

2020 Winter Meeting of the

Reconnect Committee

Feb. 15th 2020

Opening:

The meeting of the Reconnect Committee was called to order at 1:03 p.m. in the Taylor Room of the Holiday Inn Gateway Centre in Flint, Michigan on Saturday FW. 20th, 2019.

Chairman Tanner opened the meeting with the Pledge and a prayer.

There were 4 committee members present and 2 excused. There were 10 guests present.

Minutes:

The minutes of the Fall Reconnect Meeting were read. It was moved by Catherine Buckley and supported by George Bolinger to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Chairman Tanner indicated that the latest rules of procedure for the committee still need to be modified to include the Homeless Veteran Subcommittee. This will be continued off line.

National executive committeeman, John Knox, stopped in to introduce National Commander Bill Oxford comma and his Aide, Larry Kline, for the purposes of a brief presentation. Materials to promote the Reconnect Programs and Homeless Veteran Subcommittee are being designed, and it was moved by Catherine Buckley and supported by Ken Pierce to include these items in the Reconnect budget proposal to be submitted this spring. Motion carried.

New Business:

Chairman Tanner shared and discussed the new Department Social Media policy with the committee. Department has requested administrative rights to the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program Facebook page and also requested that the Elmobility Facebook page be taken down due to inactivity.

Commander Wood stopped in the thank the committee for their efforts and listen in on our meeting.

Chairman Tanner read the amendments to the Reconnect Committee Rules of Procedure required to confirm to the amendments to the Department By-laws, however the current version of the Reconnect Committee Rules of Procedure passed at convention were not included in the packet. The revisions were listed in the previous version of the committee rules of procedure, so the committee was not able to vote to adopt the changes at this time.

Chairman Tanner indicated that the committee helped a total of 162 families with temporary financial assistance last year. Up from 128 the previous year. As of Winter meeting, we have surpassed many of the previous year's totals. If requests continue at this rate, most likely will exceed 200 families this year.

Catherine Buckley gave a report on the Homeless Veteran Subcommittee metrics. So far the Homeless Veteran Subcommittee has helped 37 veterans including several temporary financial assistance requests and many benefits resource assistance.

Lynne Terhune, Unit 459 President, stopped in to our meeting and gave a brief presentation about Tips for Troops and presented a donation to the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program in the amount of \$7821.00 from this past Summer's Tips for Troops.

Three Balls racing donated close to \$20,000.00 and the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council donated \$30,000.00 both to the Michigan Wounded and Returning Warrior Program.

The committee welcomed Alicia Burton's request to join the Reconnect Committee and that appointment will be made by Commander Wood at the DEC meeting.

Roundtable discussion was held. There being no further business to come before the committee it was moved by George Bollinger and supported by Ken Pierce to adjourn the meeting at 1:55om. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Tanner;
Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary A. Tanner". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.