



American Legion
Department of Texas
Brown/Guest Post 30 Paris, TX

Meeting Date: 5/21/2022

American Legion Brown/Guest Post 30 met at the Elks Lodge at 1000 hours.

Present: 18 Members & 7 guests. See Attached List.

SGT at Arms posted the colors.

Chaplain made the opening prayer.

Commander led members in POW/MIA ceremony.

Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

All members recited the Preamble of the American Legion.

The Commander opened the Post to business.

Adjutant read roll call of Officers:

Commander - present **Service Officer** - present

1st Vice Commander - present **Sgt at Arms** - present

2nd Vice Commander – present **Web Master** - excused

Adjutant/Hub Master - present

Finance Officer – present (Bill Townsend) **Historian** - present

Chaplain - present **1st Trustee** - Jeff Dunken, present

Judge Advocate - excused **2nd Trustee** – N/A

All present and/or accounted.

April meeting minutes and May Executive meeting minutes stand approved/corrected.

Introduction of Guests/Prospects/New Members: Andy Lowen, Division & District Chaplain, Post Commander & Adjutant of Post 66 in Sulphur Springs, new members Samantha Wilson & Alvin Barber, & guests of members, Wanda Townsend, Hope Ovando, Elaina Nava, Aaron Stewart, Renee Townsend, and Bonnie Dunken.



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Officer Reports and Committees:

Veterans Affairs and Service Officer, Amy Burton: Centralized Community Emergency Treatment reporting and care coordination. See attached. Also, informed post about Health Care business by Panda Express on the SE Loop 286 is part of the TriWest urgent care network, is a veteran owned business and are exceptionally good at taking care of medical issues.

Membership and Post Activities/Americanism, Bill Townsend: decrease in membership

Budget and Finance, Bill Townsend: read report, see attached

Fundraising, Ronnie Morton: read report, see attached, also fundraising need more volunteers

Balloting on Applications: Samantha Wilson and Alvin Barber, Ora Miles made the motion to accept the new members. Ronnie Morton 2nd. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Sick call, Relief, and employment by the Chaplain: Jim Clark in nursing home after having a stroke.

Unfinished Business: Still need to send form to National for legal permission to use an American Legion banner at youth baseball games.

Find a place to distribute poppies. Discussed Farmers Market & Paris Town Center. Jeff & Bonnie Dunken stated they would volunteer for the Farmers Market.

Monetary donations to families in lieu of flowers or donation to charity of choice.

2-sided banner still needs to be ordered.



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Kelly Collins previously recommended pursuing awards for the Honor Society to reach the younger generation. No current updates

Contact of Legends Nursing Home veterans and get an updated list of veterans is still needed. Plans for Legends Nursing home to have a wall of honor veterans by Kelly Collins.

Garage sale money/Auxiliary – Bonnie Dunken, member of forming the Auxiliary stated she has a meeting with the president of the Auxiliary next week.

Initiation of Candidates: Samantha Wilson & Alvin Barber were initiated into the post by 1st Vice Commander, Bill Townsend. They will need their new member kits and certificate.

Correspondence by the Adjutant: Thank you card received from Rick Leonhardt to the post for the potted plant arrangement for the death of his father.

New Business: Executive board discussed many ways to reach out to the community and help youth and students. Doing scholarships for new military members, also following up with them after serving for a year, which will be an effective way to recruit new members. More information will need to be gathered.

Ora Miles made a motion that monetary donations should be donated to families in lieu of flowers or donation to charity of choice. Kelly Collins 2nd. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ora Miles put to the floor about scholarship donations to new & current college students to assist with their needs and a way to recruit new members. Names submitted by Ora Miles were Tiffany Hearne, (a



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by Amy
w/ James ?

veteran) & Tekiah Marshall. Amy Burton submitted Taylor Cooke and Ronnie Morton submitted names James, Andrew Thomas, and Katherine Taylor. Ora Miles motioned to give all 6 names \$500 each. Kelly Collins 2nd. Discussion ensued regarding finances and research on the submitted names. Samantha Wilson, new member, and a teacher informed post that money sent to the colleges may not assist the students named due to any scholarships they may currently have and the colleges using the money for other reasons. Ora Miles rescinded her motion.

