

**AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS**

**22<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT SPRING CONVENTION**

**POST 164**

**22125 KINGSLAND BOULEVARD**

**KATY, TEXAS 77489**

Registration 08:00am

Convention opened by Commander Thomas at 09:00am with opening activities per American Legion ceremonial manual.

Commander Thomas introduced the 22<sup>nd</sup> Auxiliary Unit President, Gullien Woodstrom for comments and words of welcome to the Convention. President Woodstrom gave comments and welcomed the Legionnaires of District 22 to Katy Texas.

District Adjutant read the District Convention Call

District Adjutant conducted Roll Call. All District Officers were present. The following Committee Chairs were absent Baseball, Community Service, Children & Youth, Junior Shooting, National Security, Public Relations, S.A.L., and VA&R. All Posts present except Post 594.

Commander Thomas introduced National Executive Committeeman, Past Dept Cmdr. Past District Cmdr. Butch Sparks, Past Dept Cmdr., Past Division Cmdr. Past District Cmdr. Lynn Sparks, and Past District Cmdr. Jimmy Mitchell.

Commander Thomas asked Judge Advocate to verify that we have a quorum. Judge Advocate verified we did have a quorum and could conduct the business of the District Convention.

Commander Thomas said that one of the primary objectives of the Convention will be to review the revised version of the 22<sup>nd</sup> District Constitution & By-Laws and approve them by vote and prepare them for submission to Department.

The Judge Advocate conducted a power point presentation of the Constitution & By-Laws with the revisions annotated. During the presentation many Legionnaires provided comments and input towards clarity and the substance of the document. Legionnaire John Cronin (Post 490) noted the fact that three consecutive absences should be two. Vice Commander Woodstrom noted that the issues was with Post representation verses individuals. The deletions, additions, and corrections to the document were wholeheartedly accepted. The Judge Advocate acknowledged the many hours of assistance he received from Ben Edwards. Motion to accept the Revised Constitution & By-Laws by (don't remember who) . Seconded by Harry Woodstrom (Post 164). Discussion no additional. Motion Passed.

The Judge Advocate did the first (1<sup>st</sup>) reading of the Credentials at 9:37am.

Break 10 min.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

Vice Commander reported on the 2020 status of the District and membership goals for 2021 and submitted a detailed written report.

Adjutant No Report

Finance Officer gave finance report and asked for its acceptance. Motion by Jimmy Mitchell to accept report. Seconded by Harry Woodstrom. Discussion none. Motion passed

Judge Advocate reported on the work done to revise District Constitution & By-Laws and the assistance from Ben Edwards and other Legionnaires to complete this effort.

Hubmaster reported on the numerous informational products received from all Legion levels that he forwarded to every post. He noted a new training initiative "Lesson at Lunch" designed to help getting legionnaires trained. He also challenged Posts to hold 5 minute training at every meeting. A written report was submitted. Motion by Jim McGuire to accept the report. Seconded by Harry Woodstrom. Motion passed.

Chaplain No Report

Sgt-at-Arms reported 27 Legionnaires representing 12 Posts. Submitted the attendance rooster for filing.

Webmaster reported on the social media applications available to the District and submitted a written report.

### **Committee Reports**

Scouting Chairman provided a brief statement noting the current and on going legal issues facing the program and stated as more information is provided, it will be forwarded to each post. Additional input was also provided by Butch Sparks.

Constitution & By-Laws No further Report

Legislative Chairman gave a brief statement on the legislation procedures occurring at state level and noted as more information is provided it will be distributed.

Membership Chairman congratulated Post 52 for achieving 100% and Post 164 for achieving 103.58% of goal. He revisited his challenge to all Posts, that if any post achieved 100% of goal that the Cmdr. and Vice Cmdr. would be treated at the bar on Friday of the Department Convention. He also stated that he would extend the invitation to the out going Officers as well as the incoming Officers. His report noted Posts with no new members for 2021 316, 319, 391, 416, 594, and 596, Posts with no transfers 52,77,316 319,391,416, 596, Posts with transfers Post 164-26, Post 472-1, Post 490-6, 521-1, Post 654-3, and Post 594-1. He also challenged the Posts to recruit, retain, and transfer members to grow and maintain District strength. During the report questions were asked as to the correcting timeframe of National's updated MYLegion.org website. Legionnaire John Cronin (Post 490) expressed strong dissatisfaction with the new system. He noted the 146 renewals and 36 new members that he can't get into the system due to no lack of effort on his part. He noted that his Post has the Nation's leading Recruiter. This system is causing havoc on the Post's ability to input these members. He recommended that the District construct and send a letter to Department expressing our extreme dissatisfaction with the current National online membership process.

Oratorical Chairman Dan King was unable to attend the Convention but submitted his written reports via the District Adjutant. He also submitted his S.A.L written report in the same manner.

Awards Chairman Janie Garrett gave a brief report on our need to step up our school's involvement procedures. She also provided a written report for filing as well.

## **POST REPORTS**

Post 52 Commander Miguel Navaro reported that the Post hasn't had any physical meetings in 2020 or this year due to COVID-19, because of the age of the membership. They are hosting 2 boys for 2021 Boys State. Written report submitted.

Post 77 Commander absent but will submit written report. Post is hosting 19 boys to Boys State 2021.

Post 164 Commander James McGuire gave a very lengthy report of the very active status of the Post and indicated that the Post will host 32 boys this year for Boys State.

Post 316 Vice Commander Sheryll Jones provided some background history on Commander Montgomery's recent experience with family fatalities causing Post inactivity. Then she provided a written report detailing the Post many activities.

Post 319 Commander absent but will submit written report.

Post 391 No Report

Post 416 Commander King will submit a written report

Post 472 No Report

Post 490 Commander Cronin provided a brief on the intense operations of the Post. He also turned in a written report.

Post 521 No Report

Post 596 No Report

Post 654 Sending 5 boys to 2021 boys State

## **Break Lunch**

## **Convention Reconvene**

Sheryll Jones Treasurer for the Seigmund Fund gave a report on the fund activity and its finances and thanked everyone for they contribution for 2020.

Motion by Ben Edwards to un table a motion (a copy of the exact motion in files for any clarification) concerning the amount of monies to be provided by the Disaster Relief Committee for any one disaster and the composition of that committee. Seconded by John Cronin. There was a lengthy discussion to include amending the motion. Due to unplanned expenses to provide assistance it recommended that the amount be increased to \$1,000.00. That recommended amendment was seconded by Jim McGuire.

That motion was accepted as the primary motion. The discussion proposed that the amended motion be the motion for the vote. Motion passed.

### **NATIONAL COMMITTEE DELEGATE ASSIGNMENTS**

Motion by Jim McGuire to elect Butch and Lynn Sparks as the District's delegates for the 2021 National Convention. Seconded by James King. Discussion none. Motion passed.

Motion by to elect John Cronin and Sheryll Jones as the District's alternate delegates for the 2021 National Convention. Seconded by James King. Discussion none. Motion passed.

Motion to have District pay fees (\$35.00 each) for the delegates and the alternates to attend the 2021 National Convention by Butch Sparks. Seconded by James King. Discussion none. Motion passed.

Motion to have District sign letter (drafted by Post 316 membership at authorized Post meeting) authorizing the transfer of Post 316 to 8<sup>th</sup> District and forwarded to Department for review and approval. Seconded by Jim McGuire. Discussion, during this period Sheryll Jones provided a detailed analysis for the requested transfer. No further discussion was made. Motion passed.

### **DEPARTMENT CONVENTION DELEGATE ASSIGNMENTS**

Americanism Joseph Thomas

Credentials Lynn Sparks

Nationals Jimmy Mitchell/Ben Edwards

Membership & Operations Joseph Thomas

Publications Kendrick Bradley

VA&R Sheryll Jones

### **RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution to construct a Community Based Outreach Clinic (CBOC) in La Porte TX. Motion to support by Harry Woodstrom. Seconded by James King. Discussion lead by John Cronin and Joseph Thomas revealed the need for the facility in this location. Further discussion also revealed the need for specific clarification why CBOC as opposed to a Vet Center. Motion passed.

There were 5 more resolutions read by the Judge Advocate "for information only" purposes and filed with Convention records for keeping.

Final reading of Credentials by Judge Advocate Butch Sparks at 1:57pm. Motion to accept the report by Butch Sparks. Seconded by Harry Woodstrom. Discussion none. Motion passed.

Motion to increase spending level for District Finance Officer to cover additional expenses incurred for District Convention by Lynn Sparks. Seconded by John Cronin. Discussion none. Motion passed.

Motion to reimburse Lynn Sparks (\$7.00) for cost incurred for additional mailing. Seconded by Harry Woodstrom. Discussion none. Motion passed.

### **GOOD OF THE LEGION**

San Jacinto Day dates to remember, November 13, 2021, and October 31, 2021.

Vice Commander Woodstrom reminded all of the new software application "Motion Log" and the benefits of having this feature for future use. He also took the names of those wanting to receive the link.

Post 490 Commander John Cronin announced the upcoming Bar-B Que Cookoff sponsored by the Post. He challenged all to sponsor a team and if that team is declared the winner of the competition, he will award that winner \$100.00 cash!!!

Kendrick Bradley (Post 77) reminded us of the pending financial benefits set aside for veterans serving from 2003 to 2051 that experienced any hearing complications from the hearing device fitted by the service that there is compensation being provided for them. He reminded us that the majority of us in the room probably wont need the benefit, but the young veterans we are attempting to recruit probably will.

Hector Hernandez (Post 77) announced the limited ceremony again this year for Memorial Day due to COVID-19. However, the Cemetery will be open for all to visit their loved ones grave sites.

Closing ceremony conducted to conclude the 22<sup>nd</sup> District Spring Convention at 2:32pm, Saturday, May 22, 2021 at Post 164, 22125 Kingsland Boulevard, Katy TX. 77489.

Adjutant

Commander Thomas announced the next District Executive Committee Meeting will be held at Post 472, June 27, 2021.