

American Legion 5th District, Department of Texas Meeting August 19th, 2018 Held at Post 275

District Commander Ronald Jones opened the meeting in regular order with the posting of the Colors and placing of the POW/MIA flag at 2:04. Chaplain gave the opening prayer. Commander Jones led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble of the Constitution of The American Legion.

Roll call of Officers:

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|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| 1. District Commander Ron Jones | Present | 16. Boys State Chair Bob Kaminski | Absent |
| 2. 1st Vice Commander Alan Caesar | Present | 17. Const&By-Laws Gary Smith | Present |
| 3. Adjutant Joe Johnson | Present | 18. Children & Youth Chairman | Vacant |
| 4. Finance Officer Pat Flores | Present | 19. JROTC Chairman WS Turner | Present |
| 5. Chaplain Nancy Beckham | Excused | 20. Junior Shooting Chairman | Vacant |
| 6. Asst. Chaplain | Vacant | 21. Legislative Zora McPherson | Absent |
| 7. Historian Bill Freauff | Excused | 22. Membership Chair Alan Caesar | Present |
| 8. Judge Advocate Gary Smith | Present | 23. National Security Chairman | Vacant |
| 9. Service Officer Zach Fresquez | Absent | 24. Oratorical Chair Alton Brown | Absent |
| 10. Sergeant-at-Arms Bill Craig | Excused | 25. Public Relations Chairman | Vacant |
| 11. Hub Master Larry Taylor | Absent | 26. SAL Advisor Gary Smith | Present |
| 12. ALR Advisor Bernard Aderholt | Present | 27. School Awards Chairman | Vacant |
| 13. Americanism Chair Dennis Snow | Present | 28. VA&R Chairman D.C. Jones | Absent |
| 14. Baseball Chairman Joe Senones | Absent | | |
| 15. Boy Scout Chairman | Vacant | | |

Roll call by Post:

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| Post 23 – Present | Post 275 – Present | Post 511 – Present |
| Post 53 – Absent | Post 292 – Present | Post 581 – Absent |
| Post 81 – Present | Post 368 – Absent | Post 597 – Present |
| Post 111 – Present | Post 424 – Present | Post 656 – Absent |
| Post 124 – Absent | Post 453 – Absent | Post 802 – Present |
| Post 184 – Absent | Post 504 – Present | Post 855 – Absent |
| Post 218 – Absent | Post 507 – Present | |

A Quorum was established

Guests in attendance:

Gary Smith: Past Division Vice Commander, Past District 5 Commander

Bernard Aderholt: Past 5th District Commander, Past Dept Sgt at Arms, Division 1 Adjutant

Don Bartlett: Past 5th District Commander

2 members were attending their first district meeting

Motion made to wave the reading of previous meeting minutes by Bernard Aderholt 2nd by Gary Smith

No discussion – Motion approved

Pat Flores reviewed the finance report dated 6/24/2018 through 8/19/2018:

Motion to approve by Dennis Snow 2nd by Gary Smith

Comment by Commander Jones we will be having a new line item on the finance report as we will be responsible for expenses for the 2019 Department Convention

1st Vice Commander Alan Caesar discussed membership: We are currently 21st in Department. Not Acceptable. Membership is the Life Blood of any organization. Discussion: State is behind on processing memberships.

5th District only had one post that qualified for the Texas Post Excellence Award

All our post are close to qualifying except for National Security Program. Go online to the department website and print up the packet and follow the directions.

Also National Excellence Award we are all completing most of the items required. Go to the National website and print up the packet and see if you can qualify, it then must be submitted to the District Commander for submittal. Part of the qualifications is to do some PR in the local media.

Committee Reports

Americanism Chair – Dennis Snow

It is time to get started on youth activities such as, Boys Scouts, Oratorical, Boy's State.

September is the Legion Disaster Preparedness month

Sept. 11th A day of remembrance for the disaster in 2001. Patriot Day activities at your post.

Sept. 16th American Legion Charter was established

3rd Friday in September is POW/MIA day.

October: Halloween safety for kids

Nov. 11th is Veterans Day

American Legion Life Insurance is due by Dec. 31st

Constitution & By-Laws - Gary Smith

3 post have not updated their By Laws

Post 581 is applying for an extension

Dept. has updated C & By-Laws and now requires all District Officers complete ALEI by 10/15/18

A prerequisite for all new District officer nominations ALEI must have been completed. It may go all the way to the post level.

The ALEI is free online.

JrROTC - WS Turner - none

Oratorical – Alton Brown - Go online and print up your packets.

S.A.L. Advisor - Gary Smith

Several squadrons are not certified therefore do not have membership cards.

Only 2 squadrons have transmitted memberships. SAL is a program of the Legion as such Post Commanders are responsible for the squadrons.

VA&R – Get someone certified at the VA Hospital. You can get certified the 2nd Friday of each month 8 -4. They take your picture and fingerprints then issue you an ID card. For more information you can contact: Cedric Patterson 832-462-9540 or cedricpatterson47@yahoo.com

ALR – Bernard Aderholt

Post 81 is doing a Patriot run 10/20/18 \$20.00 per rider and \$5.00 per passenger

Post 424 has a VA run on 9/9/18 More information on the District website

Sick call – Several of our legion family continue to experience difficulty

Service Officer – none

Unfinished Business - none

New Business –

New line item will be created in the finance report for the Department 2019 Convention

Motion made by Bernard Aderholt and 2nd by WS Turner to issue \$500.00 to the Dept Convention fund which will be reimbursed upon completion. Money to be used for misc expenses that will start generating revenue to be used for the convention.

Motion approved

We are looking for people with ideas for pins, logo's pictures, manpower, vendors, greeters, if you have ideas let us know.

We will require between \$6000 and \$10,000 for the Commander and Presidents reception.

If any post is planning activities and would like to be attended by some of the convention goers get the flyer into the district hubmaster well in advance of the convention and he will forward to the Department hubmaster.

Good of the Legion:

Gary Smith is moving out of state and has submitted his resignation. His positions are coming open so we need to find replacements for JAG, Constitution and By-Laws chairman. SAL Advisor. If interested please let Commander Jones know. Gary will continue as webmaster.

A cover box and a large plaque was presented to Gary and a heartfelt round of applause from all for what he has done for the 5th District and as a friend to all.

Closing prayer and meeting adjourned at 2:49 pm