

Commander opened the District Executive Committee Meeting at 1400 at Post 521.

Opening ceremony conducted, lead by Commander Thomas with Sgt at Arms and Chaplain.

Roll Call conducted by Adjutant. Finance Officer, Judge Advocate and Commander Post 319 excused.

Commander Thomas introduced the guests. 2nd Division Commander Bryan Coleman, Past Division & District Commander Dan King, Past District Commanders Juan Torres and Jimmy Mithcell. Then he introduced Mrs Lynda Harrison and Susan De Boldance of Honor Flight Houston. They gave a presentation of the program and informed us of the current activities of the organization. It was formed in 2005. Members of Post 164 work in close support of their events, to include James Mc Guire with three (3) years of service to the organization. They are focused on the Korean Veterans, but have designated at least one of the flights to the Viet Nam Veterans.

### **OFFICER REPORTS**

Vice Cmdr Woodstrom addressed three (3) areas concerning membership that we need to focus on immediately, retention, 345 transfers and new member recruiting. He reiterated that every Post needs to conduct training at every Post meeting, emphasizing basic post operations and protocol. He informed the post where we should be % wise and provided a path way to achieve the end result.

Adjutant had no report but requested that the prior month's minutes be accepted. James King, Cmdr Post 416 motioned to have the minutes accepted. Vice Cmdr Woostrom second the motion. Motion passed.

Commander Thomas provided input for Judge Advocate on CB&Ls being updated at National, noted the upcoming training in December and that any request for specific training be forwarded to Butch Sparks via email.

Chaplain reported that there had been two (2) deaths recently at Post 490 and one (1) in critical condition. Post 472 also reported one (1) fatality at Post 472.

Historian Dan King reported on the District Oratorical Contest. The date is January 15, 2020 (Wednesday) at Post 521 at 7pm. He combined his SAL report at this time as well. He provided a written report to the adjutant.

Sgt-at-Arms Mc Guire reported eighteen (18) members and three (3) guests.

Service Officer No Report

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Baseball Chairman Commander Thomas addressed a different method to have a successful program. He proposed standing up 4 District teams, a time line and working in the future with Districts 8<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> to accomplish the successful season.

Boys State Chairman Mitchell challenged the Post to solicit boys for the 2020 program while working in the schools recruiting for their Oratorical contestants.

Boys Scout Chairman Commander Thomas charged the Posts to work harder to get eagle scout projects at their Posts. He noted that Post 164 has a project currently underway.

Disaster Preparedness Chairman Commander Thomas informed the DEC that contacting major businesses has some significant advantages to this effort.

Junior Shooting Chairman Commander Thomas reminded the DEC that the problem in getting this effort off the ground is found in establishing a positive relationship with school's JROTC instructors. Posts 164 and 521 are both working this program.

Legislative chairman Commander Thomas informed the DEC of a State Bill that will be on the upcoming ballot addressing State Taxation. He informed the DEC to pay close attention to the Bill, because if not read with scurrity, you might be disappointed by your vote. Vote yes!

National Security Chairman McQueen gave a brief update on the severity of the suicide rising numbers. Cmdr Kang Post 596 reported that he has started a private owned company that deals with this issue directly and passed out cards with his contact information.

VA&R Chairman King Post 416 reported that 75% of the Vets needing the help to counter the suicide crisis are not in the V A Care system. He said that the response to the needs of the Vets is tremendously inadequate.

Webmaster Chairman Woodstrom again informed the DEC of the under utilized resource that we have in our website and the facebook tool available to us.

#### **POST REPORTS**

Due to the uncovered error of voting to have September's minutes accepted as posted (the minutes had not been posted) that the minutes be released for posting by Commander Thomas to the website and they be accepted as posted. Also the Adjutant will provide 5 copies of the prior month's meeting minutes at each DEC. Motion made by Adjutant Mitchell, Seconded by Dan King. Motion passed.

Commander Thomas requested that he be provided a copy of Post's meeting minutes.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Adjutant Mitchell was given time to readdress the American Veterans Museum initiative. He passed out a letter that describes the initiatives objectives goals and request for support and funding.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Post 316 Commander Mathilda Montgomery announced their meeting at Combined Arms Center on Thursday with a meet and Greet starting 5pm. This is one of their recruiting events

Commander Thomas requested that Posts 52,77,316,472,490,596,and 654 stay after the DEC to complete some paperwork.

#### **GOOD OF THE LEGION**

Sgt at Arms Jim McGuire reminded us of the return Honor flight on Saturday and the activities to recognize them.

Post 521 Commander McQueen announced the raffling off of a .45 caliber pistol and a K Bar. There would only be 300 tickets printed and they would sell for \$25.00 each or 5 tickets for \$100.00. Also for the Air Show the Post would be providing Bar B Que sandwiches on the Golf Course.

Commander Kang Post 596 again announced his new private business that provides timely services to our Veterans to help reduce time waiting for much needed services.

Commander Lundstrum Post 490 announced that they too will be supporting the Air Show

Commander Torres Post 472 announced that the Post would be doing a chili cockoff to support the Christmas gifts for the elementary school they sponsor. There will also be raffle ticket at \$50.00, only 150 tickets will be printed.

Vice Commander Woodstrom put a challenge to the Post Commanders and the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice. Any Post in the District that achieves 120% its goal this year, he will write a personal check to the Cmdr and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice for \$100.00.

There was a discussion concerning the DD-214 and the requirement for it with the new recruiting guidelines. The Honorable Discharge is still as a requirement to join the Legion.

DEC adjourned at 1545pm