

American Legion 5th District, Department of Texas District Meeting August 11th, 2019 Held at Post 453

District Commander Alan Caesar opened the meeting in regular order with the posting of the Colors and placing of the POW/MIA flag at 2:11. Bob Swope gave the opening prayer. Commander Caesar led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble of the Constitution of The American Legion.

Roll call of Officers:

1. District Commander Alan Caesar	Present	16. Boys State Chair Ken Bowen	Absent
2. 1st Vice Commander WS Turner	Present	17. Const&By-Laws Chair	
3. Adjutant Joe Johnson	Present	18. Children & Youth Chair	
4. Finance Officer Pat Flores	Excused	19. JROTC Chairman	
5. Chaplain Nancy Beckham	Absent	20. Junior Shooting Chair John DeMeo	Absent
6. Asst. Chaplain		21. Legislative	
7. Historian Angela Wilhite	Present	22. Membership Chair WS Turner	Present
8. Judge Advocate Linda Weston	Present	23. National Security Chairman	
9. Service Officer		24. Oratorical Chair Alton Brown	Absent
10. Sergeant-at-Arms Joe Barrera	Present	25. Public Relations Tynetta Runnels	Present
11. Hub Master Ronald Jones	Present	26. SAL Advisor Dennis Snow	Present
12. ALR Advisor Tom Olson	Present	27. School Awards Chairman	
13. Americanism Chair Dennis Snow	Present	28. VA&R Chairman Linda Weston	Present
14. Baseball Chairman			
15. Boy Scout Chairman			

Roll call by Post:

Post 23 – Present	Post 275 – Present	Post 507 – Present
Post 53 – Absent	Post 292 – Present	Post 511 – Present
Post 81 – Present	Post 347 – Absent	Post 581 – Absent
Post 111 – Absent	Post 368 – Absent	Post 597 – Present
Post 124 – Absent	Post 424 – Present	Post 656 – Absent
Post 184 – Absent	Post 453 – Present	Post 802 – Present
Post 218 – Absent	Post 504 – Present	

A Quorum was established

Guests in attendance: **Ronald Jones** Past 5th District Commander

Motion made to wave the reading of previous meeting minutes by Matt Graska 2nd by Angela Herndon - No discussion – Motion approved

Motion made by Ronald Jones to accept the new officers and committee chairs 2nd by Herman Yentz. Motion passed

Pat Flores submitted the finance report prior to the meeting and Commander Caesar reviewed the report dated June 9th through August 11th, 2019,

Motion made to approve by WS Turner 2nd by Linda Weston.

No Discussion Motion approved

Committee & Advisor Reports

Membership – WS Turner – We have a lot of work to do as our goal is 2567. The District is at 31.44% which is 17th out of 22 Districts. We have only 2 post over 40% and that is Post 453 and 507. If we can get each post to sign up 20 members by December 2019 and 20 more by, March of 2020 we will meet our goal. Will be calling each Post Commander to review membership and see what we can do to help. Maybe a better way to get renewals is call and check in with the members you are not seeing at your post meetings.

Commander Caesar handed out envelopes with membership information for each post.

Americanism Chair – Dennis Snow

This committee is charged with inspiring the love of country and good citizenship through patriotic observances, flag etiquette, civic instruction in schools, the Americanization of immigrants, community service, and youth activities such as Boy Scouts, Oratorical Contest, School Award Medals and American Legion Baseball.

Upcoming holidays are September is National Suicide Month, Sept. 8th Grandparents day, Sept. 11th Patriots Day, Sept. 20th MIA Remembrance Day. Halloween, November 11th Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving. Novembers is Military Family and Wounded Warriors month.

Boys State – Reported by WS Turner. We sent 38 young men to Austin. 2 young men did not show up. Post 292 donated refreshments. Need to know the number of participants for the 2020 by March or April if possible so we can secure enough spots. There was not a ceremony for the end of Boys State.

Constitution & By-Laws –

Children and Youth –

JrROTC –

Legislative –

National Security –

Oratorical – Alton Brown –

Public Relations – Tynetta Runnels

Working with Dr. Keith Wilkerson preparing donation letters, contacting radio stations and other media outlets to get exposure for our post. Created a partnership with Dart to hire more Veterans. The Commander wants to visit each post so will be working on a schedule and contacting you. If you do not have a calendar of events, please put one together and we can help with publicity.

S.A.L. Advisor - Dennis Snow

3 squadrons were not present at the district meeting. Focused on membership and the Legion should be helping any struggling squadron with their membership.

School Awards – none

VA&R – Linda Weston – nothing to report

Sick call, Relief and Employment – none

Service Officer –

Unfinished Business – none

New Business – none

Good of the Legion -

Historian Angela Wilhite reported that she has come up with a Logo for the District and asked for approval. It is not finalized and will be submitted at the next meeting.

Would like to receive an email or call with upcoming events at your post so she can attend and take pictures. Her email address is: wilhite.amerilegion@gmail.com

If the Department has sent you a check or notice of payment by a member get the membership card sent out immediately

The commander has access to how often each post gets on mylegion.org. This website is very effective for membership. If you are having issues, please let the Commander know or Joe Johnson at jj3s@aol.com

Commander Caesar introduced himself and his record of eligibility to be in the American Legion. He is searching for members to fill multiple chairs. This is not just to fill a spot but work the program and push the 5th District into the future and make us better. Below is the List of chairs that need to be filled.

Asst. Chaplain	Service Officer	Baseball Chairman
Boy Scout Chairman	Const. & By-Laws Chair	Children & Youth Chair
JrRotc Chair	Legislative Chair	National Security Chair
School Awards Chair	Your help is greatly needed and appreciated.	

Bill West notified the passing of the Legion Act which allows all honorably discharged veterans after Dec. 7th, 1941 is eligible for membership. Most post will need to revise their Constitution and By-Laws.

We will be working to open Post 622 which was an Amvets post in Dallas. Address is 3900 W. Davis St.

Announced District meeting and Convention dates please check the website.

Post 81 holding the 1st Veterans Day Golf Tournament. Poker Run Oct. 19th to benefit Patriot Paws and awarded JrROTC medals at 5 schools and volunteered to help anyone post that needs help.

Post 511 is holding a jazz nite every Wednesday at 8:00

Post 424 VA Motorcycle Benefit Run

Post 453 Homeless Veterans Motorcycle Run with raffle, music, etc. on 3/21

Post 597 holding Centennial Celebration at the Carrollton square. Will have bounce house, music, face painting food and drink, guest speakers, everyone is welcome.

The Commander asked that all events be sent to Public Relations and Hub Master for publication as there is multiple upcoming events please see the 5th District website for more details.

Closing prayer, POW/MIA Retired, Colors Retired
Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm