

## Meeting Minutes

### Membership & Post Activities Commission

**Date:** August 2, 2025

**Time:** 8:00 AM (Started at 8:01 AM)

**Location:** Virtual (Zoom Meeting)

**Meeting Title:** *Ohio Legion Membership Growth, Revitalization Strategies, and Event Planning*

**Recorder:** Sherry Yockey, Membership & Post Activities Manager

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## Attendees

### Present:

1	Membership	Bernie	Rau	√
1	Post Activities	Jeff	Hess	√
2	Membership	Kurt	Emans	√
2	Post Activities	Thomas	Tierney	√
3	Membership	Michael	White	√
3	Post Activities	Robyn	Ladson	√
4	Membership	Steven	Baumann	√
4	Post Activities	Sylvia	Thweatt	√
5	Membership	Kenneth	Parsons	
5	Post Activities	Ty	Bowers	√
6	Membership	Keith	Smigle	√
6	Post Activities	Robert	Decker	√
7	Membership	Douglas	Boyd Sr	
7	Post Activities	Robert	Wagoner	√
8	Membership	Ronnie	Rutter	√
8	Post Activities	John	Stabler	√
9	Membership	William	Dittebrand	√
9	Post Activities	Joseph	Ball	√
10	Membership	Howard	Stouffer	
10	Post Activities	Dirk	Harkins	√
11	Membership	Rick	Smathers	√
11	Post Activities	David	Wiles	√
12	Commander	Suzette	Heller	√
13	Membership	Kevin	Conlan	excused
13	Post Activities	Christy	Hlavaty	√
14	Membership	Jacob	Marx	
14	Post Activities	Ronald	Grams	√

	Dept. 1st VC	Gary	Cox, Jr.	√
	Dept. 2nd VC	Holly	Lewis	√
	Staff	Sherry	Yockey	√

**Quorum Achieved:** Yes (23 confirmed attendees)

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## Agenda Summary & Discussion

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### 1. Membership Growth and Operational Coordination

- **District 10 Strategy:**  
Consistently achieved quota three years in a row. Weekly spreadsheet tracking, outreach to large and small posts, and personalized follow-ups emphasized. 48 out of 66 posts met quota.
  - **888 List Use:**  
Recommended recruiting from the 888 list by appointing a dedicated person in each district.
  - **Membership Workshop:**  
Scheduled for **August 7, 2025, at 3:00 PM**. Expected to provide updated membership data and clarify website postings.
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### 2. Post Revitalization & Retention

- **Revitalization:**  
District-level phone banks proposed to call expired/non-renewed members. Payment collection via myLegion during the call was emphasized.
  - **Online Renewal Reminders:**  
Members can renew via *MyLegion.org* using ID and last name.
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### 3. Events & Community Outreach

- **County Fairs & Festivals:**  
It is suggested to use booths for visibility and recruitment. County Veteran Services is offering Free items like gun locks that can be distributed.

- **Upcoming Events Summary:**  
Events included steak fries, cash bashes, sports camps, appreciation dinners, jamborees, open houses, car shows, and more (full list in “Next Arrangements” section below).
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#### 4. Engagement, Challenges & Competitions

- **B-U-L-A-I-T Challenge:**  
Friendly inter-district competition.
  - **Membership Awards:** Three competition tracks: winning the jug, highest percentage, and year-end goal.
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#### 5. Meeting Frequency & Logistics

- **Consensus Reached:**  
Monthly meetings preferred. Keep them short, focused, and possibly held on Saturdays.
  - **Next Meeting:**  
Will be scheduled after the **August 7 Membership Workshop**.
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#### 6. Communication Improvement

- **OhioLegion.com Email Instructions:**  
Instructions to be sent to district commanders and vice within one week. Will standardize communication and allow archiving for transitions.
  - **Information Sharing:**  
All district activities should be emailed to:
    - 1stvice@legion.com
    - 2ndvice@ohiolegion.com
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### Conclusions & Agreements

1. Quorum confirmed.
  2. Membership tracking and personalized outreach have proven effective.
  3. Revitalization efforts are encouraged.
  4. Monthly meetings approved; first one TBD post-workshop.
  5. Use of official emails encouraged formal communications.
  6. Emphasis placed on recruiting during public events.
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## Upcoming Events List

Event	Date	Location
Cash Bash (Auxiliary)	August 3	—
Steak Fry (SAL)	September 13, 1 PM	—
22 for 22 Walk	September 6, 6 AM–6 PM	Sally Buffalo
First Response Jamboree	TBD	—
Veterans Appreciation Dinner	July 4	Post 228
Bean Dinner	Labor Day	Wilson Legion Post 371
Hometown Heroes Open House	August 9	Fort Jennings
Veterans Festival	August 15–17	Ottawa
Farmers Market (Vet)	August 23	Ottawa
Hamilton Co. Vet Day	August 23	—
Ohio Expo (Vet Memorial Museum)	September	Columbus
Operation Enduring Service	September 26	Cincinnati
Bucyrus Bratwurst Booth	Late August	Bucyrus
Dark County Fair Vet Day	August 20	—
Allen County Fair Vet Day	August 22, 12 PM	—
District 6 Picnic	Mount Sterling Post 417	Sept (9 AM/10 AM mtgs, 12 PM picnic)
Post 92 Car Show/Cornhole	September 13	Utica
DEC Meeting	August 16, 10 AM	Dept. HQ, Delaware
Trap Shoot	September 7, 9 AM	Marengo
Joe Woodrum Swearing-In	September 7	—

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### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with a benediction and a reminder to stay safe.

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### Prepared by:

Sherr Yockey  
Membership & Post Activities Manager

**Date:** August 2, 2025