

DEPARTMENT CHILDREN AND YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING
September 26, 2008

The meeting of the Department Children and Youth Committee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Ronald Geiger in the Commodore I Room of the Valley Plaza, Midland, Michigan. The following people were present:

MEMBERS: Ronald Geiger, Donald Meskill, Rod Gilmer, E. Ray Johnston

GUESTS: 7 districts and 11 guests

It was motioned by Meskill and supported by Gilmer to make Johnston Vice Chairman of this committee. Motion carried.

Minutes:

It was moved by Johnston and supported by Meskill that the minutes of the June 20, 2008, meeting of the Department Children and Youth Committee be approved. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Consolidated Post Reports were discussed, their importance, not only to be recognized for awards and such but to show our representative in Congress our numbers. What we do for our youth. This topic will be included at district meetings throughout the year so we can get more participation.

Operation Military Kids is an ongoing project that has not had, of yet, a lot of activity, with only a handful of posts reporting what they have done for projects, let myself or Deanna at Department know.

New Business:

Meskill explained the new children and youth pin and are available from this committee for \$3.

Chairman Geiger had the opportunity to attend the 2nd annual National Children and Youth conference in Indianapolis Sept 19-21, 2008.

Topics at this conference included:

1. OMK with videos and other information for children of deployed parents. Military Child Education Coalition is also involved with OMK.
2. Video conferencing will most likely be available in Nov.-Dec. at National Headquarters.
3. Children's Miracle Network: has 170 Hospitals nationwide, 4 in Michigan, Beaumont Royal Oak, Hurley in Flint, Helen DeVos in Grand Rapids and Sparrow in Lansing. CMN has been affiliated with the American Legion for 10 years, and in 2007 gave almost 349 thousand in donations. 100% of monies colleted by them go

to the hospitals. All corporate sponsors cover wages and everything else. All donations go the local hospital closest to the donor's zip code.

4. Child Welfare Foundation was discussed.

5. Special Olympics, approved as an American Legion Program by the National DEC in 2007 is another avenue for us to get our less fortunate children involved.

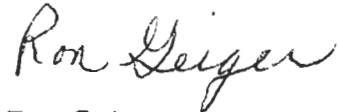
6. Vote: this in an election year. Be registered, educate yourself, and participate.

All of the above addressed programs will be made available in a printed article in the next issue of the Michigan Legionnaire for Children and Youth. I will have website for each and or any other knowledge that I brought back from the conference.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before this committee, it was moved by Gilmer and supported by Johnston that the meeting be adjourned at 9:58 a.m.
Motion carried

Respectfully submitted by

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Geiger".

Ron Geiger