

American Legion Department of Illinois  
Technology Committee  
Meeting Minutes, Fall 2024  
October 4, 2024

Meeting held in person, Department HQ, Bloomington, IL

Meeting called to order 1300

Drew Webb 5<sup>th</sup> Div, Chair  
Dick Taylor, 4<sup>th</sup> Div  
Robert Gardner, 3<sup>rd</sup> Div  
Carter Corsello, 2<sup>nd</sup> Div  
Tom Zito, 1<sup>st</sup> Div

Discussion and Recommendations:

Posts should have a Social Communications officer. They would cover social media, print, and news releases. At first this could simply be by appointment of the commander. Long term, posts should review their by-laws and add this officer and eliminate archaic or no longer used positions.

Encourage leadership at all levels to follow other Posts, Divisions, and Departments on Facebook. It is recognized that no social media platform has 100% reach. However, those that use Facebook can find that the exchange of information and ideas is straightforward.

Mylegion.org. is the data set of record. Members need to update their information. Department should use only the information held within Mylegion to update department directory. If the information is not correct, it is the member that needs to update it. It is recognized that some members still struggle with computers. Post leadership has the capacity to work with someone that can update their information for them.

Reach out to local papers to post news, any news the post may have

We recommend leadership looks at all programs but especially programs such as Orations. Orations were the Tik-Tok of the early 1900's. We have come a long way from that form of communicating insight and persuasion. We recommend the appropriate committee take this challenge and convert to a new contest asking for a video on the year's subject. You would be surprised at the creativity of youth. We ask how many times have you watched a reel or Tic-Tok video over and over and shared it? Now we ask how many times you have watch the full oration video and shared it?

Further, appropriate committee should look at the Scrapbook and Newsprint award. This also may be able to be better converted into post promotion video. The beauty of converting these two current competitions is that once you have the video, you may use them over and over again to promote the Legion or posts.

Have Department challenge each committee to make a video, 30 second to 1 minute, to make a video titled 'This is What We Do'. We recognize that this is not applicable to many committees. However, there are many committees that have product and do great work. Make a short video of what you do and how it is fulfilling the one or more of the four pillars. How is our community involvement effecting veterans, youth, Americanism, and a strong defense? Tell our story.

What is the value of a committee if guidance isn't provided or expectations aren't presented.

Lastly, we discussed, and one committee member felt, it isn't well known that we are a nonprofit. It is important to stress that our organization is a nonprofit.

Meeting adjourned 1430

Yours in service,

Drew Webb, Committee Chairman