Minutes of American Legion 22nd District – Department of Texas District Executive Meeting (January 13, 2019)

22nd District Executive Committee meeting called to order by Commander Joseph Thomas at 1415 hours at Post 490 South Houston, Texas.

Opening ceremony was conducted and lead by the District Commander

Roll Call conducted by Adjutant. All Officers present, all Committee Chairman present except one excused, all Posts represented except one. Commander commented that this was the first time he had witnessed this occurrence. The Commander had a quorum.

Commander welcomed all Passed Commanders and Guests

Minutes of the last meeting: Motion made to suspend the reading of the minutes of the last meeting by Vice Commander. Seconded by Lynn Sparks. Motion passed by vote.

Introduction of guests by Commander included Past Department Commander Lynn Sparks, Past Division Commanders Lynn Sparks, Dan King, Past District Commanders Juan Torres, Jimmy Mitchell, Division SAL Commander. The Commander installed David Saucillo as Asst Sgt at Arms.

Officer Reports

Vice Commander, reported membership is good. He spoke of the Posts () that met or exceeded target percentages. He spoke of Post 366 and the final stages of it being closed. He challenged the Post to get new members, using every available assets to include my legion.org the applications, letters that are designed to assist in getting new members, and he reminded the Post Commanders that he had provided them lists of potential members in their areas qualified for membership.

Commander Thomas gave congratulations to Post 596 on being 100%. He further commented on the points made by Vice Commander in the aggressive pursuits of 345 transfers to active Posts. He has sheets of potentials for each Post's Commander.

Adjutant No Comments

Finance Report: Report given Lynn Sparks. Motion to accept the report as given by Adjutant. Seconded by Vice Commander. Motion voted on and passed. Copy given for record and subject to audit.

Chaplain Report: Chaplain notified all of the February 3rd 4 Chaplain Ceremony, and he will provide more details on request. He announced the (3) losses at Post 490 and the additional lost at Post 521. He also noted the loss at Post 164 and the Post Everlastings Ceremony that will be conducted on January 23rd (Bill Sinden).

Historian: Historian King reported on the 22nd District's Oratorical Contest held on Jan 9th at Post 521. The winner was () and he recognized the judges and the Post staff for aiding in the successful event. He announced the Division Contest coming to Post 521 on the 20th at 2pm. And the Department Contest to be held in Frisco TX on 18 Feb 2019, location TBA.

SAL: Dan King reported on the 5 Squadrons in the District and that Post 164 is the newest and he submitted written report for filing. 78.9%

Sgt-at-Arms reported that there were 25 in attendance.

Judge Advocate Excused

Commander commented on CPR, C&BL, & Post Certification and their impact on Post awards. He had hand outs and reflecting on Posts 316, 594 and to Post 596. He also noted on upcoming date April 27,2019 where training on the three criteria will be conducted. April 27th Post 521 10am to 2pm. Update on this event was provided by rep from Post 490. If these requirements are neglected by Posts, there will be no opportunity to receive Department awards.

Americanism

Baseball Chairman Saucillo challenged the District to get involved and that he is available o assist anyone interested in working this program.

Boy Scout

Boys State Chairman Mitchell reported on the need for all to get out to the schools and coordinate the interviews and announce the May 4th Orientation meeting at Post 521 at 10am. March 1st deadline? Commander also announced that the May DEC will follow the Orientation. National Security No Report

School Awards Chairman Garrett reported on the online application available to us for assistance in better preparing for upcoming school awards ceremonies.

VA&R Chairman King noted that problems highlighted by the Accountability Act, are ongoing. He also indicated that a report would be forwarded to the Vice Commander and the Adjutant. Webmaster Woodstrom reported that the site is experiencing low usage, indicated that each Post is represented, challenged all to participate and challenged all to view our site. The November District Training is on the website.

Old Business None Discussed

New Business

Commander Thomas commented on the fact of Department being closed and the impact on membership this has. Commander also commented on the call-in expense, provided to his account and on his desire for the direction of those funds.

Upcoming Dates & Events

Jan 15th District Convention Planning Session Jan 20th Division Oratorial Contest Feb 10 District DEC Post 654 Mar 9th Centennial Celebration (Cook Off) at Post 490 Mar 16th National Auxiliary President visits Post 490, then Post 521 April 13th 22nd District Convention April ??? Adjutant Meeting ?

Vice Commander Woodstrom reported on Boys State in Katy TX preparation of a packet of information has been constructed as a guide for the District to use on request.

Community Service

Commander Andrews Post 316 reported on the multiple events that the Post has participated in this past year to include the latest being their annual V A Hospital event servicing our female veterans with needed personal items and the December seasonal giving of gift bags to mention a few.

Commander Torres Post 472 reported on the many events the Post had been involved, to include their Christmas gifts and fruit baskets to the local community (11 schools).

Post Reports

Post 52 reported on the 15 deceased members of their Posts that received wreaths this year from the Wreaths over America Campaign.

Commander Thomas reported on his political pursuits in the City of Pasadena and his availability to all.

He also reported on the upcoming meeting with Military representatives, Houston Food Bank, and HEB to aid in the provisions to help feed our local Coast Guard families. There was a new related report this morning concerning this initiative.

District Executive Committee adjourned 15:45pm