

**Minutes of
American Legion 22nd District – Department of Texas
District Executive Meeting (October 14, 2018)**

22nd District Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Commander Joseph Thomas at 1410 hours at Micheal E. DeBakey, Veterans Administration Hospital, Houston, Texas.

Opening ceremony was conducted and lead by the District Commander

Roll Call conducted by Adjutant. Officers present: Commander, Vice Commander, Adjutant, Chaplain, Historian, Sgt-at-Arms. Officers absent or excused Finance Officer, Lynn Sparks, Judge Advocate, Butch Sparks, Asst-Sgt-At-Arms, David Saucillo and Service Officer Greg Treacy. Committee Chairpersons absent or excused: David Saucillo, Butch Sparks, Janie Garrett, Joe Chavez, Butch Sparks. Committees Vacant: Children & Youth, Junior Shooting, and Public Relations. Posts present: 52, 77, 164, 416, 472, 490, 521. Posts absent: 316, 319, 391, 594, 596 and 654. The Commander had a quorum.

Minutes of last meeting: Motion by Past Division Cmdr. Dan King to waive the reading of the minutes and have them accepted as presented. Seconded by Past District Cmdr. Juan Torres. Motion voted and passed unanimously.

Commander welcomed and introduced all Passed Commanders and Guests.

Officer Reports:

Vice Commander Woodstrom provided verbal and written report of the District's standings and entertained questions concerning the report.

Adjutant No Report

Finance Officer Report was read by the District Commander. Motion to accept the report as read subject to audit by Dan King. Seconded by Post 521 Cmdr. Alonso McQueen. Motion voted and passed.

Judge Advocate Excused

Chaplain reported that he had requested the names of each Post's Chaplain for future coordination and planning but had not received the information. He needs this information for his joint report. He also reported that Post 490 had 3 to 4 members to past to Post everlasting in the past two weeks.

Committee Reports

Americanism No Report

Scouting Commander Thomas made statements concerning some issues to beware of, new initiatives getting started, upcoming events, and a reminder to all of the introduction of girls into the Cub Scouts.

Boys State Chairman reported that he is still waiting to receive the 2019 contract. Also, he will call Monday to get an update on when the contract will be delivered. Reported that there are

some changes forthcoming from Department that will be distributed to Posts as soon as he receives them.

Disaster Preparedness Commander Thomas commented that we are fortunate compared to our fellow Legionnaires on the East Coast. We stand at the ready when called upon to support in every effort to assist with recovery initiatives.

Legislature Commander Thomas commented on an upcoming event on November 6th that will focus on training and details are forthcoming.

National Security Chairman McQueen gave verbal report with emphasis on the decrease in suicides overall, but the statistics reflect an increase in suicides of ages 18 to 34 and among women veterans. After a period of discussion, Commander Thomas advised that a Resolution could be presented to address issues such as this report identified. He also encouraged that we "Vote".

Oratorical Chairman Dan King provided a written report that included information on the dates of the District, Division and Department competitions. Posts 521 and 490 are being considered for the District competition location. Specifics will be distributed.

SAL Chairman King gave written report on where each squadron is presently and its quest to achieve membership goals.

VA&R Commander James King, reported on the Mission Act and the eliminating of the choice card in 2019. He forwarded this information to the Adjutant.

Webmaster Commander Harry Woodstrom commented that the site is out there for us. It reflects our effectiveness and it provides an avenue for recruiting and advertisement. He provides a written report to support his comments. He requested contact info on our Service Officers in the District.

Popcorn Lead person, Wayne Pridmore advised that the project is in dire needs of financial resources as soon as possible.

Posts Reports

52 No Report

77 No Report

164 Reported that they are having problems with Department recording and posting turn-ins. Commander Thomas suggested the even a resolution addressing the issue might be appropriate.

416 Commander James King reported on an upcoming event set for November 10th that will be supported by the Post.

472 Commander Torres reported on the Veteran Breakfast at the Post, hosted by the Post Auxiliary all Veterans invited. He also noted the Chili Cook off October 28th that will have media coverage. Open to all.

490 The Chaplain reported that the Post had a successful Golf Tournament, raised over 10 thousand dollars. He noted an event coming November 14th at the Post starting at 1800 hours to focus on families.

521 Post working with DAV, VFW on POW/MIA initiatives with City Council and TV media. Post will host an event on November 10th to honor all Veterans.

Commander Report

Commander Thomas noted that our District needs a Facebook page. He noted the one that 2nd Division has. He noted how the implementation of the Hash Tag distinguishes one entity from another and how this could provide specific recognition. Also, he mentioned the Training (which includes Finance, Adjutant, and all Programs of the A L) for the 22nd District and all Legionnaires, Nov. 17 at Keller Middle School. Details to follow. He will visit the VA Hospital

on a tour hosted by the Auxiliary, where several Department Officers will also attend. He also reported on the Facility in Pasadena for Veteran medical assistance that is growing. He reported on the efforts of the City of Pasadena to discuss the raising of property tax as an avenue to aid in the hiring increases of Law Officers.

UnFinished Business None Reported

New Business

Motion by Oratorical Chairman Dan King to set January 9, 2019, at Post 521 as the District Oratorical Contest Date and location. Seconded by Alonso McQueen. Vote passed

Good of the Legion

It was noted that December 15, 2018 is Wreath across America Recognition Day. Also, Posts can sponsor a local Cemetery. Post 164 Auxiliary will sponsor a drive put a wreath on every grave. Commander Thomas to address Katy community as key note speaker for an event host by Post 164.

Commander adjourned the meeting at 15:35 hours