

The American Legion Post 164

Minutes of Membership Meeting on Tuesday January 28, 2025

6:00 Doors Open / Social Time

6:30 Training; Membership Meeting Protocol by Butch Sparks

7:00 Meeting called to order by Commander Krum

1. Opening Ceremony

2. Invocation/ Prayer

3. Introduction of guests and Remarks; Butch Sparks, Past National Executive Committee Member and Past 2nd Division Vice Commander, James McGuire, Past Commander District 22, and Past Commander Post 164, Peter Batura, Past Commander Post 164, Gene Britton, Commander SAL Squadron 164, and Gillian Woodstorm, Unit 164

4. Roll Call; Finance Officer was excused.

5. Minutes of Last Executive Committee Meeting on January 07, 2025 were read and A Motion was made by Butch Sparks to approve these minutes. Motion was 2nd by Peter Batura, no discussion, Motion passed.

6. Minutes from last Membership Meeting on December 17, 2024 were posted on the Post Membership Website.

7. Committee Reports;

a. Board of Trustees; The A/C replacement will be started soon as the MUD Board has selected a contractor to do the job. We are currently waiting for parts for front yard sign and will install outside lights around rocky area in front. We continue to paint Bay Area walls and replace light fixtures. Upstairs oven and dishwasher need to be replaced, they are too old and repair parts are not available.

b. Auxiliary; During the month of December we assisted with the First Responders Dinner, and Wreaths Across America Ceremony, and gift wrapping for the 5 Veteran Families at Christmas time, and finally our members helped staff the Fireworks stand at the end of December. Now we are helping to get the 4 Chaplains Ceremony organized and the program finalized.

- c. Sons; The Spaghetti Dinner at Post 164 on January 24th was a great success as several people came to enjoy the food and a chance to see what Squadron 164 was doing. We also collected past dues from current members.
- d. First Vice Commander; We are at 85.33% of our goal, still reminding members to renew their dues. Remember to start thinking about the nominations for upcoming Post Officers for the 25/26 membership year. All Post Members should take the Free Legion Basic Training course, see me for details.
- e. Second Vice Commander; Attended the Katy City Council meeting for January. There was a discussion about what the Rodeo Parade route would be and the Rodeo committee will send to us a document for the American Legion to be in the parade.
- f. Finance; The financial documents were read by Commander Krum and we have \$25,847 dollars in the bank. These records are available to review after this meeting.
- g. Judge Advocate; No report, but the Post Constitution and Bylaws were approved.
- h. Chaplain; Not here, Position is now open.
- i. Service Officer; Assisted 3 Veterans with getting forms for education benefits and forms for updating their medical benefits and returning several calls with no calls back to me.
- j. Boys State; Not here, but The Program and interviews will start soon.
- k. Honor Guard; 7 Funerals and 10 Flag Ceremonies for 264 service hours.
- l. Riders; A Super Bowl party is planned and will be at Post 164 on February 9th
- m. JSSP; The Program will start again on March 23rd at Post 164
- n. Oratorical; Next is 2nd Division Final on February 2nd at Post 164 Katy, TX.
- o. Scouts; The Female Troop is still looking for members so their Charter can be started.
- p. Others; Nothing was introduced.
- q. Commanders Report; The American Legion Department of Texas Executive Committee Meeting was in Austin and some Post 164 Officers attended. We learned more about what other Posts were doing and some of their ideas to help all Posts improve Membership.

8. Unfinished Business;

- a. 4 Chaplains Ceremony will be on February 15th at Church of the Holy Apostles 1225 W. Grand Pkwy S. in Katy Texas 77450
- b. American Legion Birthday is March 15th Peter Batura Motioned that we have a Party at Post 164 to celebrate this occasion. Motion was 2nd by Robert Crutchfield, discussion was for 2nd Vice Commander to gather more details, no further discussion, Motion passed..
- c. Constitution and Bylaws; The final edition was Approved at Department of Texas American Legion on January 19th 2025 They will be posted on our website soon.

9. New Business

A Breakfast with a Veteran is on February 1st at Elks Lodge.

b. Katy Rodeo Parade is on February 15th Post Members will meet at VFW by 0730am

c. 2nd Division Oratorical Contest final is on February 2nd at 2pm

d. Bingo Updates

1. Previous vote by Membership at December 17, 2024 Meeting; A Motion was made by Butch Sparks to reverse approval for our Bingo License to be used at the Bingo Hall in Pasadena Texas as shown in the Minutes of December Membership Meeting. Motion was 2nd by Mike Roper, no discussion, Motion passed.

2. Future?? Butch Sparks Motioned for Bingo Chairperson to take Action on items stated in Bingo Report letter dated January 7, 2025 and report back with results when they are available. Motion was 2nd by Ed Faircloth, no discussion, Motion passed.

e. Demand Letter to Veteran with the Loan for full payment? A Motion was made by Peter Batura for the Finance Officer to prepare the letter and send it to this person. Motion was 2nd by Robert Crutchfield, no discussion, Motion passed. Peter Batura Motioned that our Post should no longer issue any loans to Veterans. Motion was 2nd by Butch Sparks, no discussion, Motion passed.

f. District Convention Planning Committee update; This will be finalized at DEC Meeting in February.

g. Service Officer appointment; This was set aside till next meeting.

h. Grant for a Veteran? (\$945) Butch Sparks Motioned to table this pending more information at a future meeting. Motion was 2nd by Ted Whiteman, no discussion, Motion passed.

i. Flag Poles and service flags (approx. \$240) Money for Service Flags was donated. We need flag poles to mount these flags. A Motion was made by Butch Sparks to purchase these flag poles from American Legion flag and emblem. Motion was 2nd by Jim Scoggin, no discussion, Motion passed.

j. Nomination Committee (election to be in May) 1st Vice Commander will chair the committee and they will be asking for anyone who would like to be an Officer in Post 164 to see him for more details.

k. Recruiting new members;

1. Be able to explain why they should join, get a speech prepared

2. Get them to observe an event or meeting to see where they may become involved in

l. Upcoming Events not mentioned. None

m. Anything else; Commander Krum received a Resignation from our Post Chaplain . Robert Crutchfield Motioned that we accept this resignation. Motion was 2nd by Jim McGuire, no discussion, Motion passed.

Butch Sparks Motioned that Robert Crutchfield be appointed as Chaplain for the remaining of this term until the next election. Motion was 2nd by Peter Batura, no discussion, Motion passed.

n. Post Calendar; Always remember to check this calendar for event updates.

10 Correspondence and Awards;

Several Certificates were presented to Members at Post 164 for their volunteering hours at the Fireworks stand during December

11. For The good of The American Legion;

Fishing Trip Raffle; The winner is Mr. Philip Malsbary

12. Closing Prayer

13. Meeting Adjourned at 8:25pm

William Kennison
Adjutant

Sandy Krum
Commander