

**Minutes of S. Gus Alexander, Jr. Memorial American Legion Post 111,
Department of Texas
Meeting**

3 February 2010

Regular Meeting Called to Order at 1901L.

Roll Call of Officers:

Gary Smith, Commander – Present & Presiding

S.A. LeJune, Vice-Commander – Present

Steve Kennedy, Adjutant - Present

Pat Sansom, Finance Officer - Present

Charles Nations, Chaplain – Excused

Gary Poplin, Judge Advocate – Present

Steve Kennedy, Historian - Present

Jerry Adams, Service Officer - Excused

Jim Swafford - Sergeant at Arms – Present

Pat McEnroe, Trustee Chairman – Present

Ed Jones, Trustee – Present

Luis Santana, Trustee – Present

Officers Present: 9

Other voting members present: 2

Tommy Sorrell

Frank Brown

Total voting members present 11

Guests Present: 0

SAL 0

AL Auxiliary 0

Total Present: 11

Opening ceremonies were held. S.A. LeJune gave the opening prayer. Gary Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

S.A. LeJune introduced a motion to suspend the reading of and approve as published the minutes from the regular post meeting held on 2 December 2009. Ed Jones seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried.

Gary Poplin introduced a motion to suspend the reading of and approve as published the minutes from the Executive Committee meeting held on 16 January 2010. Jim Swafford seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried.

The Commander called for the Committee reports.

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Pat Sansom presented the Finance Report for January. Big costs for the month were expenses of \$1506.04 associated with replacement of the air conditioning unit. Gary Poplin introduced a motion to accept the Finance reports as published for January. Ed Jones seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried.

S.A. LeJune provided the Membership Report. The Post is currently at 105 paid members for 2010, including PUFLs. This is currently at 57% of membership goal. S.A. LeJune will continue to call on renewals.

Gary Poplin gave the Judge Advocate report. National Constitution Article 4 regarding reinstatement of a member who has been expelled by another post. Our Constitution needs to be updated to be in alignment with the National Constitution requirements. Gary Poplin made a motion that he will update the Constitution as required and provide to the Post Commander for email distribution to the post membership for review. Jim Swafford seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried.

Gary Smith provided the Service Officer Report. The Post has been approached in recent weeks regarding requests for financial assistance from two veterans. The Post Commander is working through the requests and will forward for District-level review. In the Post Commander's opinion, both instances constitute bona fide financial needs.

Pat McEnroe presented the Trustee report.

Gary Smith provided the Webmaster Status. He is now putting the Legislative Report on our website. This report provides a synopsis of pending and passed legislation which is of interest to the American Legion. Ed Jones asked about provided contact information for post officers on the Post website. Gary Smith discussed that email contact information is provided for the officers. The Post is prohibited from putting personal contact information on the website.

Jim Swafford presented the Building Manager Status Report. Jim provided a summary of the physical security measures that have been put in place to protect the exterior air conditioning units. Joe O'Neal provided outstanding support in providing material and welding services to complete the protective cages. Construction is completed, but the structure still needs to be painted. Ed Jones' son, Mike, provided assistance in obtaining a replacement air conditioning unit and he will provide the installation service. Still need to install extra exterior lighting and security cameras. Post 511 has stated they will volunteer a camera. Two other cameras have already been donated.

The Post Commander asked for Sick Call Report inputs. None were provided.

Unfinished Business:

- The post yard/rummage sale is now scheduled for 10 April 2010.
- Family night was scheduled for 12 February at 1900. Menu will include hamburgers, hot dogs, and side dishes. The Post Commander will solicit menu items by email.
- S.A. LeJune reminded the membership of requirements for Members in Good Standing.
- The Post Adjutant proposed a new Administrative Policy to provide guidance to the Financial Officer for the retention and destruction of post financial records. Gary Poplin made a motion to

approve the Administrative Policy as written. Ed Jones seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried.

- The Post Commander and Judge Advocate are working a letter to collect past due rent from our delinquent tenant.
- Pat McEnroe provided results of the recent oratorical competition.

New Business:

- The Post Commander discussed his desire to provide press release information for our community programs (Boys State, Oratorical, etc). The Chairman of each outreach group needs to take responsibility for publicity efforts.
- Gary Smith discussed his duties as District Hubmaster and that he will also serve in that capacity for the post. The responsibilities include distribution of pertinent American Legion electronic communications.
- American Legion baseball regional tournament will be held at Air Hogs Park in Grand Prairie. Ed Majors has asked that the Post sponsor a legion baseball team and that he would provide the funds. Requirement is that the Post must provide a liaison to the baseball team. The Post Commander solicited a volunteer to serve as the liaison. Duties would include coordination with local high schools in attempts to recruit a high school coach. Gary asked for an answer prior to the district meeting on 21 February. This is another good community outreach program for the Legion.
- Joe O'Neal, Squadron 111 Commander, has requested that the Post support the addition of an American Legion Riders chapter. Gary Smith reviewed the requirements for establishing a chapter and recommended that we pursue this opportunity to attract young veterans who like to ride motorcycles. S.A. LeJune motion to approve the request to pursue establishment of an American Legion Riders chapter. Jim Swafford seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried. Gary Poplin suggested that we review and amend the Post By-Laws as necessary.
- A new website (mylegion.org) will be launched in September 2010 that will help with membership tracking and processing updating post data including annual reports.

For the Good of Legion:

- Nothing to report.

The closing prayer was given by S.A. LeJune.

The colors were retired.

The Commander adjourned the meeting at 2014L.

The meeting minutes were recorded and transcribed by Steve Kennedy, Adjutant, and approved by Gary Smith, Commander.

_____ Date: _____

Minutes approved by Membership: _____