

Department Economic Committee Meeting

Was called to Order at 12:10 Thursday June 28th in the Great Lakes Room IV, at the Kalamazoo Radisson hotel.

Members: Chairman Gerald Merrell, Don Connor and Fred Hollister.

Absent Gary Sammons

Guest. Mark Walker from National.

Minutes from Fall Conference Meeting were read, Fred Hollister made motion to accept minutes Don Connor seconded minutes passed 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.

The result of this legislation will be a seamless transition for our returning hometown heroes.

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.

Old Business:

The Job fair, which was talked about at our fall meeting, the result the Economic, can get involved with existing job fairs to help promote the hiring of veterans, and what the American Legion can offer.

Discussion. Fred Hollister talked about getting with the local chamber of commerce's to get employers for 2013 economic awards. Fred also was part of the Bellaire seasonal job fair where veterans were hired for jobs at the lodges during their season.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50

Minutes submitted by Gerald Merrell.2