

Minutes for Chapter Meeting
October 18, 2025
Major K M VanZandt Chapter #6, Texas SAR



9:00AM, **President Ron Turner** called the October 18, 2025, meeting to order. There were 16 people in attendance, including 2 guests.

- **Immediate Past President Bobby Gresham** led the chapter in the pledges to the American Flag, the Texas Flag and the SAR Flag, along with the SAR Mission Statement. This was followed by an opening prayer by **Chaplain Ralph Smith**. **President Turner** acknowledged the presence of two prospective chapter members identified as Curtis Fortinberry and James Cadmon.

Officer Reports

- **President Turner**, in the absence of the **Secretary Mark Parkison**, presented the minutes that were emailed to everyone during the past week and noted several changes made to the minutes. The minutes were adopted with corrections.

New Business

- **Past President Gerry Gieger** made a motion to accept the minutes from the September meeting; second by **Past Chapter President James Alderman**. The motion was adopted.
- **President Turner**, in the absence of **Treasurer Anthony Walker**, noted the balance of the bank account was \$15,153.33 with no outstanding debts. A motion was made by **Past President Alderman**; the motion was adopted.
- **President Turner** stated that so far this year the chapter has received 55 inquiries from prospective members with the potential to obtain 4 members from this group.
- **Chaplain Ralph Smith** reminded attendees that if anyone had any prayer concerns or needs, to reach out to him.
- **Past President Alderman**, chairman of the chapter officer nominating committee, introduced the slate of officers for the coming year; **President Steve Hole**, **Vice President Jeff Sparks**, **Secretary Cody Sheppard**, **Treasurer Greg Riffel**, **Chaplain Ralph Smith**, and **Color Guard Commander Vann Cunningham**. The vote for the new slate of chapter officers will be conducted at next month's meeting.
- Discussion occurred over a suggestion to obtain a new banner for the chapter trailer. **Past President Alderman** mentioned his opposition to this suggestion and **Past President Gieger** was in agreement with **Alderman**. Decision made to table the motion to get a new trailer banner.

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- **President Turner** mentioned that the DAR is having a State meeting at DFW Airport in March and the request was for several SAR chapter members to be present at the meeting for “photo op” with DAR members. These volunteers would dress as either General George Washington, Ben Franklin, or Thomas Jefferson. Idea is to roam the banquet hall and interact with the DAR ladies for photo ops...basically be in character. Anyone interested should contact **President Turner**.
- **President Turner** mentioned that a new date/location for the annual Massing of the Colors program with the Military Order of the World Wars organization is set for Sunday, November 9, 2025, at Trimble Tech High School; details to follow.

On November 11, 2025, the Veterans Day parade will be in Fort Worth. The chapter trailer will assemble in the Panther Island Pavilion parking lot by the Tarrant County Court House; 10:30AM is the muster time for those riding the trailer.

The 2026 dues from the SAR organization are coming up; be alert to your mail and / or email notification of this dues payment.

- **Past President Mike Connelley** made available the Vietnam Military Service lapel pins for distribution. It is noted this SAR program will be ending soon. Members were told that each distribution of a lapel pin to a veteran, counts as a “visit with a veteran” and is to be reported on the Veterans Report at the end of each year.
- **President Turner** recognized **Chaplain Smith** who made a closing admonition and prayer for the meeting which adjourned at 10:50AM.

Respectively submitted in the absence of **Secretary Mark Parkinson**.

Past President L. Michael Connelley, Major K M Van Zandt Chapter, Texas SAR