

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

3 June 2009

Regular Meeting Called to Order at 1901L

Roll Call of Officers

Gary Smith, Commander – Present and Presiding

S.A. LeJune, Vice-Commander - Unexcused

Steve Kennedy, Acting Adjutant - Present

Pat Sansom, Finance Officer - Present

Charles Nations, Chaplain – Present

Gary Poplin, Judge Advocate – Present

Steve Kennedy, Historian - Present

Jerry Adams, Service Officer - Present

Jim Swafford - Sergeant at Arms – Present

Pat McEnroe, Trustee Chairman – Present

Ed Jones, Trustee – Present

Luis Santana, Trustee – Unexcused

Officers Present: 9

Other voting members present: 3

Frank Brown

Clarence Baker

Willard Hampton

Total voting members present 12

Guests Present: 2

Jim Fleming, 1st Division Commander

Tommy Sorrell

SAL 0

AL Auxiliary 0

Total Present: 14

Opening ceremonies were held. Charlie Nations gave the opening prayer. Gary Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Gary Smith introduced Jim Fleming, 1st Division Commander, American Legion. Gary Smith offered Jim Fleming the opportunity to address the Post. Jim Fleming stated the he was present to observe.

Gary Poplin introduced a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes from May 2009 and to accept the minutes as published with the addition of one change required to allow Gary Poplin's ability to amend the constitution and by-laws at the Department Convention as long as the intent of the documents is not altered. Jim Swafford seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried.

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The Commander called for the Committee reports.

The Finance report for May was given. The Finance Officer sent a letter to ADT to cancel our contract upon its expiration. The Post has another option that will cost approximately one-fourth of the current service. The tax return was completed and submitted. Tax-exempt status for Dallas County was renewed. Boys State costs were paid during May. Gary Poplin introduced a motion to accept the Finance reports as published for May. Charlie Nations seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried.

Gary Smith presented the Membership status. The Post has 137 members and is currently at 74% of the membership goal for 2009.

Gary Poplin presented the Judge Advocate report. Final review and changes are being made to the updated constitution and by-laws. This is the culmination of a long, difficult review process. Gary Poplin will present the documents for approval at the DEC.

Jerry Adams had nothing new to report for the Service Officer report.

Pat McEnroe presented the Trustee report. He met with Ebby Halliday (owner of the real estate company) and she committed her personal involvement in our property activity. Post 111 is sponsoring Louis McElroy from Duncanville High School to Boys State. Ed Majors called and stated that additional funds were available, so our alternate (Nathan Jones) is also able to attend. Nathan's paperwork was received on 3 June.

Gary Smith presented the Webmaster status report. The Post's website has been entered in national and state level competitions. Need biographies from S.A., Luis, and Ed. Announcements page on the website has been updated.

Jim Swafford presented the Building Manager Status Report. Potential renters visited approximately three weeks ago, but nothing has been heard since. All rent is paid.

Sick Call – No report.

Unfinished Business:

- Family Night was held May 16 (Saturday) at 4:00 pm. The turnout was not as high as previous event, but still pretty good. Played horseshoes and darts.
- Family Night/Game Night will be held June 13 at 4:00 p.m. Food will be provided by S.A. LeJune (pulled pork), Jim Swafford (macaroni salad), Jerry Adams (something with green beans), and Gary Smith (BBQ baked beans), Pat Sansom (dessert). Charlie Nations made a reminder to keep at least some of the desserts friendly to diabetics.
- Dual officer installation will be held at Post 511 on 20 June at 1800. All members are invited.

New Business:

- The Post Officer Certification will be submitted on 4 June.
- Department Convention is scheduled for the last weekend in June in McAllen. Gary Poplin was nominated by Steve Kennedy to be the Post 111 delegate to the convention. Pat Sansom seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion carried.
- The Consolidated Post Report was submitted for this past year.
- Country Day on the Hill is in planning stage. Scheduled for 10 October 2009. Post needs to decide extent of involvement. Expect to conduct normal parking assistance duties. Looking for ideas for our booth, such

as raffles. Possibility of raffling three different items that target different age groups. Frank Brown's wife had volunteered contacts for obtaining raffle prizes. Members with further raffle ideas need to contact the Commander.

- Jim Swafford suggested that the Post purchase a lockable beverage refrigerator. Based on his research at Sam's, purchase price would be approximately \$169. Recommended donation per member to cover the cost would be \$20.
- Gary Poplin offered to buy the Post's used Stihl weed eater for \$100. It is not currently in use by the Post. There was general concurrence that this is a fair price. Gary Poplin provided a \$100 check to the Finance Officer.
- Review of announcements on the website:
 - Good Shepherd Church in Cedar Hill is having a fund-raising day on 13 June to obtain funds to repair their flagpole.
 - The Granbury Opera House is presenting "America the Beautiful" on 11 June – 15 July. Tickets are \$23-\$29.
 - There will be a Flag Retreat Ceremony at the National Scouting Museum on 14 June. Flags need to be delivered NLT 13 June.
 - The Fort Worth Community Arts Center will present a Tribute Exhibition on 5-26 June.
- North Texas Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society and the McKinney Community Band will be performing a D-Day tribute at the McKinney Performing Arts Center on 6 June at 1930. Tickets are free with VFW, American Legion, or military ID. Tickets \$7 in advance, or \$10 at the door.
- 25 challenge coins were sold to the American Legion Post in Channelview, TX. Current inventory is 31 gold and 57 color coins. Gary Poplin will take coins to the Department Convention for possible sales. Need to start planning replacement coin purchase as fundraiser.

For the Good of Legion:

- Jim Fleming requested to address the Post. Jim has attempted to visit all Posts in the division. He congratulated the Post on reporting two renewed memberships in May. Typically, Posts do not have new memberships that late in the membership year. He also commended the Post on a good turnout for the meeting.
- Gary Smith presented Gary Poplin with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service as District PR/Military Liaison from Dan Arnold, 5th District Commander.

The closing prayer was given by Charlie Nations.

The colors were retired.

The Commander adjourned the meeting at 1952L.

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

_____ Date: _____

Minutes approved by Membership: _____