**American Legion LTC George Franklin “Ben” Aiken Post 407**

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**DATE: 19 October 2019 COMPILED BY: Post Adjutant, Dennis O’Leary**

**ATTENDANCE: MEMBERS PRESENT: 5 VISITORS: 0 TOTAL: 5**

**Cdr Allen Lawrence asked Sgt-at-Arms Raul Romero to secure the meeting room and post the Colors. Cdr then brought the meeting to order at 1000 hrs Saturday 19 October 2019 at the ASYMCA located at 7060 Comington St. El Paso TX 79930. Members stood and uncovered while Chaplain Hank Braun opened the meeting in prayer. Cdr then led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Preamble to the Constitution of the American Legion. Members remained standing in silent reverence while Hank conducted the POW/MIA ceremony by placing the cover on the empty chair.**

**Roll Call of Officers was taken by Adjutant Dennis O’Leary. The following Officers were absent: 2d Vice Cdr Olga Kalpakgian; Sgt-at-Arms Raul Romero (physical & family situations) and 2d Exec Committeeman James Foster (chronic physical issues).**

**Cdr asked if there was a motion to suspend the reading of the September 2019 meeting minutes and consider them as posted. Motion to do so was made by 1st Vice Hank Braun and 2d’d by Hubmaster Martin Lawrence and passed by the members.**

**Committee Reports:**

1. **Veteran Affairs & Service: Cdr asked if anyone had report, Hank stated, “I would like to table my experience until the next mtg.”**
2. **National Security: Cdr stated, “Just remember to stay alert.”**
3. **Americanism: Cdr reminded members to fly the flag at all appropriate times. He also reported we would help teach flag etiquette to the students at Zavala Elem School in the coming days.**
4. **Children & Youth: Cdr stated, “Dennis, Raul, Olga and I and mbr-at-large, Robert Jeskey delivered approx. $500 worth of school supplies to ZES on 3 Oct. And on 24 Oct is Red Ribbon Week at ZES. On Thursday, the 7th of Nov at 0800, they will honor veterans. I hope everyone will be able to make it for that.”**
5. **Membership & Post Activities: Adjutant stated, “We are now at 65 members and we have 45 are paid-up, which is close to 70%. So, we’re ahead of schedule. In fact, Post 407 is first or second in the entire District.”**
6. **Public Relations: Cdr, “We are doing good for the community with our assistance to Zavala Elementary School. Also, when the Adjutant and I get together for our Exec Committee Mtg, Dennis wears the Legion hat. Most of the time someone comes over to our table to ask us questions. It’s a great idea if you’re doing anything in the way of Legion business to put on your hat. It puts the American Legion and our Post out there in public.”**
7. **Hubmaster: Martin started, “Our website is up and running and we’re getting about ten hits per day. Available on Facebook. The site is: AmericanLegionPost407elpasotx.org The email is: AmericanLegionPost407eptx.org. Martin informed the members of the program through H&R Block which would give $20 for every person we refer to them for their tax preparation.” Motion made by Hank, 2d’d by Martin and passed by the members. Cdr stated, “Our website doesn’t actually belong to us, it belongs to National American Legion.”**
8. **Service Officer: Cdr stated, “Still no word for one of veterans which I’m assisting. She had to go back to C&P for another exam.”**
9. **Legislative: Cdr, “Congress doesn’t have any bills pending.”**
10. **Finance: Dennis stated, “Our current balance is $1,019. I’d say we’re in good shape.”**
11. **Economic: No report.**
12. **House: No report.**
13. **Graves & Memorial: Adj O’Leary stated, “There were no members who went on to Post Everlasting during the previous month.” Cdr stated, “That’s good news.”**

**Sick-Call & Relief & Employment: Hank stated, “I’ve had a rough couple of months.” Bill Bosanko stated, “I’m hanging in there. Eleanor is down to eighty-three pounds. She’s still having pain in her back, hip and head. She had her 81st birthday yesterday.”**

**Unfinished Business: No report.**

**New Business: Cdr stated, “I have quite a bit of new business. The Constitution & By-Laws have been amended to reflect on the changes passed by National. And we’re the first one in the District to do so.” Motion to approve the new CBL’s as amended made by Martin Lawrence, 2d’d by Hank and passed by the member. Hank would like to have the Cdr and Adjutant over to his home to pick up bags of stuffed animals and Post supplies and flag on Saturday 12 noon 2 Nov. All others welcome to help come over. Cdr stated, “Let’s try to get another small Post involved with Zavala. There are comic books from Flag & Emblem that we can order on the flag.” Motion to purchase 100 of the Flag comic books made by Hank, 2d’d by Martin and passed by the members.**

**For the Good of the Legion: Cdr, “Get your shots. Flu, pneumonia and shingles.” Bill stated, “I got my flu and pneumonia shots from the nurse from the VA who comes to my home.”**

**Cdr stated, “Does anyone have anything else to come before this meeting?” There was no response. Having no further business to discuss, members and guests stood and uncovered while Chaplain Hank offered the closing prayer. Members remained standing in silent reverence while 1st Vice Braun recovered of the POW/MIA chair cover. Meeting adjourned at 1105 hrs Saturday 19 October 2019.**

**Note: Next meeting will be at 1000hrs, 16 November 2019.**

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**Adjutant Dennis O’Leary Commander Allen Lawrence**