

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
AMERICANISM AND COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE
RULES OF PROCEDURE**

Authorization:

This committee was authorized in its present form at Department Convention, July 20, 1975, although the committee had been established at an earlier date.

Membership:

Subject to the Department Commander's discretion and with the approval of the Department Executive Committee the Americanism and Community Service Committee of the Department of Michigan will normally consist of eight (8) regular members, with vote, and two (2) alternate members, without vote, unless they are serving in the absence of a regular member.

One of the regular members will serve as Chairman of the Americanism and Community Service Committee, one will serve as Chairman of the Subcommittee for Law and Order, one will serve as Chairman of Scouting.

At the first meeting of the new term, the Americanism and Community Service Committee will elect one of its members to serve as Vice Chairman and one to serve as Secretary during that term of office. The Vice Chairman shall assume all duties of the Chairman in that person's absence.

Per the American Legion Department of Michigan Bylaws (June 2019)

Article V Section 1 (Sentence 3): Department Commander The Commander shall appoint all standing committees, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, except as otherwise provided.

Article VI, Section 4: All committee members shall be appointed and may be removed for cause by the Department Commander, with the approval of the Department Executive Committee. The Department Commander shall name the Chairman of each committee to serve until the next Department Convention.

Members that are on mandated committees (Permanent Time and Place), or serving in an Alternate or Assistant position on the Department Executive Committee, may also serve on an appointive Department committee but not in a Chairmanship, with the exception of the Permanent Time and Place Chairman, who may serve in that role.

No member shall receive per diem and travel pay more than once per call, regardless of the number of committees they serve on."

Article VI, Section 5: The term of office of all members of Department Committees shall be staggered so that the term of one-half of the Committee shall expire at the close of the annual

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Department Convention each year. Appointments, except when a shorter term shall be necessary to comply with this provision, shall be for a term of two (2) years each.

Section 6: No Legionnaire may be appointed to serve on more than one regular standing appointive Department Committee at any one time.

"Alternate members will be appointed to serve a one-year term and will be designated as first and second alternate." *(DEC April 20, 1974)*

Purpose:

The purpose of the Americanism and Community Service Committee is to develop and coordinate Department activity, promoting understanding and appreciation of American Government and activity in the American way of life through youth activities, community service, instruction of prospective citizens and immigrants, education and education facilities and to combat subversive activities.

Meetings:

(Per the Department Bylaws) Article VIII, Section 2: Expenses - No Department officer or member of any committee shall be paid or reimbursed from the funds of the Department for any travel or other expense incurred upon Department business, unless a travel order or other suitable order, duly Called by the Department Commander or duly signed by the Department Adjutant, shall accompany the order for payment thereof.

Meeting Schedule:	Member	Chairman
Fall Leadership Conference	One day	Three days
Winter Meeting	None	One day
Department Convention	One day	One day

(Department Executive Committee Action, September 19, 2009)

Special Meetings:

Necessary special meetings may be held at Department Headquarters, via telephone conference, or internet conference capability (provided all members can hear each member during proceedings), with no mileage nor per diem authorized. Lunch may be provided by Committee funds with prior approval of the Department Commander. *(Rev. 3.12.17)*

Per diem and/or mileage:

Per diem and/or mileage, if any, and only upon the authority of the Department Commander, shall be in accordance with current published Department policy as recommended by the Department Finance Committee and approved by the Department Executive Committee.

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Minutes:

Written minutes of each meeting shall be recorded by the Secretary and shall constitute the Chairman's report to the Department Executive Committee or the delegates to the Department Convention and will be included in the official proceeding of the meeting, conferences or convention thereby being made a permanent record for retention at the Department office. Minutes of any special meetings, adoption of motions or resolutions approved at any time occurring between Department meetings, conferences or convention shall be incorporated into the next official proceedings. Recommendations and/or resolutions must be presented in proper form to the Department Executive Committee or delegates at the Department Convention.

Consolidated Post Reports:

Judging of Consolidated Post Reports (CPR's) is broken down into sub-categories for Overall Best Community Support Program to receive certificates for overall accomplishment, with the winner receiving the trophy for best CPR. This will recognize smaller posts that provide a great service to their local community.

- Posts with membership from 1- 50
- Posts with membership from 51-100
- Posts with membership from 101-150
- Posts with membership from 151-250
- Posts with membership 251 and higher

Vote:

The committee may transact business by mail, telephone, e-mail, and other technologies including, but not limited to, Skype, Facetime, conference calls, and webinar/video chat, provided all members see/hear all votes made. If an e-mail vote is implemented, each response must be forwarded to all members of the Committee. If standard mail, the voting shall be considered closed at the end of seven (7) business days provided a majority of members of the committee have returned to the Chairman their votes by that time, or it shall be considered closed at anytime prior thereto and when all the members have returned their votes. Other technical votes include a telephone conference or web conference provided each member can see and/or hear each other members' votes. In the event one-third (1/3) members of the committee objects in writing, the matter shall not be decided and will be considered as the first order of business at the next regular meeting or special meeting and the Chairman shall notify the committee of the action taken. *(Rev. 3.12.17, resolution 18-C-15 DEC June 24, 2018)*

The Chairman and Committee shall plan and implement the program of the Americanism and Community Service Committee to be presented at the Department Executive Committee meeting for approval in the fall of each year.

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Program Promotion:

Complete information is included in the annual Program Guidepost insert to the October issue of the Michigan Legionnaire. Applications available upon request from Department.

Chairman:

The Chairman shall prepare the Americanism and Community Service program for the year, including subcommittees on Law and Order and Scouting, with his committee members, to be submitted to the Department Executive Committee at the Fall Leadership Conference.

The Chairman shall be prepared to conduct an Americanism School of Instruction at the Fall Leadership Conference.

The Chairman will attend the National Americanism Symposium.

An Annual Report is to be written and submitted to the Editor by May 1st of each year.

Procedure:

Parliamentary procedure used to conduct meetings of this committee shall be governed by the Department of Michigan, The American Legion, Constitution and By-Laws. All questions not covered by the Department of Michigan Constitution and By-Laws will be governed by "Roberts Rules of Orders Newly Revised."

Quorum:

A quorum shall exist at any meeting of the Americanism and Community Service Committee when a majority thereof shall be present, or shall have replied to mail polling. At no time shall lack of quorum prevent those present from proceeding with the program, but where there is not a quorum no vote shall be taken.

Amendments:

These procedures may be amended, in content but not in format, by a majority of the members of the Committee; submitted to the Internal Affairs Committee for review and recommendation; and approved by the Department Executive Committee.

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LAW & ORDER SUBCOMMITTEE

Authorization:

This committee was authorized in its present form at Department Convention, 1972, although the committee had been established at an earlier date.

Chairman:

The Chairman of the Law and Order Committee shall prepare the program for the year, in consultation with the Americanism and Community Service Committee, to be presented to the Department Executive Committee at the Fall Leadership Conference.

The Chairman shall prepare the Student Trooper Program and oversee the implementation of same.

At least one article for the Michigan Legionnaire shall be prepared and submitted to the Editor through the Chairman of the Americanism and Community Service Committee.

An Annual Report shall be written and submitted to the Editor by May 1st of each year. This report shall be submitted to the Editor through the Americanism and Community Service Chairman.

SCOUTING SUBCOMMITTEE

Authorization:

This committee was authorized in its present form at Department Convention, 1972, although the committee had been established at an earlier date.

Chairman:

The Chairman of the Scouting Committee is to prepare the program for the year, in consultation with the Americanism and Community Service Committee, to be presented to the Department Executive Committee at the Fall Leadership Conference.

An Article for the Michigan Legionnaire shall be submitted to the Editor at least once a year through the Americanism and Community Service Chairman.

An Annual Report shall be written and submitted to the Editor by May 1st of each year. This report shall be submitted to the Editor through the Americanism and Community Service Chairman.

Approved: June 19, 1978

Amended: *October 31, 1980, July 19, 1984, June 17, 2006, February 16, 2007, February 21, 2009, June 22, 2009, September 19, 2009, June 26, 2014, June 24, 2018, Feb 16, 2020*