

5TH DISTRICT MEETING  
21 AUG. 2016

- 1) Commander Larry Taylor called the meeting to order @ 1415
- 2) Sargent-at-Arms Bill Craig posted the colors
- 3) Chaplin Ed Kownslar lead us in prayer
- 4) Sargent-at-Arms draped the MIA flag
- 5) The membership recited the Pledge of Alliance and Preamble of the American Legion
- 6) Roll call of Officer's and Post revealed a quorum was present

1. District Commander	Larry Taylor	Present
2. 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Commander	Ronnie Jones	Present
3. Adjutant	Alan H. Caesar	Present
4. Finance Officer	Pat Sansom	Present
5. Chaplin	Edward Kownslar	Present
6. Asst. Chaplin		Vacant
7. Historian		Vacant
8. Judge Advocate	Sam Underwood	Present
9. Service Officer	Zach Fresquez	Present
10. Sergeant-at-Arms	Bill Craig	Present
11. Asst. Sergeant-at-Arms		Vacant
12. Hub Master	Linda Weston	Present
13. ALR Advisor	Bill Godfrey	Absent
14. Americanism Chairman	Dennis Snow	Present
15. Baseball Chairman	Joe Senones	Absent
16. Boy Scout Chairman		Vacant
17. Boys State Chairman	Bob Kaminski	Absent
18. Const. & By-Laws Chairman	Gary Smith	Present
19. Children & Youth Chairman		Vacant
20. JROTC Chairman		Vacant
21. Junior Shooting Chairman		Vacant
22. Legislative Chairman		Vacant
23. Membership Chairman		Vacant
24. National Security Chairman		Vacant
25. Oratorical Chairman	Alton Brown	Present
26. Public Relations Chairman		Vacant
27. SAL Advisor	Gary Smith	Present
28. School Awards Chairman		Vacant
29. VA&R Chairman		Vacant

9) Roll call by Post:

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

10) The following Post Commanders were present:

Post 23	Post 368	Post 504	Post 507	Post 597
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- 11) Fred Rogers (1<sup>st</sup> Division Membership Chairman) reiterated the importance of meeting /exceeding our 2017 membership goals. Only ten (10) of the twenty (20) Post in the 5<sup>th</sup> District had submitted transmittals. Fred Rogers identified four (4) specific goals that will help meet our membership goals
- a. Recruit new members
  - b. Renewal of 90% of your Post membership
  - c. Aggressively pursue "345" transfers
  - d. Meet all target dates by 7 Sept. 2016
- 12) Commander Taylor recognized the following guest in attendance:
- a. David Harvey           1<sup>st</sup> Division Commander
  - b. Bob Elkins             State Baseball Chairman & Past Division & District Commander/Post Commander
  - c. Jeff Perkins           Past Division & District Commander/Post Commander
  - d. Gary Smith             Past District Commander/Post Commander
- 13) Gary Smith motioned and Bill Godfery 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion to wave the reading of the minutes posted on the 5<sup>th</sup> District webpage. The motion carried
- 14) Alton Brown motioned and Sam Underwood 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion to accept the finance report by Pat Sansom (pending audit). The motion carried
- 15) Vice-Commander Ronnie Jones rendered the following report;
- a. Collected \$7.00 from members who did not have a membership application in their possession, today
  - b. See the Vice Commander after the meeting for a copy of the "Membership Action Plan"
  - c. Post 453 will be site for the "345 Drive". The dates are 5 Oct. thru 9 Oct. 2016. Post Officers should be present representing their respective Post and actively recruiting members
  - d. The "Coffee Tours" are to be reinstated with more definitive information forthcoming
  - e. Post 368 submitted 14 transmittals and hold 1<sup>st</sup> place and Post 81 submitted 12 transmittals and occupy 2<sup>nd</sup> place
  - f. He reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> District is in 14<sup>th</sup> place and the 1<sup>st</sup> Division is in 3<sup>rd</sup> place at 22.83%.
  - g. Current Post standings are as follows: 1) Post 23 – 47.30% 2) Post 581 – 41.82%3) Post 111 – 39.37% 4) Post 368 – 33.92% 5) Post 597 – 29.02%
  - h. Post Retention Awards: 100%
    1. Post 53
    2. Post 111
    3. Post 424
    4. Post 453
    5. Post 504
    6. Post 507
    7. Post 581
  - i. Post Recruiting Award:
    1. Post 292
    2. Post 511
    3. Post 802
  - j. 5<sup>th</sup> District Survey (Help Us Help You) distributed to the members present. All asked to complete and return to the Vice-Commander before leaving
- 16) Americanism Chair Dennis Snow strongly urged each Post to embrace and participate in the programs that constitute American Legion Americanism. They are Citizenship, Education, Flag Advocacy, and Get Out the Vote

