

Minutes of the
DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

May 28, 2020
(7:00 p.m. – Teleconference)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Jane Larson at 7:04 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

MOTION: by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) to dispense with opening ceremonies except for the prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The prayer was offered by Department Chaplain Colleen Newman (Unit 35).

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

NATIONAL OFFICERS

National Executive Committeewoman Penny Mazonna

OFFICERS

President Jane Larson

1st Vice President Yvonne Lamm

2nd Vice President Ann Robinson

Secretary Barbara Nath

Treasurer Diana Estrada

Sergeant-at-Arms Lori Fruhwirth

Chaplain Colleen Newman

Historian April Sinclair

Executive Committeewoman Frances Bedel

ROLL CALL (continued)

PRESENT

STANDING COMMITTEES

Alaska Girls State Chair Yvonne Lamm
Children and Youth Chair April Sinclair
Community Service Chair Frances Bedel
Distinguished Guests Chair Penny Mazonna
History Chair April Sinclair
Leadership Chair Sue Caswell
Legislative Chair Penny Mazonna
Membership Chair Yvonne Lamm
National Security Chair Penny Mazonna
Poppy Chair Margaret Blankenship
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R) Chair Anarene Robinson

UNITS

Seward Unit 5
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11
Lynn Canal Unit 12
George H. Plumley Unit 20
Spennard Unit 28
Muldoon Unit 29
Peters Creek Unit 33
Susitna Valley Unit 35
C. Russell Huber Unit 57

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Susan Caswell
Rehta Foster
Lisa Williamson
Beverly Eads
Margaret Blankenship
Penny Mazonna
Sue Waldhaus
Linda Schmitt

ROLL CALL (continued)

EXCUSED

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Alternate NEC Susan Diaz

STANDING COMMITTEES

Audit Sue Diaz
Constitution and ByLaws Sue Diaz
Junior Activities Chair Danielle Larson

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Sharon Cherrette
Sue Diaz

ABSENT

OFFICERS

Executive Committeewoman Zona Gregg

STANDING COMMITTEES

Americanism Chair Kathy Moore
Auxiliary Emergency Fund Chair Zona Gregg
Education and Scholarship (Vacant)
Past Presidents Parley Debbie Lowndes
Public Relations Beverly Eads

UNITS

Jack Henry Unit 1
Joseph T. Craig Unit 3
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6
Sitka Unit 13
Matanuska Valley Unit 15
General Buckner Unit 16
Robert G. Blair Unit 17
Ninilchik Unit 18
Nome Unit 19
Gladys M Heintz Memorial Unit 27
Con Miller Unit 30
Chappie James Unit 34
Peter Heyano Unit 442

ROLL CALL (continued)

ABSENT

PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS

Ruth Brown	Betty Bumala	Laverne Kearns
Evelyn Oliver	June Haas	Lori FitzSimons
Betty Porter	Lavonne Collier	Eva Aulston
Jean Clayton	Etta Singleton	Carolyn Null
Wilma Stokes	Jean Shandy	Jill Pawson
Francisca Guilford	Lynn Bash	Beverly Eads
Barbe Wolkoff	Debbie Lowndes	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded by Colleen Newman (Unit 35) to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2020 DEC Meeting

A correction was requested to page 7, the second paragraph where the word “tie” should be replaced with “time”.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Diana shared information about the different banking options.

- First National has indicated that they will not charge a service fee if we go completely online.
- Key Bank has a lot of stipulations. We must have \$20,000 combined in all our accounts.
- Wells Fargo indicated there should be \$10,000 every month.
- Northrim must have \$100 in the account. There will be no charge. We can have online access and can have statements mailed.

MOTION: by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) to change our accounts from First National Bank to Northrim Bank.

Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) asked if there is a local bank convenient for those doing the banking. Northrim Bank is in Anchorage, Eagle River, Wasilla and Fairbanks.

Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) noted that since we are able to utilize online access as well as the physical locations, she doesn't see any problems.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

There were a number of committee members and officers to be ratified. These included:

- Department Standing Committee Chairs to be ratified
 - Alaska Girls State Co-Director Lori Fruhwirth Unit 11
 - Community Service Debbie Ervin..... Unit 57
 - Finance Committee Debbie Lowndes, Chair Unit 33
 - Lisa Williamson..... Unit 57
 - Lisa Boyles Unit 15
 - Junior Activities Margaret Clausen-Grim, Chair Unit 57
 - Nina Ketelsen, Co-Chair Unit 35
 - National Security Frances Bedel Unit 57

- Junior Officer to be ratified
 - President..... Shelby Lamm..... Unit 33
 - 1st Vice President Mackenzi Grimm..... Unit 57

MOTION: by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and Sue Caswell (Unit 33) that the Department Executive Committee ratify the above chairs and officers.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

JUNIOR OFFICERS

The President will be Shelby Lamm (Unit 33), the 1st Vice-President will be Mackenzi Grimm (Unit 57) and the 2nd Vice President position will remain vacant. All others officers will remain the same. President Jane Larson indicated that she would like to have the new officers installed at the Fall Conference

MOTION: by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) that the 2nd Vice President position be left open and that officers be installed at the Fall Conference DEC Meeting.

AMENDED

MOTION: by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) that the 2nd Vice President position be left open and that the new officers be installed at the Fall Conference when the Legion and SAL officers are installed.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

HELMETS

MOTION: by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) and seconded by Diana Estrada (Unit 35) to purchase seven helmets for the Domiciliary at a maximum of \$350 with the money coming from the VA&R Account.

Diana Estrada, Treasurer, indicated that the funds are available.

Ann explained that she was approached by the VA. They were given a grant to buy bikes for the domiciliary, but it did not cover the helmets. They asked if we could help purchase the helmets.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

There was no other New Business to come before the Department Executive Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fall Conference will be held at Spenard Post/Unit 28 from October 2-4. Watch your email for updates. Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) indicated that she has been assured that the ALA will have the large room for our meeting. It has not yet been determined where the Juniors will be having their meeting. They are looking forward to hosting the Fall Conference. Meetings will be on Friday and Saturday with the DEC and Girls State meetings on Sunday.

President Jane Larson sent out the poppy bingo. She only received one response which didn't have the correct answers. It is believed that Covid-19 is probably responsible for the low response. She has decided to save the bingo for a later date. Some people indicated they had issues with being able to "x" the squares to return by email.

Sue Waldhaus (Unit 28) asked how people utilized poppies for Memorial Day. Marge Blankenship (Unit 29) is our Department Poppy Chair and asked that people share information with her. Here is some information that was shared:

- Fran Bedel stated that Unit 57 set up poppy cans when the officers would ask for donations. They made \$134 in three days.
- Unit 33 did wreaths at the Memorial.
- Lori Fruhwirth reported that Unit 11 did wreaths and took them to the cemetery.
- Barb stated that Unit 20 displayed flags and crosses at the cemetery.
- Unit 5 did the same.
- Sue Waldhaus noted that Unit 28 did crosses with poppies.
- Joan Mathews stated that Unit 35 did flags at the cemetery in Wasilla.
- Unit 57 did an impromptu ceremony and handed out poppies to those attending and also placed poppies on service members' headstones.

Anarene Robinson reported that Fisher House has re-opened for items to be left at the door only; we still can't go into building. They are running short of food and supplies. Anarene is going to be talking to folks to do their part to provide support for community people who had been feeding them. Unit 33 is doing their meal this next Tuesday.

Von wanted to let folks know that the Department of Alaska is over 92% for membership with only 7% to go. She congratulated everyone and thanked them for their hard work.

Units were reminded to get their 2020-2021 officers' information to Department.

Marge asked that everyone let her know who the poppy chairs are for each unit.

In addition, make sure you let Ann know who the VA&R Chairs are for each unit.

MEMORIAL DAY

Headquarters had asked that everyone do a candle display in honor of Memorial Day.

- Unit 29 did a red, white and blue candle in the shape of a heart with white candles and red poppies. It was on our Facebook page and on legiontown.org.
- Penny Mazonna was at the Memorial Day Ceremony in Wasilla. There was a poppy store. As a side, she noted that everyone should be referring to our agency as the American Legion Auxiliary or ALA and not as women (we now have male members).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Department Executive Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.