

**Minutes of  
American Legion 22<sup>nd</sup> District – Department of Texas  
District Executive Meeting (September 9, 2018)**

**22<sup>nd</sup> District Executive Committee meeting called to order by Commander Joseph Thomas at 1400 hours at Post 472 7599 Avenue C, Houston, TX. 77012.**

**Opening ceremony was conducted and led by the Commander Thomas**

**Roll Call: All Officers except Sgt-at-Arms and Service Officer. Committee Chairpersons absent were, Nat'l Security, POW/MIA, VA&R, & Popcorn. Committees not filled; Community Service, Children & Youth, Jr. Shooting and Public Relations. A quorum was present and regular business was conducted.**

**Reading of Minutes of the last meeting. Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes by Dan King. Seconded by Lynn Sparks. Motion passed.**

**Commander introduced National Executive Committeeman Butch Sparks, Past Department Commander Lynn Sparks, Past Division Commander Danny King, Past District Commanders Juan Torres and Jimmy Mitchell.**

**Officer Reports:**

**Vice Commander Woodstrom provided verbal report and written report for filing. See Attached**

**Adjutant Mitchell No Report**

**Finance Officer Lynn Sparks gave financial report. Motion to receive report as presented subject to audit by Jimmy Mitchell. Seconded by Juan Torres. Motion passed by vote**

**Judge Advocate advised all Post to update their Constitution/By-Laws. Documents not updated since 2010 need revising. He also informed all that there were changes made at National this year, but have not been passed down through department yet. As soon as he receives them he will forward.**

**Chaplain Harvey reported that he was aware of two members passing on to Post Everlasting from Post 490. He also informed all Post present that he will be getting in touch with all Post Chaplains in the very near future to establish a Chaplain's network.**

**Historian King reported that he is working on the District Scrapbook and plans to present it at the October DEC. He is currently taking photos of all Officers and chairpersons. If you have not taken your photo, see him at the next DEC.**

**SAL Chairman King reported that an election for the organization was held for the incoming year. He provided a written report for filing.**

**Sgt-at-Arms McGuire reported 21 Legionnaires present and returned in the roster for filing.**

### **Committee Reports**

**Americanism Chair Torres made verbal report and turned in written report for filing.**

**Baseball Chair Saucillo excused**

**Boys Scouts Commander gave brief update on current issues.**

**Boys State Chair Mitchell stated that a contract with the same Bus Company is pending. He also stated that we will reach out to Department again this year, to seek speaker. He also asks if any Post would like to host the Orientation this year.**

**Constitution/By-Laws Chair Butch Sparks reported again that there are changes coming from National and once distributed by Department they will need to be part of any updates to Post Operating documents. He will forward as soon as he receives them to the Posts.**

**School Awards Chair Garrett gave verbal and a written report with flyer promoting the activities to running a successful program. She also mentioned the online website and the ability to download information.**

**Webmaster Woodstrom gave verbal and written report on our website and requested input to make the site informative and useful.**

**Hub master Butch Sparks again reported that he will provide information regularly and offers his services to all that request his assistance.**

### **Post Reports**

**Post 164 reported that they have started an SAL Squadron and had its first meeting last week. They are also starting up a Jr Shooting Team and invite all to join and participate in the new venture to promote our Youth programs.**

**Commander Thomas stated that there are Posts that in violation of current standards for operating as National/Department organizations of the American Legion. These Posts have been identified and will be receiving a call, letter and or visit from him shortly to correct this error. He also asked how many of the SALs have members under 18 yrs. old. He suggested increasing this number by visiting school awards Day events. He also shared briefly on a project at one the local schools where they implemented a fundraiser to help a class provide year round finances.**

### **Unfinished Business**

**National Executive Committeeman Butch Sparks provided an update on the status of the meeting that is pending with the V A Hospital Director concerning Volunteer issues surrounding Popcorn operations. He solicited any other input prior to the meeting.**

### **New Business**

**National Executive Committeeman Butch Sparks informed the DEC of the District level Training sessions planned for Legionnaires throughout the state. He further announced the training at the Fall DEC that will introduce the advancements in adjutant operations at Post level.**

**Color Guard Chair Dan King announced that there was a new Color Guard Champion as National this year. The first SAL to do this in 12 years. He stated that they can compete at Department levels as well.**

**Both Past Department Commander Lynn Sparks and Legionnaire Janie Garrett spoke on the ease of filing out online applications to become a volunteer and the virtues of such legionnaires.**

### **Good of the Legion**

**NEC man Butch Sparks announced the national recognition that the District received at the National Convention. For category level three (districts w/up to 4000 members) in the Race to the Top competition, 22<sup>nd</sup> District was #1 and Past District Commander Mitchell received the Award. Also he reported that of the 14 Posts in the District two (490&164) will have their goals for 2019 increased. The rest will have a decrease in the 2019 goals. The Department will also receive a reduction in its 2019 goal. He challenged that Post to exceed the goals set for 2019. He also challenged Posts to visit more community events, school awards day events wearing AL covers, work membership; promote the four (4) pillars of the American Legion. Again he offered his services to all!!**

**Vice Commander Woodstrom shared how his Post through negotiations with Office Depot leveraged limited funds to get a maximum return of back to school supplies for the youth in their community this year. He encouraged the rest of the Post to work with local vendors.**

**District Sgt-at-Arms McGuire invited all to participate in the activities set to honor their WW11 veteran's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday at their regular meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Contact Post 164 for details. He also invited all to participate in the activities set to welcome home the veterans returning from the Honor Flight scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Hobby Airport. Contact Post 164 for details**

**Commander Thomas commented on the fact that there are individuals preying on the good graces of American Legion Posts in this area. Legionnaire King named the individual that has been identifies as one such perpetrator "Joseph Nash"**

**Commander Thomas charged all to communicate such incidence and be vigilant.**

**A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by NEC man Butch Sparks. Seconded by Past Department Commander Lynn Sparks. Motion passed**

**Commander Thomas adjourned the DEC at (1525 hours)**

**Submitted by Adjutant**