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- 17) Community Service – Post 453 & 368 are sponsoring a “Back the Blue” event on 15 Oct. 2016. More definitive information will be forthcoming. A school supply drive is also being planned with more information forthcoming
- 18) American Legion Baseball – A baseball championship in Irving (Post 597) had approximately 165 children participating.
- Efforts and plans are currently underway to secure a grant to build a baseball complex
  - Statewide baseball tournament held in League City, TX in July, won by League City team. Congratulations to the Texarkana American Legion team that won the world Championship.
- 19) Larry Marshall shared the following information regarding Boys State 2017:
- The 5<sup>th</sup> District sent 32 boys in 2015, 40 boys in 2016 and have a goal of 45 boys in 2017
  - 1,100 boys attended Boys State in 2016 and 2017 represents a potential attendance of 1,150/1,170 boys
  - Any Post that did not send any boys in 2016 are asked to send at least one boy in 2017
  - The 2017 Boys State tuition is \$295.00 per boy.
  - It is recommended that interviews start the week of 7 February 2017; 20 March 2017 applications and monies should be sent; 28 April 2017 is the deadline; and 1 May 2017 a waiting list will be established
- 20) Gary Smith – Constitution & By-Laws
- The Constitution & By-Laws have been submitted and approved
  - The approved Constitution & By-Laws will be available for review at our Fall Convention. The Fall Convention will be held at Post 511 on 15 Oct. 2016.
  - The Constitution & By- Laws for Post 184 and 511 have been revoked
- 21) National Security, VA&R, and Service Officer submitted no reports. Currently the American Legion has a paid Service Officers position open and unfilled in Waco. Strong recruitment from our competitors has complicated keeping the Service Officer position filled in Waco.
- 22) Sick Call:
- Chaplin Ed Kownslar awaiting liver transplant
  - Mona Stanper – Stage 4 cancer
  - Ken Jones
  - Otis is on Hospice at home
- 23) No Old Business and no New Business issues were raised.
- 24) David Harvey discussed the upcoming Division level membership drive. National and Division representation will be present. The Commander, Vice-Commander and Adjutant from each Post are greatly expected to attend; and to bring as many members as possible.
- 25) Good of the Legion:
- Nancy is the collection point for information, articles and other News Letter worthy items. It should be information that impacts the 5<sup>th</sup> District and not just a specific Post.
  - Every Post should file a form “990”. Failure to do so could result in a Post losing its non-profit status.
  - Jeff Perkins expressed his gratitude and thanks for the support received in his bid for 5<sup>th</sup> District Vice-Commander. Jeff also wants to build a second traveling Memorial Wall. The anticipated cost is \$2,800.00. The construction completion date has a November 5<sup>th</sup> 2016 deadline. Jeff is selling raffle tickets for a six glass decanter set. The glasses represent all branches of the service with embossed logos. The set includes a very nice premium bottle adult beverage.

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- d. Post 453 received a \$3,000.00 grant from Home Depot. Home Depot personnel (30) and members of the Dallas Police Department provided labor and assistance with the repairs and renovation.

26) Chaplin Ed Kownslar led us in our closing prayer at 1544.

27) Commander Taylor adjourned the meeting at 1550.