I'm really proud of the job he is doing. If you see him, thank him for the job he is doing.

Richard thanked the previous administration for all the work that they have done. It's not easy running a branch and I think we should give them a hand for their hard work.

Richard is really proud of being part of this branch and committed to staying a member of this branch. We have one of the strongest and best branches in Texas and New Mexico. Asking those have served to give advice to new officers make sure the branch continues to run smoothly. Thanked Tony Boyd for being his mentor and helping him get to where he's at and to give him a hand. Thanked Anthony Mitchel and encourage members to sign up for the political fund. Article 43 allows a judge or congress to take away our rights as carriers. Recognize Matthias Dearstyne he has been picked to be an arbitration advocate. Lastly thank Homer Hernandez for his award and all the branch has done for him.

Cornelia Lashley – talked about the financial report is on the back table if anyone wants a copy and has any questions. Any additions or corrections? Can I get a motion to accept the financial report?

Louise Jordan, second Tony Boyd.

Esteban Ramirez iV just want to thank Louise Jordan she taught me a lot. I'm sure I will be calling her with questions. Nice that we have returning stewards.

Homer Hernandez motion to Adjourn Richard Gould 2nd Tony Boyd

Raffle Winner – Kevin Welch \$42.00