

American Legion District 5

District Convention

May 9, 2015

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM at American Legion Post 151 Commerce City, CO by Commander Terri Shelefontiuk

Chaplain Norm Harpole offered a Prayer
Pledge of Allegiance performed
POW/MIA empty chair recognized
Flag salutation performed by the District
The Preamble was voiced by all present

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk Declared the Convention to be open

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk appointed Ed Shelefontiuk as proem assistant Sergeant at Arms and Brenda Horton assistant Adjutant for the duration of the convention with no objections.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk thanked everyone for coming and introduced host Post 151 Commander Richard Pabon.

Post 151 Commander Richard Pabon gave some housekeeping info, thanked Unit 151 Auxiliary for their help hosting the Convention, and introduced his officers.

President of the Auxiliary Sandra Flint opened the Auxiliary convention and introduced her officers and Guests of the Auxiliary

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk introduced American Legion Department and District 5 officers, and attending American Legion and SAL dignitaries and guests. District 6 DEC Byron Tatum was in attendance.

DEC Ed Waring declined comment at this time

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk asked District 5 Chaplain Norm Harpole and Auxiliary Chaplin Dee Jacobson to the podium to perform the memorial ceremony for departed members. Chaplain Norm Harpole offered prayers for the departed Legionnaires and Auxiliary members.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk asked District 5 Adjutant Stephen Lee to speak on the American Legion Post History Project.

Adjutant Lee informed everyone that Jim Stanko of Department has sent out a letter and is trying to gather the address and histories of every post in Colorado to be put on the National website. The due date is the June 2015 convention. Forms for gathering the information were provided.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk called the VSO Robert Rhodes up to give his Service Officer's report. There has been an increase in claims since the beginning of the year, mostly due to transfers. If a Post would like the VSO to come out to their Post give them about two months advanced notice. They have laptops to handle claims onsite.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk asked Past National Commander and present Assistant Department Adjutant Tom Bock to give greetings from Department.

Past National Commander Tom Bock informed the District that National passed a resolution recommending that the National Convention vote to increase the National dues by 5 dollars. The plan is that National will not start collecting the increased dues until the 80% membership target which is in January of 2016 assuming the resolution passes. He spoke briefly on the status of the VA and covered the building of the Colorado Veterans Hospital. The goal is still to have the hospital built by 2017 but it is behind schedule and over budget. He encouraged the members of the Legion, Auxiliary and Sons to rally and support the building of the Hospital.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk announced the arrival of the SAL Commander Scott Garrett, Past Department Commander and SAL Advisor Jim Gillis, and District 5 Sr. Vice Commander Jimmy Walker.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk asked Jr. Vice Commander and Membership Committee Chairman Larry Johnson to speak on the state of Membership in the state of Colorado.

Department Membership Committee Chairman Larry Johnson reported that District 5 has 12 posts that are either at 100% or an all-time high. District 5 had a membership goal of 5,213 members and was at 96.25%. He reported that Department needs 500 members to make their goal for the year. The 100% cutoff date is the 13th of May, 2015. June 1st is the cutoff date for the membership awards and the deadline for the Department membership drawing. He suggested pushing the CAMPP memberships since it is possible that National will be increasing dues. He reported on the DMS program and reminded the District that Posts do not have to wait for Department to run a DMS, the Posts can run their own too. He encouraged everyone to attend convention and covered some of the events to take place this year at convention.

District 5 DEC Ed Waring asked Jr. Vice Commander Johnson, and Department Assistant Adjutant Tom Bock, if the resolutions to be presented at Convention will be made available to the DEC 30 days prior to convention. Mr. Bock stated that those resolutions affecting the Department Constitution and Bylaws would be made available and that all rules regarding DEC Waring's question would be followed.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk ask Command Scott Garrett to come up and say a few words about the Sons of the American Legion.

