

AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
MEMBERSHIP STANDING COMMITTEE
February 15, 2020

The Department Membership Committee was called to order by Membership Director Robert Higley in the Taylor Room at the Holiday Inn Gateway Center in Flint, Michigan on February 15, 2020 at 1035 hours

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Higley, Sheila Overholts, Gary Lane, Dave Spencer, Gregory Spight, Richard Parks, Bill Hilgris, Gary Walter and Wendy Sexton. There was a quorum.

GUESTS PRESENT: 39

The first order of business was to make corrections to the committee rules of procedure to align with the changes made to the Department Constitution and Bylaws at the 2019 annual convention.

There was a **motion** by Sheila Overholts and seconded by Gary Lane to strike “**and Bylaws Article VI, Section 3(a)**” and replace with “**Article X Section 4**” in the second paragraph of the committee ROP. Motion was approved.

There was a **motion** by Richard Parks and seconded by Sheila Overholts to strike “**not later than**” and replace with “**at**” in the 3rd paragraph of the committee ROP. Motion was approved.

There was a **motion** by Richard Parks and seconded by Dave Spencer to add “**The assistant Membership director shall serve as the Vice Chairman and**” shall assume all duties of the Chairman in the Chairman’s absence to the 4th paragraph of the committee ROP. Motion was approved.

Minutes: It was **moved** by Gary Walter and seconded by Sheila Overholts that the minutes of the September 20, 2019 meeting of the Department Membership Committee be approved. Motion carried.

The meeting was suspended to recognize and welcome John Knox, Department NEC, and James W. "Bill" Oxford, National Commander. The National Commander addressed the group stressing the importance of membership and the need to increase our retention rate from 86% to 90%.

Old Business: None

New Business:

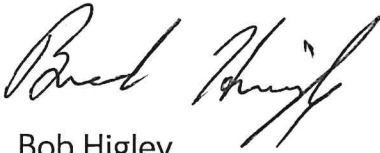
- As of February 12, 2020 Michigan, is in 31st place nationally with 53,785 members which is 83.66% of our goal. Michigan is in 52nd place when comparing our current membership compared to one year ago.
- The contract between posts and department to transfer headquarter post members that turn in a request for transfer was discussed. Posts are to contact the transferred member within 30 days to verify eligibility and welcome them to the local post.
- Gary Lane reported the 5th zone is currently in 1st place with 87.58% and the 12th district is in 1st place with 89.66%.
- Richard Parks reported that posts 59 and 118 in the 2nd Zone will probably be closed since they are below the minimum of 15 members.
- Wendy Sexton reported there are 2 posts in the eleventh district and 3 posts in the 12th district that are above 100%. Post 540 in the 11th district is at 10 members and will most likely be merged with another post.

Good of the Legion:

- Sheila Overholts stated we should be welcoming all veterans not matter when the served.
- Gary Walter stated we need to function as a family and recruit for The American Legion, Auxiliary and SAL.
- Brian Mohlman commented that only half of the request to transfer forms that are signed are being acted on by the posts. Districts need to follow up with the posts to make sure the DMS members are being transferred and welcomed to the local post.
- There will be a training session on Project Stay Active, Basic Revitalization and Buddy Check this afternoon at 1:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before this committee a **motion** to adjourn was made by Gary Lane and seconded by Sheila Overholts. The meeting was closed at 1130

Respectfully Submitted,



Bob Higley
Membership Director

m/ Bowman
z/ Gorecki
motion pass to adjpt