

The American Legion Illinois Premier Boys State Board of Directors meeting was called to order on April 8<sup>th</sup> 2017 @ 1032 hrs. by Chairman Benigno.

Board members not in attendance were Michael Flanagan, Paul Brown, John Feeney, Kevin Wilbur, Mac Meade and Hsienjan Huang.

Also in attendance was Joy Wilson our programs registrar.

State Commander Cheri Stanton was present and expressed how well the program is going.

Minutes from the August 13<sup>th</sup> 2016 meeting and the treasurer's report were both approved.

### **Old Business**

The 10 year EIU contract that will be signed at the session in June, which was voted on and approved unanimously by the board members.

### **New Business**

none

### **Announcements/Updates**

Board member McCraith brought to the Chairman's attention that in reducing the board we neglected to submit two names to serve until 2022. Chairman Benigno stated that he will do this so that the State Commander can accept the recommendations at the state convention DEC.

Chairman Benigno spoke of the need for additional administration staff and the need for an existing board member to fill the vacancies of Secretary and Director of Administration which are temporarily being held by the Chairman.

Executive Director Brown spoke of the staff invitations and the phases that those are sent out.

Programming Director Aiu spoke of minor program changes and restructuring of events for a better flow of the program.

Promotional items and bids were discussed for the program and boys state store.

Discussed a public relations push throughout our communities and especially within our states posts.

A sponsorship refund policy will also be put in place. This will be designed by Chairman Benigno, and approved at the next meeting.

The cost of the yearbook was discussed and determined that the printing was not a large portion of the cost related to the programs book documenting the week.

We need to update the brochure to focus more on the pictures and less text to draw the boy's attention and adding a suggestive deadline to prompt earlier entries.

Vice Chairman Nargelenas spoke about the recruitment efforts in the 4<sup>th</sup> Division and 21<sup>st</sup> District and asked for some assistance from those who reside in those areas.

Joe McCraith brought up that he would like to see our booth be located in the main aisle or across from emblem sales at convention this year. Meeting was adjourned at 1126 hrs.