

**Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Alabama
Pre-Midwinter DEC Meeting Minutes
Saturday, January 14th, 2017**

Meeting Called to Order at 9:00 am by Commander Gibson

Invocation by Chaplain Robinsky

Opening Ceremonies

Roll Call:

Commander: Jeff Gibson

Vice Commanders:

Area 1: Jeremy Blevins

Area 2: Frank Birdyshaw

Area 3: Jeff McNair

Area 4: David W. Duffey

Area 5: Aaron Phillips

Adjutant/ Finance Officer: Andrew Cherry

NEC: Thomas Glander

Alt. NEC: Blair Miles

Chaplain: Terry Robinsky

Historian: Taylor Cowan

Judge Advocate: Buddy Miller

Sargent-at-Arms: Willie Dupree - Absent - Excused

Sargent-at-Arms II: John Burke

Assistant Adjutant/Past Detachment Commander: Steve Bowling

SAL Advisor: Matt Gaff - Absent - Excused

Minutes of prior meetings:

Motion to suspend reading of minutes for the Fall DEC Meeting and the December 13th, 2016 DEC Conference Call, since they have been published made by Tom Glander, second by David Duffey, motion passed.

Old Business:

Commander Gibson turned meeting over to Finance Officer Andrew Cherry for the Old Business of additions to the Rules of the Finance Commission. Finance Officer Andrew Cherry presented the proposed Addition to the Sons of The American Legion Rules of the Finance Commission. He introduced the Department of Alabama Bookkeeper, Angela Nation, who explained the details, limitations, and safeguards of the proposed Detachment Credit Card for use by the Detachment Adjutant. Finance Officer Andrew Cherry explained the part of the Addition concerning the procedures for requesting donations, gifts, or grants.

The proposed Addition to the Sons of The American Legion Rules of the Finance Commission is as follows:

Addition to the Sons of The American Legion

Rules of the Finance Commission

- Donations, gifts, or grants must be requested in writing through the use of a Detachment Expense Report, and submitted for approval by the Detachment Finance Officer and the Detachment Commander, All request over \$500.00 must be approved by the Detachment Finance Commission before going to the Detachment Executive Committee for approval.

- The Detachment Adjutant is authorized to hold a credit card under the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Alabama.
 1. The credit card will have a \$500.00 limit per month. The limit will be monitored by the Dept. Finance Officer and/or Dept. Bookkeeper. **No** PIN will be issued and **No** cash advances will be allowed.

 2. All credit cards charges shall be processed on a Detachment Expense Report in accordance to the Rules of the Finance Commission and approved by the Detachment Finance Officer and the Detachment Commander. The expense report with attached receipts from the charges on the credit card will be submitted to the Department bookkeeper.

 3. The card may not be used for any personal expense not related to the office held. The Detachment Adjutant will be personally responsible for any charges on the card presented without receipts, unless approved by the DEC.

 4. The card shall be used for expenses incurred by the Adjutant during official travel, except for fuel. (Because mileage is paid.)

 5. The card may be used to pay operating expenses, awards, gifts, meals for the Detachment, any budgeted expenses and any other expenses approved by the DEC.

Motion to accept the Addition to the Sons of The American Legion Rules of the Finance Commission was made by Jeff McNair, second by David Duffey, motion passed.

Guests:

The following guests were recognized by Commander Gibson:

Gray Caton, Squadron 255 Vice Commander
Noah Blevins, Squadron 9

New Business:

Commander Gibson turned meeting over to Adjutant Andrew Cherry for the New Business. Adjutant Cherry, before continuing with New Business, gave an overview of all that Commander Gibson has been doing for the Detachment and Legion family, including paying the cost of books (\$120.95) and Awards (\$125.06) out of his pocket. Motion to reimburse Commander Gibson for these expense was made by John Burke, second by David Duffey, motion passed.

Adjutant Cherry stated that the budgeted Fall NEC expenses, for the Alternate NEC and Commander, were not used since Commander Gibson did not attend and Alternate NEC Miles is now on a national commission that pays his expenses. Adjutant Cherry suggested that \$300 of these funds be moved to Spring NEC for the Commander. Motion to move \$300 of the unused funds to Spring NEC was made by Jeff McNair, second by David Duffey, motion passed.

Commander Gibson asked for suggestions of dates for the Spring DEC. Commander Gibson decided on April 1st or April 8th at Department Headquarters in Montgomery. Advisor Matt Gaff make scheduling arrangement with Department. Secondary locations are Post 133 or Post 135.

Commander Gibson reminded everyone that elections are coming up in June. Anyone wanting to run for a Detachment Office should let the DEC know by the Spring DEC Meeting.

Adjutant Cherry stated that letter was received from National Vice Commander asking if the Detachment of Alabama would like to purchase a wreath for him to place for us at the wreath laying ceremonies in Washington on February 26th. Commander Gibson tabled for consideration next year.

Adjutant Cherry suggested that the Detachment Officer Dress Guidelines should be relaxed. Motion to allow business casual (slacks and polo) for all Detachment meetings, including Midwinter Conference and Convention was made by Jeremy Blevins, second by Jeff McNair, motion defeated.

Good of the SAL:

Commander Gibson presented the two visitors with National Convention pins, which were provided by Judge Advocate Buddy Miller.

Ron Haygood stated that there are still refrigerators, stoves, and dishwashers available to benefit veterans. Help is still needed for cleaning the appliances.

Commander Gibson reminded that we are having the Widows Luncheon on February 11th at Post 141 in LaFayette. Currently have about \$196 of the \$500 needed, so any donations will be greatly appreciated.

Benediction by Chaplain Robinsky

Closing Ceremonies

Meeting Adjourned by Commander Gibson at 9:56 am.