

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS

22ND DISTRICT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

SOUTH HOUSTON POST 490

11702 OLD GALVESTON ROAD

S HOUSTON, TEXAS 77034

MARCH 14, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Commander Thomas at 1400 hours.

Opening ceremony conducted with Adjutant rendering Prayer in the absence of Chaplain Harvey.

Roll Call conducted by Adjutant. District Officers not present but excused, were Chaplain Harvey, Historian King and Service Officer Treacy. Committee Chairpersons absent were Americanism Torres, Security McQueen, Oratorical & SAL Dan King, and VA&R, James King. Posts not represented were 316, 391, 416, 594, & 596. Commander asked the Judge Advocate to confirm that we had a quorum. Judge Advocate confirmed.

Reading of Last Month's minutes: Adjutant Mitchell motioned to accept the minutes of last month's meeting accepted as posted on District web site. Seconded by Vice Commander Woodstrom. Motion passed.

Commander Thomas introduced the distinguished guests to include National Executive Committeeman, Past Department Commander, Past District Commander Butch Sparks, Past Department Commander, Past Division Commander, Past District Commander Lynn Sparks, and Past District Commanders Juan Torres and Jimmy Mitchell.

OFFICER REPORTS

Vice Commander Woodstrom provided a detail report of the District's membership goals and standings. He challenged the Posts to recruit from the 345 list, reported on the Posts meeting and exceeding goals and reminded all that when they needed his help, just ask! He provided a written report.

Adjutant Mitchell No Report

Finance Officer Sparks gave the Finance Report. Adjutant Mitchell motioned to accept the report. Seconded by Vice Commander Woodstrom. Motion Passed.

Judge Advocate/NEC Butch Sparks reported on the progress made on the 22nd District's Constitution & By-Laws. He noted that he had assistance and especially thanked Ben Edwards. He noted that the document should be ready next week.

Chaplain Harvey was excused due to illness.

Sgt-at-Arms McGuire reported that there were 20 legionnaires present and turned in to the Adjutant the roster of attendees.

Scouting Chairman Thomas reported on the current status of the program and will forward the Adjutant a written report.

Boys State Chairman Mitchell informed the Committee that the final word on whether or not the program this year would be virtual or live, would be final on March 15th, he noted that as soon as he had the word it would be sent to each Post.

SAL Chairman absent. There was a question asked concerning the frequent visitations of the SAL District Commander to the Squadrons in the District. He has not been very responsive.

Webmaster Woodstrom reported that he was implementing a new item for interaction on the District website. "Motion Log". Its primary objective will be to allow easy access to previously filed motions through key word search. A written report submitted.

Hubmaster Butch Sparks reminded all that if we wanted information posted and distributed just send to him.

Commander Thomas had the Adjutant to send a notification to Post requiring a written notice if they weren't going to attend the DEC. For those that didn't attend today's meeting and no prior notice was given, the Commander has directed that another notice be sent with a reply to be rendered.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None Reported

NEW BUSINESS

Commander Thomas asked for a motion to establish a "**Law and Order Committee**" with Terry Contella as its Chairman. Motion so moved by Butch Sparks. Seconded by James McGuire. Motion passed

Commander Thomas asked for a motion to establish the "**Disaster Preparedness Committee**", whose duties will include evaluating, monitoring, and ensuring that resources required to fulfil the needs to resolve a disaster request, are fully met. Motion by Butch Sparks. Seconded by James McGuire. Motion passed.

Commander Thomas asked for a motion to add the Office of "**Parliamentarian**" to the 22nd District Officers slate, with Ben Edwards as the nominee. Motion by Butch Sparks. Seconded Johnny Lundstrum. Motion passed.

Commander Thomas asked for a motion to establish the "**Emergency Fund Disbursement Committee**" with the primary responsibilities of providing funds for disaster relief requests per the guidelines set forth in the procedures for disbursement. Motion made by Post 654. Seconded by Juan Torres. Motion passed.

A discussion followed the voting concerning the funding level, who had the final authority for funding, the approval level of the District Commander, the authority of the DEC and that the final voting to be done at the next DEC. Motion by Butch Sparks to enact the above process. Seconded by Ben Edwards. After much discussion the motion was tabled.

Motion by Vice Commander Woodstrom to fund the food cost (\$300.00) for the 22nd District Convention. Seconded by James McGuire. Motion passed.

Vice Commander Woodstrom challenged any Post fulfilling all their annual requirements, that he would hold an open bar the Friday night of the 2021 Department Convention.

Post 472 (Commander Rocha) noted to the Vice Commander that his per centage was 75.5. The District Commander noted to the Post Commander that there is a time difference in the receiving of the Post Reports.

Post 490 (John Cronin) requested a retraction to the February minutes. The minutes made it appear as thru the Post cancelled the January DEC. A correction will be made to the minutes.

Motion made by John Cronin to have the District conduct a training session on the titles of 345, DMS etc. with regards to membership. Seconded by Terry Contella. Motion passed.

NEC Butch Sparks reminded the DEC that voting can be conducted via Virtual and Hybrid meetings.

Commander Thomas will provide a report to Post 490 from Department.

Commander Rocha announced that Post 472 has its website up, "americanlegionpost472" with an email address to be announced.

Hector Hernandez Post 77 is the Post representative assigned to the Houston National Veteran Cemetery Council. He reported that there will not be a live ceremony for Memorial Day Event again this year. HE also reported that the Marine Corps Coordinating Council SE will be hosting an Event May 22, 2021 and that they are looking for sponsors.

Commander Rocha Post 472 announced that the Post's Honor Guard (17 current members) has been extremely active with Burial Details (25) most recently. Also, they are hosting a Yard Sale April 3rd from 11am to 2pm at Post 472.

Post 654 Commander Schreffier invited everyone to help him celebrate his Birthday the evening of April 3rd at Post 654. Also they are sponsoring a Bar-B-que Cook Off April 23, 24, and they are looking for teams to compete. Contact the Post at 713 462 5290 for more details.

Ben Edwards made comments concerning Tri Care and the possible problems with allotments. Post 490 is holding a raffle (AR15) with individual ticket costing \$10.00, and three (3) for \$25.00. Contact Post at 281 481 1179 for more details.

Meeting adjourned at 15:15 hours