Ronnie Morton then made a motion to give \$1000 to all names submitted but to give to their schools. Cecil Poole 2nd. Motion voted with 7 ayes and 9 nays. Motion failed.

Amy Burton motioned post to address this issue next month after research of candidates. Kelly Collins 2nd. Motion passed with majority vote.

Ora Miles put to the floor mentoring disadvantage youth. Post was informed that Paris Junior College has a trio program for students but will need to be followed up. No vote currently.

Ora Miles put to the floor the following donations: Fire Department fire safety education, NAACP banquet buying a table, and donation to Mayhew cemetery in Hugo Ok.

Bill Townsend made a motion to donate \$2 hundred dollars to the Fire Department. Amy Burton 2nd. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Amy Burton made the motion to buy a table at a cost of \$240 dollars for the NAACP banquet on June 18th at 6pm at the Love Civic Center. Arron Honsinger 2nd. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ora Miles made a motion that the post donate \$750 dollars to Mayhew cemetery in Hugo, OK. Amy Burton 2nd. Motion passed by unanimous vote.



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Nominations for officers for the year 2022 - 2023:

Commander – Bill Townsend
Vice Commander – Kelly Collins
Adjutant – Wyndell Ferguson
Finance Officer – Samantha Wilson
Service Officer – Amy Burton
Chaplain – Dennis Mullins
Judge Advocate – Julie Flowers
Historian – Stephanie Griffin
Webmaster – Keith Brown
SGT @ Arms – Cecil Poole
Trustee – Jeff Dunken
Trustee – Cecil Poole

I, Ora Miles, Post Adjutant, by acclimation for officer nominations for 2022 to 2023. New officers sworn in by Andy Lowen, Division & District Chaplain, and Post Commander and Adjutant of Post 66 in Sulphur Springs.

Good of the Legion: Andy Lowen addressed the post with positive remarks on accomplishments. He also addressed ways to keep and increase membership. He addressed the membership to show up at meetings so their voice can be heard, and they can understand and help. Andy Lowen informed post to due diligence on finances before making donations.

Champions mentor program by Paris Junior College was held yesterday, May 20th. Samantha Wilson attended.

Commander, Reginald Hughes, presented Charles Miles and Ronnie Morton the National Commander's 2022 membership excellence pin for recruiting at least 3 new members.



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Boy Scout Court of Honor program on May 30th, 1300, hours at Calvary UMC on Lamar Ave.

Allen West, LTC, will be speaking at Love Civic Center at 1000 hours on Memorial Day.

Post gathering with membership and families today at 1530 at Wades Park, catered by Shoals BBQ.

Keith Brown donated \$20 dollars to assist with the cost of the post gathering.

American Legion cap rules for females per the officer guidebook, a female may leave her cap on during the Pledge of Allegiance, the national anthem, prayer, and meals.

Also, per the officer guidebook, the wearing of the American Legion cap is considered being in uniform and should be worn only when in attendance at official Legion meetings or ceremonies, as official guests at patriotic or other civil functions, or by individuals when officially representing The American Legion on public occasions. Per Andy Lowen, the American Legion cap may be worn for advertising and/or recruiting members, but any time the American Legion cap is worn, the person should uphold the conduct and behavior of the American Legion.

Car show on June 11th at the Love Civic Center starting at 0900 hours and post can set up a fundraising booth. Point of contact is Travis Skidmore.

Department Convention is July 12th – 17th.

Commander, Reginald Hughes, thanked the post & officers for supporting him during his tenure of being commander. He was also reelected as Mayor Pro Tem for this next fiscal year and will be running for Mayor of Paris, TX next fiscal year.



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Closing Ceremony: Closing prayer given by Chaplain.

There being no further business, the Commander adjourned the meeting at 1135 hours.

Next meeting date: Jun 18, 2022

Handwritten signature of Ora Miles in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Ora Miles
Adjutant

Handwritten signature of Reginald Hughes in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Reginald Hughes
Commander