

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DISTRICT 5 FALL MEETING

OCTOBER 2, 2021, BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

Hosted by: Loyd Spetz American Legion Auxiliary Unit 1 at the AmVets Club at 10:30 am.

The 5<sup>th</sup> District joint Legion and Auxiliary meeting was called to order by Brad Huber, District Commander. The Advance of Colors, Invocation, POW/MIA Remembrance, Pledge to the Flag, and Preamble were performed in a joint opening session. Peggy Moran, 5<sup>th</sup> District Auxiliary President, performed the POW/MIA Remembrance. Colors had actually been posted prior to the meeting.

Greetings were given by Sharon White Bear, Auxiliary Department President, the Legion Department Commander Steve Anderson, and Daniel Suerwein, Sons of the American Legion Commander.

Speakers at the joint session were representing Wall of Honor and Quilts of Valor programs.

Auxiliary relocated to an Auxiliary Room to continue the Fall Meeting.

Peggy Moran called the meeting to order. Guest attendees Sharon White Bear, Department President, and Sandra Petermann, Department President Elect, were introduced. Past Department President Lualice Stockert was recognized as well as Past District Presidents Lualice Stockert, Mary Anseth, Mary Ann Gefroh, Arlene Davis, and Sandra Petermann. Arlene Davis was recognized as serving as State Treasurer for a number of years. There were nine (9) Unit Presidents in attendance.

Minutes from the March 23, 2021, Spring District Meeting were read. Bonnie Banks made a motion and Mary Anseth second to approve the minutes. Motion carried. There was discussion about keeping permanent records in that according to National, Sandra Petermann indicated records are to be kept indefinitely by originating entity.

Financials in the program shows a District 5 balance on 9/29/21 of \$281.78.

Peggy Moran welcomed and thanked everyone for coming. Bonnie Banks extended a warm Welcome from Post 1 to Auxiliary members in attendance and Mary Anseth provided the Response.

Sharon White Bear, Department President, addressed the group and brought up the need to maintain membership. Her theme is "Freedom Is Never Free". The President's pins are presently in production. She will be attending a leadership workshop in October and hopes to bring back information for the group in the future.

Sandra Petermann, Department President Elect, also addressed membership. She distributed copies of an American Legion Auxiliary National Convention Resolution for the American Legion to change eligibility requirements for the ALA. Thirty chairmen present at the National Convention voted in favor of the resolution and 21 voted against. It was passed by the National American Legion and the Sons of the American Legion. It has been sent to the Departments of the American Legion for voting and could be finalized at the National Convention in 2022. There are 1,000 male members to date, and 134 Unit closures in 2020 and 157 closures in 2021, so Resolution is needed to not lose members due to not allowing great-grandchildren being eligible for membership (which was originally changed by the IRS).

Sandra asked if Units send out thank you cards when memberships are renewed and suggested to add meeting time/date information to those thank you notes as well as other suggested information. She also reviewed Member Award of 10 new members and Unit Award of 100% renewals. Membership standing for M – You are one in a million; E—Education – Excited to grow and learn; M—A member because of one special veteran; B—Be ready! Be prepared!; E—Everyday, thank a veteran; R—Rejoin, Renew, Recruit!; S—Shine! Make a difference!; H—Helping veterans, military, and their families; I—You are inspiring, invaluable, and important!; P—Proud to be an ALA member.

Mary Anseth from Turtle Lake indicated they send out letters to all members at renewal and include information of Unit hours and funds that are accomplished; as well as another letter to all members around Memorial Day to keep them informed of activities.

Department President Sharon was asked what her Project is this year. She is raising funds to help repair veterans' homes and works with the Legion Riders to get those repairs and improvements made. Donations to the Project are to be sent to the Auxiliary Department office in Fargo.

Arlene Davis made a motion to send \$100 from District 5 treasury for the Department President's Project, Gloria Pederson second; motion carried.

Sandra Petermann mentioned there will be a Silent Auction at the Winter Conference in January 2022 and asked for items for the auction. The money raised will be to help with expenses for the State Convention in June 2022. Any leftover funds would go to the next year's convention.

Sharon White Bear mentioned that the Veterans' Home at Lisbon is planning to put together baskets for the residents at Christmas this year and they could use donations for that project.

For Unfinished Business, President Peggy Moran reminded Units to renew their State of North Dakota Non-Profit Status and Federal Non-Profit Status (filing form 990-N). The need for a District Vice President was mentioned.

Peggy Moran reviewed the September Unit Mailing items: 2021/2022 Mandatory Contributions & Poppy Order; 2022 Unit Membership; Auxiliary Year by Months, and Department Constitution and Bylaws and Department Standing Rules that every Unit needs to update of their own as well.

Registration Report from the Bismarck Unit:

Ashley – 0	Bismarck – 1	Fredonia – 0	Garrison – 0	Hazleton – 3	Linton – 1
Napoleon – 2	Turtle Lake – 1	Washburn – 1	Wilton – 0	Wing – 1	Wishek – 0

Total 10 and 3 visitors

Further business was the quality of poppies last year was poor that some Units received. Sandra Petermann indicated that Units can get supplies to make poppies of their own and some areas of the country get help from school children making poppies.

Arliss Koski requested to go back to Unfinished Business and indicated she would take the District Vice President position. MaryAnn Gefroh made a motion to nominate Arliss Koski Vice President, Peggy Welder second, motion carried. Sandra Petermann performed the Installation of the District President and Vice President officers.

A thank you was given to Bonnie Banks and Unit 1 for their help with setting up the meeting and registration.

Arlene Davis performed the Closing Prayer and meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Peggy Moran, District President