Detachment Commander Scott Garrett spoke about membership for the Sons. Detachment was at about 92%-93% of their goal and the 100% deadline was to be May 16th or May 23rd, he wasn't sure exactly which. He was anticipating that the Sons will achieve another all-time high by July and break the 3,000 member mark again this year. The Detachment held a CWF banquet at the beginning of April and were able to raise \$11,400.00 for the charity. Commander Garrett attended the NEC for the Sons and reported that the Colorado Detachment was able to donate a total of \$13,000 to the Child Welfare Fund

and to National Commander Mike Moss' charities, the National Endowment Fund and the National Emergency Fund.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Covenant Village for their support of Veterans and allowing District 5 to hold many of their meetings at their facilities. Norm Harpole accepted the award on behalf of Covenant Village. Chaplain Harpole announced that the facility would be available to the next commander is they so choose.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk announced the arrival of District 6 Commander Jim Otto.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk announced that District 5 had presented a check for \$500 to Department Commander Richard Humphries for HBOT at the Mid-year convention. She thanked those Posts that had donated to the charity during the year.

The meeting was recessed until 1pm for lunch after rendering honor to the colors.

The District Convention resumed at 1pm after lunch.

Adjutant Stephen Lee conducted an Officer Roll Call

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk	Present	Finance Officer Rick Cody	Present
Sr Vice 5A Jimmy Walker	Present	Chaplain Norm Harpole	Present
Sr Vice 5B	Vacant	Sgt At Arms Art Santry	Present
Jr Vice 5B East Stephen Lee	Present	Service Officer	Vacant
Jr Vice 5A West Heather Lockhart	Present	Historian	Vacant
Jr Vice 5A East	Vacant	Webmaster Stephen Lee	Present
Jr Vice 5B West	Vacant	DEC Ed Waring	Present
Adjutant Stephen Lee	Present		

Adjutant Stephen Lee conducted a Post Roll Call

Arvada 161	Present	Englewood 27	Absent
Aurora 1976	Absent	Evergreen 2001	Absent
Aurora 1992	Present	Golden 21	Absent
Aurora 206	Present	Highlands Ranch 1260	Present
Aurora 23	Present	Idaho Springs 98	Absent
Bear Valley 84	Absent	Kiowa 182	Absent
Brighton 2002	Absent	Lakewood 178	Present
Brighton 46	Absent	Littleton 103	Present
Castle Rock 1187	Absent	North Jeffco 11-11	Present
Central City 166	Absent	Northglenn 22	Present
Commerce City 151	Present	Parker 1864	Present
Denver 204	Absent	Strasburg 183	Absent
Edgewater 17	Present	Westminster 52	Suspended
Elizabeth 82	Absent	Aurora 1995	Absent

Adjutant Stephen Lee stated there was a quorum

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk called upon the District Finance Officer Rick Cody to perform the credentialing.

Arvada 161	A:91, P:90	Englewood 27	
Aurora 1976		Evergreen 2001	
Aurora 1992	A:46, P:46	Golden 21	
Aurora 206	A:6, P:6	Highlands Ranch 1260	A:16, P:16
Aurora 23	A:33, P:33	Idaho Springs 98	
Bear Valley 84		Kiowa 182	
Brighton 2002		Lakewood 178	A:75, P:75
Brighton 46		Littleton 103	A:47, P:47
Castle Rock 1187		North Jeffco 11-11	A:39, P:39
Central City 166		Northglenn 22	A:48, P:48
Commerce City 151	A:9, P:9	Parker 1864	A:11, P:11
Denver 204		Strasburg 183	
Edgewater 17	A:16, P:16	Westminster 52	
Elizabeth 82		Aurora 1995	

A: Authorized P: Paid Blank: Post Absent Total Delegates: 436

Minutes from Fall Conference were distributed and a motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes as written.

Committee Reports:

Americanism Chairman Bill Baldicini reported on a resolution, a few events that happened around the country related to Americanism and encouraged the Legionnaires to voice their opinions and be heard.

Budget and Finance Committee report given by Finance officer Rick Cody. Funds gained by per capita amounted to \$1,756.60 based on the 2014 number of 35 cents per member. The delegate fees brought in about \$1,300. Expenses included DEC travel \$500, Commander travel \$500, Commander Awards \$450, Mid-Year DEC \$200, "Race for the Cup" district membership program \$120, Fall Conference (couldn't make out what was said), Membership Drive \$200, Website \$100, Van \$2000. Current balance is \$4,505.00.

