

MINUTES  
AMERICANISM COMMISSION  
MEETING OF  
JULY 16, 2022, at 2:00 P.M.  
Department Headquarters- Library

1. Call to Order 2:00 P.M.  
Chairman Houp opened the meeting of the Department Americanism Commission at 2:00 P.M.
2. Salute to the Colors  
The Colors were saluted.
3. Invocation by Melissa Fowle, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairwoman.
4. Pledge of Allegiance  
Chairman Houp led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Roll Call: Christie White, Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator

**Members present:**

Stan Oren, 1<sup>st</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
Thomas Tierney, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Chairman- NOT PRESENT  
Melissa Fowle, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairwoman- PRESENT  
Henry Knight Jr, 4<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
Cheryl MacDonald, 5<sup>th</sup> District Chairwoman- PRESENT  
Roy Terry, 6<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- NOT PRESENT  
Bill Frost, 7<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
8<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- VACANT  
William Dittebrand, 9<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
Richard Houp, Americanism Commission Chairman- PRESENT  
Thom Stan, 11<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT  
William Lindsay, 12<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- NOT PRESENT  
Kevin Conlan, 13<sup>th</sup> District Chairman-EXCUSED  
John Life, 14<sup>th</sup> District Chairman- PRESENT

**Guests Present:**

Christie White, Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator  
Ted Hendren, 4<sup>th</sup> District Post 199  
Mark Mahlman, 1<sup>st</sup> District Post 265

6. Reading of Previous Minutes  
John Life, 14<sup>th</sup> District Chairman moved, seconded by Stan Oren, 1<sup>st</sup> District Chairman to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

**MOTION PASSED**

7. Approval of Commission Rules

John Life, 14<sup>th</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by William Dittebrand, 9<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to approve the commission rules.

**MOTION PASSED**

8. Testing Dates

- a. October 31- November 4, 2022
- b. November 7-11, 2022 make-up dates

Stan Oren, 1<sup>st</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by William Dittebrand, 9<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to accept the testing dates and make-up dates.

**MOTION PASSED**

9. Trip Dates

- a. March 5-10, 2023
- b. March 12-17, 2023

John Life, 14<sup>th</sup> District Chairman motions, seconded by Thom Stan, 11<sup>th</sup> District Chairman, to accept the trip dates based on the availability of Arlington National Cemetery to lay the wreath.

**MOTION PASSED**

10. Selecting Essay Question -Henry Knight Jr, 4<sup>th</sup> District Chairman started the discussion about selecting a topic that has to do with current events. The most current event is school shootings. The commission then started discussing school shootings. Henry Knight Jr also started a discussion on Covid-19. Richard Houpp discussed teen suicide. John Life discussed civics in schools and civic duty. Stan Oren discussed social media and mental health. The Commission decided the test question will be about school shootings.

John Life, 14<sup>th</sup> District Chairman motions, seconded by Melissa Fowle, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairwoman to have the essay question read....."If you notice a post on social media with threats to your community, do you think that it is your civic responsibility to report it? Please explain your answer".

**MOTION PASSED**

11. Unfinished Business

- a. Americanism Pins- Each District will be given 50 pins, and they will be sold for \$5.00 each. Melissa Fowle, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairwoman motions, seconded by Henry Knight, 4<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to send some pins and a thank you letter to Tom Rowe and Rick Isabell for helping to design the pins.

**MOTION PASSED**

- b. Educator of the Year- Nominations need to be turned in to Department by September 15<sup>th</sup>. Substitute teachers are eligible.

Stan Oren, 1<sup>st</sup> District Chairman motioned, seconded by Thom Stan, 11<sup>th</sup> District Chairman that the Commission will accept any applications that come in by September 15<sup>th</sup>, even if they are on the old forms.

**MOTION PASSED**

- c. Melissa Fowle, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairwoman discussed adding a question at the top of the A&G tests that asks if the student would be interested in attending Buckeye Boys State or Buckeye Girls State or Oratorical. Thom Stan, 11<sup>th</sup> District Chairman suggested that the Post should email each student that question. Discussion was had about Americanism Programs.

- 12. New Business- Cheryl MacDonald discussed if students don't want to identify as male or female, what should we do. John Life suggested that we follow the same laws as the State of Ohio does. The State does not recognize non-binary, just male or female.

John Life, 14<sup>th</sup> District Chairman motions, seconded by William Dittebrand, 9<sup>th</sup> District Chairman to allow Christie White, Department Americanism and Children & Youth Coordinator to update all the A&G Certificates.

**MOTION PASSED**

- 13. Good of the Legion

- 14. Benediction. Benediction was given by Melissa Fowle, 3<sup>rd</sup> District Chairwoman

- 15. Adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 3:04 P.M.