

**Minutes of
American Legion 22nd District, Department of Texas
District Executive Meeting (August 11, 2019)**

22nd District Executive Committee meeting called to order by Commander Joseph Thomas at 1410 hours at Post 472 located at 724 7599 Avenue C, Houston, Texas.

Opening ceremony was conducted and lead by District Commander.

Roll Call conducted by the Adjutant

Adjutant Mitchell moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from last month's meeting and accept them as posted on website. Seconded by Vice Commander Woodstrom. Motion voted on and passed by majority.

Introduction of Past Commanders and Guests; National Executive Committeeman Butch Sparks, Past Department Commanders Butch/Lynn Sparks, Past Division Commanders Lynn Sparks, Dan King, Past District Commanders Lynn Sparks, Butch Sparks, Dan King, Juan Torres, and Jimmy Mitchell.

Officer Reports;

Vice Commander - Harry Woodstrom reported on the current status of District 22. He noted that awarding of 2019 Post recognitions were over. Seven of our thirteen Posts did not make goal last year. Six Posts made goal. He further stated that the 2020 year of renewal has started and the 50% goal for renewals was within days. He stated the new set goal for our District by Department. Presently, Post 52 is at 50%, Posts 472, 77 and 164 are over 40%. There was one Post that has not recorded at least one renewal for the year!!! He reported that 345s are an excellent source to aid Posts in meeting and exceeding their membership goals. Post 654 has already reported their first of the year. A written report provided to Adjutant.

In support of the Vice Commander's report, the Commander also provided input regarding the Legion Act and the possibilities it affords us in our recruiting efforts. He also cautioned us on the possibility of our goals changing. He stated that Posts 52, 77, 490, and 654 would getting notice of his request to assist with revitalization efforts. He also set a 110% goal for 345 recruiting in our area.

Adjutant utilized this time to complete roll call of Posts. Posts 316, 319, 391, 416, 594, and 654 were not represented.

Finance Report - Finance Officer Lynn Sparks gave finance report. Motion by Adjutant Mitchell to accept Finance report as presented. Seconded by Vice Commander Woodstrom. Motion voted on and passed. Written report provided to District Adjutant.

Judge Advocate – Butch Sparks reported on the changes forth coming from Dept and national in rewriting of Constitution & By Laws due to the Legion Act being signed by President. Based on the requirements by these two entities he advised that the District direct the Posts to wait for Dept/National input before rewriting these documents. Commander requested when the revisions go to Dept/National, that he be copied.

Chaplain- Robert Harvey reported on Commander of Post 490 losing his wife. He also reminded us of the loss of Past National Vice Commander John D. Morris, Past Department and National Chaplain Harvey Klee, and Past Department and National Sgt-At-Arms Raymond Wildman. Chaplain Harvey is currently holding Clergy responsibilities/duties at Post, District, Division and Department levels concurrently. We are most definitely blessed to have him conducting these duties for our District. Pray for our Chaplain!!!!

Historian- Dan King gave reports on Oratorical Contest and SAL Squadrons, written report given. He stated that Oratorical 2019/2020 Competition begins in October. Posts must complete their contest by December 20, 2019. The District Contest will be held at Post 521, January 17, 2020, Pasadena Texas, at 10am. He also gave a written report on the SAL membership goal percentages.

Commander Thomas added to the Historian's report that he wants the District to represent this year with at least three Posts (to include Post 521) submitting input to the competition and District as well.

Sgt-At-Arms- Jim McGuire reported 21 District Legionnaires were in attendance. He turned in the sign in roster.

Americanism - Chairman Juan Torres provided no report.

Baseball Chairman- David Saucillo not present. Commander Thomas reported that there will be a concerted effort to field two (2) teams from Pasadena this coming year.

Boys Scouts - Commander Thomas revealed that he has recently started a project, making this the third. He again promoted the fact that these project aren't hard, they just require a concerted effort on our part.

Boys State - Chairman Mitchell reported on the Luncheon that Post 77 held the past weekend and the success of the annual activity.

Children & Youth - No report given.

Constitution & By-Laws - There was a comment made concerning the name change to the Boys Scout Organization and how will that impact our current documents? Issue to be taken up at a subsequent meeting.

Legislative- Input needed, State Income tax to be on November ballot. Commander said that the way the vote is written you need to vote yes, not no.

National Security - No Report. However, there was a brief discussion on videotaping entrance to Military facilities. Question: Should there be a law?

Webmaster: Harry Woodstrom reported on the reach of our District media assets. He noted that we are Facebook assessible and that Post changes are posted as they are provided.

Hubmaster - Butch Sparks again challenged the Posts to send information!

Commander Thomas commented on planned projects for the District that are forthcoming, such as Post Operations training, ALEI College, etc. When these are completed, there is a requirement to send the documentation to Dept. The Commander is requesting that he get a copy of documentation so he can verify it in case it is lost at Department or National.

Unfinished Business- None

22nd District Judge Advocate, Butch Sparks, read a charge of inappropriate action by American Legion Post 490. The charge included noncompliance with the Department of Texas Constitution and By-laws and specifically the Uniform Code of Procedures. Copy of the complete package read by District Judge Advocate Sparks is attached. Commander Thomas entertained a motion that the 22nd District approve the Resolution bringing charges against the Post. Adjutant Jimmy Mitchill moved to approve the resolution, Seconded by Dan King. During discussion, Post 490 Commander Johnny Lundstrom stated he was never given the letter of instructions mentioned in Judge Advocate Sparks readings. 22nd District Commander Thomas stated that he personally hand delivered the package to Mr. Lundstrom on June 12, 2019. Commander Lundstrom demanded that he be given copies of the affidavits. Commander Thomas denied his request but stated a copy of the affidavits were provided to the Post Judge Advocate in July 2019. Commander Thomas called for the question. All attendees voted to approve the resolution, except the 3 members from Post 490 who voted no.

Post 654: The District Judge Advocate stated that since Mr. John D. Morris has passed away, Post 654 will have major issues. Mr. Morris was the one keeping the Post together, doing all of the work for the Post. It is sad that we lose such a dedicated person, however life must go forward and the Legion must continue.

District Judge Advocate moved to have the District Commander Thomas contact Department Headquarters and obtain all necessary known information about the Post so we can initiate action to revitalize or take other actions concerning Post 654. Motion seconded by Dan King. Motion carried.

Motion by Vice Commander Woodstrom to adjourn the meeting. Several seconds

Closing ceremonies held in due form.

Meeting adjourned by Commander at 1546 hours

Enclosures