

## Minutes of the Convention Economic Committee Meeting Department

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gerald Merrell Was called to Order at 8:20am Friday June 29<sup>th</sup> in the Glens Room I, at the Kalamazoo Radisson hotel.

The following districts were represented: 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

Legionnaires' in attendance Gerald Merrell Chairman, Mike Globke, Peter Saherthwaite, Fred Hollister, Doug Carigan, Clifford Tatum and Donald Connor

Guest. Mark Walker from National.

Minutes from the June 24<sup>th</sup> 2011 Convention meeting were read, motion made by Don Connor to accept Seconded by Fred Hollister Minutes accepted

Mark Walker discussed what National was doing; Mark discussed the credentialing and licensing how the American Legion has lobbied congress and helped write two bills. Senate Bill 2239 and House Bill 4155 both have made progress and should be signed by President Obama before the start of the American Legion National Convention.

Along with the work National is doing for Homeless Veterans' Local posts need to report out activities so National can update their material. Mark mentioned there is a Guide, which posts can use to connect and work with and get homeless veterans to the resources.

Chairman Gerald Merrell talked about the VA For Vets career fair going on in Detroit. Over 1,200 veterans were offered jobs on the spot the first day, career coaching and help with resume writing is available on sight. As well as veteran service officers to help with VA Claims, the VA has staff onsite to register veterans.

Also mentioned was up coming State of Michigan Veterans' services jobs in Mount Clemens and other areas. The group was shown the Veterans' Services web page, which they can use as a resource to assist veterans who come to their posts.

Chairman Gerald Merrell talked about and showed the group the State of Michigan Civil Service web page where veterans can use a "Job interest" Card to get the work on jobs which interest them are posted.

Also mentioned on having Veterans' Service Staff attend District meetings to help get the word out on services available to veterans'

Old Business: None

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20am

Minutes submitted by Gerald Merrell. Chairman Economic Committee