Constitution and Bylaws Committee report given by Chairman Stephen Lee. Met briefly but was disbanded after it was determined that the redistricting resolution should happen before any changes were made to the constitution or bylaws.

Resolutions Committee report given by Chairman Stephen Lee. Two resolutions were presented to the body. The first was titled "Redefining of the Boundaries of Districts 5 and 6". The resolutions committee recommended it be passed. The second resolution presented was titled "Protect Americanism" and the committee recommended that the resolution be passed.

A motion was made that the voting on the resolutions be moved up in the agenda, it was seconded and passed.

Officer Reports:

Sr. Vice Commander Jimmy Walker touched on membership and was happy to see a lot more posts active in District 5 functions this year.

Jr. Vice Commander Heather Lockhart had no report

Jr. Vice Commander Stephen Lee 16 post visits since mid-year conference, participated in the Jingle-Bell Hop in December, helped organize and host the Fall Formal in September, attended all District 5 DEC meetings and visited Post 17 with some of the other officers a couple times trying to help them out.

Finance Officer Rick Cody announced the income from the Fall Formal silent auction was \$2,738.96, expenses included food: \$900; the Band, Post 11-11 Hall rental, clean up, security and decorations amounted to: \$4,479. Finance Officer Cody referred to the previously read budget and at this time moved to accept it.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget as read. There was no discussion. The motion Passed.

Chaplain Norm Harpole had no report

Sgt At Arms Art Santry had no report

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk reported that District 5 membership is at 96.22%, Total membership is 5,016 members and the goal for the year was 5,213 members. The membership goals for 2014-2015 were kept the same as the previous year's goals. There were 7 Post charters given back to the district in the 2013-2014 year and in the 2014-2015 year one charter, Post 711, was returned to the Department. Commander Shelefontiuk tried to visit each Post at their regularly scheduled meetings at least twice during the year and tried to attend those Post events to which she was invited. There seemed to be more positive feedback about District and she felt that bridges were built and relationships with Posts were improved. She covered the Fall Formal and the Jingle Bell Hop and said those seemed to be well received and were quite enjoyable. The "Race for the Cup" winners will be announced at the 2015-2016 Fall Conference as some of the awards are based on Annual Report information. Everyone was encouraged to attend the Department convention to be held on June 25-28, 2015 in Colorado Springs.

Sick call/Employment no report

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Finance Officer Rick Cody reported that there had been \$500 allotted for the travel expenses of the Commander and \$500 for the travel expenses of the DEC. There was \$450 allotted for the Commander Award and that Commander Shelefontiuk donated the Commander's \$500 back to the District.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the re-imbursement of the \$500 for the DEC travel expenses and the \$450 for the Commander Award. The motion carried.

Nominations/Elections:

Commander

Ed Waring nominated **Jimmy Walker** for Commander

Second

Norm Harpole nominated **Stephen Lee** for Commander

Second

JR Kent Motioned all nominations cease

Second

Finance Officer Rick Cody counted votes since the Adjutant Stephen Lee was a nominee.

Jimmy Walker elected Commander by rollcall vote.

Arvada 161	L: 0, W: 90	Englewood 27	
Aurora 1976		Evergreen 2001	
Aurora 1992	L: 0, W: 46	Golden 21	
Aurora 206	L: 6, W: 0	Highlands Ranch 1260	L: 0, W: 16
Aurora 23	L: 0, W: 33	Idaho Springs 98	
Bear Valley 84		Kiowa 182	
Brighton 2002		Lakewood 178	L: 0, W: 75
Brighton 46		Littleton 103	L: 47, W: 0
Castle Rock 1187		North Jeffco 11-11	L: 37, W: 2
Central City 166		Northglenn 22	L: 0, W: 48
Commerce City 151	L: 9, W: 0	Parker 1864	Left early
Denver 204		Strasburg 183	
Edgewater 17	L: 16, W: 0	Westminster 52	
Elizabeth 82		Aurora 1995	
Past District Commander		Past District Commander	
Ed Waring	L: 0, W: 1	JR Kent	L: 0, W: 1
L: Stephen Lee		W: Jimmy Walker	
Lee Total: 115		Walker Total: 312	

Sr Vice 5A

Vacant. Will be referred to District 5 DEC for appointment.

