

Commander:

Sergeant at Arms, please secure the doors.

Speaker 2:

Your wish is my command.

Commander:

That's a first and last. That door's not-

Speaker 2:

Riff and raff just came in.

Commander:

Fellows of our nation in place. Hand salute. Two. Uncover. I'd call on the Chaplain for invocation and reading of the POW.

Chaplain:

Thank you, Commander. Gracious Father God, we thank you for watching over us. As we conduct our business this week, we ask for your continued guidance to give our leaders the knowledge and the wisdom to fill their obligations, according to your will. Bless his Father for the remainder of our convention. We pray you will fill our heart with hope, charity, and love. We pray this in your precious name. Amen.

Audience:

Amen.

Chaplain:

Resolution 288 adopted at Legion 67th National Convention calls for a POW/MIA empty chair to be placed at all official meetings of the American Legion. As a physical symbol of the thousands of American POWs and MIAs still unaccounted for from all wars and conflicts involving the United States of America, this is a reminder to us to spare no effort to secure the release of any American prisoners from captivity. The repatriation of the remains of those who died bravely in defensive liberty and a full accounting of those missing. Let us rededicate ourselves to this vital endeavor.

Speaker 5:

Thank you, Sir.

Commander:

Call on the Sergeant at Arms to lead us in the pledge of allegiance.

Speaker 2:

Ladies and gentlemen facing the flag of our country, we all sing together.

Audience:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic, for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Commander:

Cover. Please follow me in reciting the preamble to the constitution.

Audience:

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

Audience:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. To maintain law in order. To foster and perpetuate a 100% Americanism. To preserve the memories and incidents of our association in all wars. To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, nation. To combat the autocracy of both classes and the masses. To make right the master of might. To promote peace and goodwill on earth. To safeguard and transmit to posterity and the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy. To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship to our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Commander:

So I'm going to suspend the standard agenda. We have a need to read the first reading of resolutions requiring constitution bylaws changes. So we are going to conduct that and then we will recess for the evening. So I'm going to call on the constitution bylaws chair, Ward Allen, to do the first reading of those resolutions requiring a constitution of bylaws change.

Speaker 5:

You do it twice.

Speaker 7:

Thank you, Sir.

Ward Allen:

Hello, it's Ward Allen, constitution bylaw chairman. You just start off reading resolution from the resolution committee, which was Tim Troop, Deborah Jackson, Dave Solomon, Mike Spear, Paul Chanel, Robert Kopeck, Terry Brown. Let me kind of go through this quick.

Ward Allen:

So membership and post activities. Whereas membership and the Department of Oregon have declined tremendously over the course of the last several years and whereas it is a mission of the department to grow our membership, and whereas our department revenue and annual budget greatly depended on the strength of our membership numbers, and whereas it is a duty of every single member of the American Legion to work membership, therefore, be it resolved that by a majority vote of the department of executive committee assembled in Beaverton, Oregon 25 June 2022. For that duration of three months, beginning July 1st, 2022 and ending September 30th, 2022. First-year membership per capital will be \$25 with 1850 going to the national and 650 going to the Department of Oregon.

Ward Allen:

And be it further resolved that under this campaign, the post be made to understand that they would not receive revenue while recruiting under this \$25 for the first year program. And be it further resolved that any post that wishes to recruit under normal terms in order to receive revenue for that post has a right to do so.

Ward Allen:

And be it further resolved, a continuance of this program can be presented as soon as we hit our goal of achievement. And be it finally resolved, the department goal for achievement in this campaign is set at 150 new members recruited during the initial three-month membership campaign.

Ward Allen:

This was voted on and set to the floor to be read tomorrow. Up next is going to be whereas populations in the post is decreasing, whereas districts are having issues filling other positions, whereas there are other posts that are grandfathered outside of their physical district, whereas there is a need to realign the districts in the state of Oregon to a better balance, be resolved that the following occur:

Ward Allen:

The appointment commander appoint a commission to convene, to review, to submit to the December in six months, December 2022, the following, they plan to realign the number of districts to a smaller number, a timeline of change upon ratification of the convention. This plan is to be reviewed by the DEC and then submitted to the Oregon department convention for ratification at the 2023 convention. That was also voted to pass forward.

