

The meeting of the Department Public Relations committee was called to order by Chairman Chatman in Conference Room C, Causeway Bay Hotel & Convention Center Ballroom H.

Present: Committee Chairman Chatman

Absent and not excused: Janoska, Lafnear

Excused: Rodman

16 guests Present representing the 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 11th, 12th and the 16th.

Due to the lack of a quorum official business of the Public Relations Committee could not be conducted so a discussion was led by Chairman Chatman.

Old Business

Chatman expressed his extreme satisfaction with being PR chairman and encouraged others in attendance to seek appointments on a great department committee.

The Public Relations webpage has been a great tool for legionnaires to use, everyone was encouraged to visit the Department Website and click on Public Relations

Great publicity for the Department of Michigan and Michigan Legion Posts was garnered from Public Relations involvement with the Polar Bear Project. Warren Stensrud, Commander Anderson, his wife Donna, Chairman Chatman and Post Commander St. Louis and members of Homer Wing Post 172 were front row invited guests to the premier of the Michigan Polar Bear Documentary held at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy, Mi. Every time the documentary is shown nationwide, when the credits roll, all viewers will see a thank you to the Department of Michigan The American Legion and to the individual Michigan Legion Posts who contributed to this tribute to Detroit, Michigan WW1 Veterans.

New Business

New business to propose by Chairman Chatman to the Public Relations Committee once it is functioning again and selects its officers for the 2009-2010 membership year:

- Every post that has a website should have a designated P.R. person, who would in turn become a member of a statewide Department of Michigan Public Relations Network of legionnaires.

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- Department of Michigan's public relations committee should make greater use of communications services such as the Department of Michigan's twitter page and Nationals Legion Webcam service in furthering our department's public relation's goals.
- Establish a suggestion box on the Public Relations web page where Michigan legionnaires can leave ideas about how to more effectively communicate with the public, especially the media.

Make sure that the Department Public Relations communicates effectively the message that when we mean The Legion that includes the Legion Family, The Legion, The Auxiliary, The SAL and The Legion Riders, the Department of Michigan's Public relations message should be tailored to not only reach 700,000 veterans, but their families, sons, daughters etc.

A public relations school of instruction should be included at each Department Conference.

Changes the chairman proposes:

Reduce the number of current P.R. awards from 7 to 4

All entries submitted for consideration for media awards must meet the requirements spelled out for the award, if they don't they will be sent back to the submitter, with the reason why.

With no further business to come before the 1 person P.R. Committee, chairman Chatman declared the meeting adjourned. Guest were invited to attend the P.R. Committee Convention Meeting to be held Friday June 19, in Ballroom C of the Causeway Bay Hotel & Convention Center, Lansing, Mi.

Respectfully submitted:

Dick Chatman Chairman

Dick Chatman Acting Secretary

R.I. Chatman P.R. Committee member