

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
22ND DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
POST 654
3105 CAMPBELL ROAD
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77080
August 9, 2020**

The meeting was called to order in the usual manner at 1400 by Commander Thomas.

All Officers were present except for the Chaplain, Assistant Sgt.-At-Arms and the Historian. Seven Committee chairs were not in attendance. See Roll Call Sheet. Posts 316, 319, 391, 416, 594, and 596 were not represented. There were 14 District members in attendance.

Minutes of last Meeting. There was a motion by Adjutant Mitchell to accept the minutes as posted on the web site. Seconded by Vice Commander Woodstrom. Motion passed.

Commander Thomas introduced distinguished guests.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Vice Commander Woodstrom reported that (2) Posts had already exceeded that 50% goal for September. Posts 596 with 81% and Post 52 with 76%. He also challenged the Posts to different venues to raise funds in the midst of the pandemic crisis. His written reports reflects particulars.

Commander Thomas addressed the numbers needed by each Post to achieve the 50% for September. He announced that door hangers he had to assist in recruiting. 22nd District 8th in the Dept. He needs Post Certifications from Posts 316 and 416. He has provided spread sheets on potential members in the area for recruiting.

Adjutant No Report

Finance Officer Finance Officer Lynn Sparks gave District finance report. Motion by Adjutant to receive the report as given. Second by Vice Commander Woodstrom. Motion passed.

Judge Advocate reminded all of the requirement to re-write Constitution & By-Laws to include procedures for Post Operation during times as the COVID-19 event. He also informed the DEC of a draft Resolution (which he read) requesting assistance from Department for Posts struggling during the current COVID-19 crisis. He noted that this document had been sent to the Dept. Cmdr., the Dept. Judge Advocate, the

National Adjutant and he is still awaiting a reply. A copy of the letter was given to the adjutant for filing.

Chaplain Excused

Historian No Report

Sgt-at-Arms reported 16 members present

Boys State Chairman reported on some of the positive feedback received from boys, parents and counselors on their experience with the virtual application this year as opposed to the traditional hands on, face to face approach.

Boy Scouts Commander Thomas reported on some initiatives at the state and national levels to have recognition by state for the program. He mentioned the proposal of have the American Legion present a patch signifying its ties to the program.

Constitution & By-Laws

Legislature Chairman reported on events taking place in Plano Texas concerning teachers and the facts around sexual education at the elementary school level. A resolution was submitted for district endorsement.

National Security Chairman McQueen reported on Expiration Term of Service Program (ETS). He provided a written estimate of the program and a questionnaire with the most frequently asked questions about the program for filing.

Oratorical The District Contest is January 9, 2021 at 1 pm at Post 521 2221 Preston Road, Pasadena TX 77503.

VA&R No Report

Webmaster submitted a written report on the several links out there to access 22nd district information. He also reminded Posts that if and when information changes he must be notified in order to keep our site current. He encouraged any and all ideas to make our site better.

Hubmaster commented on membership training

Unfinished Business: None Reported

New Business: There was a very involved discussion lead by NEC Sparks concerning struggling Posts due to loss of income due to the pandemic. He motioned that the Resolution for Post Relief be endorsed by the 22nd District. Seconded by Jim McGuire. Motion passed. Copy on file.

Resolution for "Protect Texas Children in Public Schools" submitted by Post 521 for the endorsement of 22nd District. There was a limited discussion about the issues surrounding reason for such a move. Motion for 22nd District to endorse the Resolution by Butch Sparks. Seconded by Jim McGuire. Motioned passed.

Good of The Legion:

Ben Edwards, Post 490 asked about new guidance from higher headquarters as to specifics on how Constitution & By-Laws should include new requirements. Vice Commander Woodstrom offered to share the new update that Post 164 now has.

Commander Thomas reminded the members of the Siegmund Fund and the requirements and benefits of this program. He reminded us of the two (Shriners Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine) recipients of the District's contribution.

NECman Butch Sparks reported on the Fall DEC and the lack of attendees this year. He mentioned some of the Committees that aren't being called in and his concern about this viewing the current Legion membership decline. He also responded to a question by Vice Commander Woodstrom, "If you show up to the Fall DEC on your own, will you be allowed to enter?" The answer is NO.

Commander gave Post and Membership Awards to Posts 52, 164, and 472.

Next District DEC September 13, 2020 at Post 164, 22125 Kingsman Blvd, Katy TX, 77450

DEC adjourned