Sr Vice 5B

Vacant. Will be referred to District 5 DEC for appointment.

Jr Vice 5A West

Nominated Heather Lockhart

Second

Elected by Acclamation

Jr Vice 5A East

Vacant. Will be referred to District 5 DEC for appointment.

Jr Vice 5B West

Jimmy Walker nominated Wayne Mclimmans

Second

Elected by acclamation

Jr Vice 5B East

Vacant. Will be referred to District 5 DEC for appointment.

Finance Officer

JR Kent nominated Rick Cody

Second

Elected by acclamation

District Historian

Vacant. Will be referred to District 5 DEC for appointment.

District Chaplain

Stephen Lee nominated Norm Harpole

Second

Elected by acclamation

District Sgt At Arms

Harry Ciruli nominated Art Santry

Second

Elected by acclamation

District 5 DEC

Rick Cody nominated Ed Waring

Second

Elected by acclamation

Delegates to National Convention (Allowed 5)

Stephen Lee nominated Teri Shelefontiuk

Second

Paul Ericson was nominated

Second

Jim Gillis was nominated

Second

All elected by Acclamation

National Executive Committeeman Frank McCurdy installed the newly elected Officers.

For the Good of the Legion

A motion was made to endorse Teri Shelefontiuk for Jr. Vice Commander for the Department of Colorado. It was seconded and passed.

Frank McCurdy reported on his year as NEC. He announced he was running for NEC again and laid out his platform and what is important to him regarding the country, veterans and the American Legion. He asked for support in his run for NEC for the 2015-2016 membership year. He announced that he will be the President of the UVC.

Tom Florez announced he is running for Commander for the Detachment of Colorado. He laid out his platform and goals for the year if he is elected. He asked for the support of the Posts.

Jim Gillis encouraged those assembled to try to get even more Posts to come to District convention. He announced that he is running for Alternate NEC and that Past Department Commander Carol Kennedy is running for NEC. Mr. Gillis laid out his platform and goals for the year if he is elected.

Jim Otto announced he is running for Sr. Vice Commander for the Detachment of Colorado. He laid out his platform and goals for the year if he is elected.

JR Kent announced that he is running for Detachment Commander of the Sons of the American Legion for the 2015-2016 year.

Lynn Petersen reminded everyone that this year and next year Colorado will be hosting the western regional baseball tournament. They are holding some fundraising events to help pay for the hosting and he asked for help. He updated us on the rest of the Baseball programs. ESPN 2 will air some of the bigger games in American Legion Baseball and the World Series.

Department Adjutant Pat Smith announced that there will be a meeting on July 19th for the District Commanders, time and place to be announced. He explained a bit about why the meeting was developed, a bit about what to expect at the meeting. He said everyone is welcome but it is intended for District Commanders and Vice Commanders. He talked about membership, the proposed dues increase and touched on some of the things coming up at State Convention in June.

Commander Elect Jimmy Walker asked Commander Terri Shelefontiuk up to the stage. Adjutant Stephen Lee presented her with a pin and a plaque thanking her for her service.

Commander Terri Shelefontiuk thanked each of her officers for their support, help and hard work during the year. She presented an "Adjutant Care Package" to Adjutant Stephen Lee for all his hard work and support during the year.

The 75th Anniversary of WWII was recognized and those veterans that served in the war were applauded.

Rick Cody announced that the District 5 Officers would like to offer the "Go to Convention Incentive" funds again this year. It is a drawing for \$100 for 3 people from District 5 to attend State Convention.

A motion was made and seconded to provide \$300 for the "GO to Convention Incentive" fund from District 5 funds. No discussion. The motion Passed.

District Chaplain Norm Harpole provided the closing prayer

Colors retrieved – POW/MIA Chair retired

District 5 Commander Jimmy Walker adjourned the District 5 Convention.