Ward Allen:

Then we have coming from [inaudible 00:07:13] Falls District eight, proposal to amend the POW/MIA ceremony, whereas a resolution 267 National Convention called for the accounting of all PWS MIAs and the return of the remains in addition to the release of all still held, and whereas warships in the United States Navy are considered sovereign territory of the United States, whereas the USS Pueblo (AGER-2) is a third oldest worship after the USS Constitution and the USS Arizona, BB39 in commission. Whereas the USS Pueblo is a Banner-class environmental research ship attached to the Navy Intelligence as an intelligence gathering ship. Whereas a ship was attacked and captured by North Korea forces on the 23rd of January 1968 in international waters and has been held by North Korea in violation of international law. Be it resolved by post number five, district eight of the American Legion Department of Oregon in a regular meeting.

Ward Allen:

One that we are moved to propose the following additions to the POW/MIA ceremony after page 42, second paragraph, line six of the American Legion Officer's Guide 2022.

Ward Allen:

"Let us rededicate ourselves to this final endeavor." Insert the line, "Remember the USS Pueblo." Now being read as, "Let us rededicate ourselves to this final endeavor. Remember the USS Pueblo." Be it further result that a screamer saying, "Remember the USS Pueblo" be added to all Legion POW/MIA flag's natural colors. If there is no POW/MIA flag, the screamer is four inches high and three feet long, black material with white printed. Now, that resolution was failed. Did not want to pass.

Ward Allen:

Then we go to the resolution internal affairs constitution bylaws, this is going to be the merging of district seven and eight. Whereas the American Legion national constitution section 21704 powers four, "Corporations may establish state territorial organizations and local chapters of post organizations." And article eight, section three, "Department shall have the authority to create and charter immediate bodies between post and departments."

Ward Allen:

And whereas the Department of Oregon constitution article seven, section seven authorized the department executive committee to create, "Intermediate bodies, districts between the post and the department to act as liaisons between such organizations," where the power to define their territorial limits. And whereas the Department of Oregon bylaws article one, section one, paragraph seven and eight states district seven shall consist of all dually charter posts within the boundaries of Multnomah county and district eight shall consist of all dually charter posts within the boundaries of Clackamas county, except his grandfathered. And whereas the districts realize the positive effect of this proposed merger would have in coordinating with local governments through consistent messaging within the political structures. And whereas the district seven and eight recognizes that the [inaudible 00:10:14] associated with the individual districts, the renaming, and elections of district officers of the merged districts should be a dual district task.

Ward Allen:

And therefore be it resolved that by a vote and a consensus of district seven and district eight, the newly emerged district shall be named district seven and elected officers from district seven and district eight. Be it further resolved that upon approval of the existing paragraph, district eight shall consist of all dually charter posts within the boundaries of [inaudible 00:10:43] county be deleted. And be it further resolved with the approval of this resolution as set of district eight, become assets of merged district seven.

Ward Allen:

Be it further resolved that with the approval of this resolution, that the department executive committee, department bylaws article one, section one be changed to district seven shall consist of all dually chartered post within the boundaries of Multnomah county and Clackamas county. Be it finally resolved by the Department of Oregon executive committee on regular session at the 2022 department convention on June 25th, 2022, voted to accept this resolution to merge district seven and eight and will be effective immediately. That was also rejected. So, Commander, those are the ones that need to be read.

Speaker 5:

Sir.

Commander:

So those are all resolutions that require two readings. We will have the discussion period, etc. after the second reading tomorrow. A couple of announcements to make 06:30 tomorrow morning is the white tops breakfast. 17:30 PM tonight is the mix and mingle at a lower post 104 and the convention reconvened tomorrow at 08:30. Any questions?

Speaker 2:

Okay? Is that-

Commander:

I'm sorry?

Speaker 2:

The white house breakfast is at post 104.

Commander:

Yes. The white tops breakfast is at the lower post 104 at 06:30 tomorrow morning. Yes, Sir?

Speaker 8:

Do we have room service?

Speaker 2:

No.

Commander:

No.

Speaker 8:

Just saying that's old people.

Speaker 9:

He's worried about falling down.

Commander:

So colors in place. Hand salute. Two. I now declare this convention in recess.

Speaker 5:

So you got all you need?