

The American Legion Department of Michigan

Department Standing Legislative Committee

Meeting was held at: The Kalamazoo Radisson Hotel in the Great Lakes III room.

Meeting opened at 0900.

The following members were present:

Chairman, Tim Poxson

Vice Chairman, Skipper Townes

Secretary, Joe Renis

Other committee members: Stephen Stevens, Mark Sutton

Number of guests present: 3

There was a quorum.

Approval of previous meeting minutes: motion by Townes, second by Stevens; motion carried with corrections to bill numbers.

Motion to Support Resolution 19-C-xx Subject: S. 760 "Support for Veterans in Effective Apprenticeships Act of 2019" by Renis, seconded by Townes. This resolution will remove a layer of bureaucracy at the state level and open all approved US Department of Labor apprenticeship programs to Veterans to use their U.S. Veterans Administration Education Benefits.

Motion to support Resolution 19-C-xx Subject: Act on a Line 5 Solution by Stevens, seconded by Townes. This resolution asks our elected officials to move forward without delay to approve a new Line 5 pipeline, in the interest of national security. *On 6-29-2019 Committee Voted TO WITHDRAW support For Resolution 19-C-24. All Sours Voted TO WITHDRAW. Respectfully Tim Poxson*
Good of the Legion:

Discussion of differences in LEGION Act and National Resolution 1. The LEGION Act (HR 1641) authorizes The American Legion to determine the requirements of membership in The American Legion. Resolution 1 calls on Congress of the United States to declare that the United States of America has been in continuously engaged in a state of war from December 7, 1941 to such date in the future as the United States government may determine that there has been an end to armed hostilities and the Congress direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to qualify as "war-time veteran" all military service personnel who served honorably under federal

government Title 10 orders for at least one day during said period.

Mark Sutton stated that 2 checks from the VA were delivered for building VA homes in Grand Rapids and SE Michigan (Macomb Co.).

Derek Blumke, Post 46, Updated the committee on his research on the treatment of veterans diagnosed with depression. 32% increase of suicides from VA treated veterans vice civilian treated. Resolution will be forthcoming requesting VA monitor treatment of veterans diagnosed with depression.

Catherine Buckley stated the Grand Rapids veterans home condition is getting better. Veterans organization are there all the time to provide overwatch. Organizations are not able to get into finances and managemtn to oversee those portions.

Motion to adjourn made by Stevens, seconded by Townes.

Meeting closed at 0955.

Respectfully
Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Poxson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Poxson

Chairman

LEGISLATIVE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POST</u>	<u>ZONE</u>
Doug CARIGNAN	4	3
Derek Blumke	46	2
Catherine Buckley	154	2