

Department of Illinois Internal Affairs Commission

Minutes of Commission meeting held on: Saturday, September 23RD, 2017 at
Department Headquarters in Bloomington, Illinois

In attendance: Al Coughlin (chairman; 1st Division), Roy Smith (vice chairman; 5th Division), Robert Howe (member; 2nd Division), James Shaw (member; 3rd Division) and Rudy Laufhutte (member; 4th Division)

Chairman, Al Coughlin, opened the meeting at 1 PM, the Pledge of Allegiance was given. Al recognized and welcomed the newer members of our group, Roy and Rudy.

There was no unfinished business from last year and the Department had no new business for the Commission to handle.

The chairman brought up that there has been much discussion concerning membership at National. He reminded the commission that the resolution to eliminate districts which fall below 1,000 members was passed at last April's D.E.C. At this time there is one District well below the 1,000 member mark and that there is now one District very close to falling below that mark. Al indicated that at the National Media and Communications meeting in Reno, they were informed that as a membership tool, each post will receive 3 copies of the October magazine to hand out to perspective members. We were also informed me about the 100 year anniversary. The Commission members discussed some of the ways they've seen the membership issue handled in their Divisions.

The group was visited by Commander Henderson and Vice Commander Carder. They informed us to be sure to turn in our directory information forms to Christy Rich. The Commander also requested that we keep our respective Division and District members informed as to our Department goals and programs and to stay the course. Cmdr. Henderson explained his "Membership Team" plan for each District, he also informed us of some of the changes with the "Gifts to the Yanks" program. Vice Cmdr Carder asked us to promote the programs.

After the Commander departed the commission meeting was visited by Adjutant PNC Marty Conatser. Marty explained the plan for a Department of Illinois 100 year anniversary coin. Marty explained how the program would work and hoped that we would help to promote it.

Al indicated that he was not sure if the combined "Big Four" meeting will occur in December as in the past. The Commission members will be notified.

With no further business to be presented, the chairman closed the meeting at 1:40 PM