

DEPARTMENT AMERICANISM & COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE
February 15, 2008

The meeting of the Department Americanism & Community Service Committee Meeting was called to order by Mike Jackowski, Department Chairman at 1 p.m. in Ballroom C of the Holiday Inn South Hotel in Lansing, Michigan. The following people were present:

MEMBERS: Mike Jackowski, Department Chairman, Charles Cox (absent), Walter Dacon, Roy Mc Lain (absent), William Miller, Dennis Koski and Murl Sanders.

GUESTS: 9 Present

Department Chairman Jackowski appointed Dennis Koski as secretary.

MINUTES: It was moved and supported that the minutes from Fall Conference, of the Department Americanism & Community Service Committee meeting be approved.
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Kids Wish Network and Liberty Day Programs were discussed. The committee feels that there was not enough information provided and therefore could not support either program.

PDC William Miller, Department Chairman of Law and Order Subcommittee gave the status of the program – see attached.

There was a discussion on CPR reports. The committee will meet on May 31, 2008, at 9 a.m. at Department Headquarters. All CPR's must be at Department by May 30, 2008.

There was a discussion on many different programs to promote Americanism starting with grade school.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before this committee, it was moved and supported that the meeting be adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY

MIKE JACKOWSKI, Department Chairman

**The American Legion
Department of Michigan**

Report to Americanism Committee at Winter Conference
February 14, 2008
Lansing, Michigan

Commander Mike Williams asked me to be Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Law and order when we were at the 2007 Convention. It was clear that he was very disappointed that due to a lack of applicants, he was forced to cancel the Student Trooper program for 2007. I accepted and said I would do everything I could to encourage the Legion Officers and members to accept this challenge also.

Due to my wife's physical limitations I was not able to travel but focused my efforts on using the Michigan Legionnaire and the DEC members to pass on the need to restore this important program. Nearly every issue of the Legionnaire printed a column for this purpose. At the beginning of 2008 Commander Williams prepared a letter to the Committeemen asking them to stress this at the District meetings. He also asked them to poll the Posts to get the names of students that were interested in Trooper school as well as Boys State and the Oratorical contests and report them at this Conference. While the deadline date for the Trooper School is not until May 1, 2008, we felt that we can re-adjust our efforts if necessary.

The other part of the Law and Order Committee deals with the Law Officer of the Year award. We had only 4 submissions this year. Nearly every community in Michigan at some time during the year has had some Officer doing something outstanding and beyond the scope of his/her duties. If our post members were paying attention we would have many submissions for this award. The winning submission from Michigan to the National organization was Randy Flathau of the Frankenmuth City Police Department. The other submissions were well qualified but after difficult deliberations Officer Flathau was selected. We believe that his application will be well received by our National Committee.

As a Post Script, I believe that the program name that was adopted last year should be changed back to "Student Trooper Program". "Youth Career Law Enforcement Program", while descriptive, is too long to constantly refer to. In addition, many Legionnaires did not associate it with the previous name of "Student Trooper Program."

William F. Miller
Chairman - Law And Order Subcommittee