

Minutes of the
American Legion Auxiliary
DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
PRE-CONVENTION MEETING
April 25, 2018
7:00 p.m. – Post 28, Anchorage)

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Barbe Wolkoff.

PRAYER

The Prayer was given by Chaplain Marge Blankenship (Unit 33).

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded Diana Estrada (Unit 35) to dispense with opening ceremony

It was decided that the Pledge of Allegiance would be recited.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Debbie Lowndes (Unit 33).

ROLL CALL

Present:

Officers

President Barbe Wolkoff
1st Vice-President Debbie Lowndes
2nd Vice-President Jane Larson
Secretary Barbara Nath
Treasurer Diana Estrada
Sgt. at Arms Zona Gregg
Chaplain Marge Blankenship
Historian Colleen Newman
Executive Committeewoman Carrie Doores
Executive Committeewoman Lori Fruhwirth

ROLL CALL (continued)

Present:

Committee Chairmen

Americanism Barbara Nath
Auxiliary Emergency Fund Zona Gregg
History Colleen Newman
Children and Youth Barbara Hummel
Community Service Penny Mazonna
Distinguished Guests Lisa Williamson
Education and Scholarship Darlene Sheldon
Finance Debbie Lowndes
Girls State Yvonne Lamm
Junior Activities Carrie Doores
Leadership Sue Caswell
Membership Jane Larson
National Security Lisa Williamson
Poppy Lori Fruhwirth
Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) Debbie Lowndes

Units

Jack Henry Unit 1
Joseph P. Craig Unit 3
Seward Unit 5
Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6
Dorman H. Baker Unit 11
Matanuska Valley Unit 15
General Buckner Unit 16
Ninilchik Unit 18
Geo. H. Plumley Memorial Unit 20
Spennard Unit 28
Muldoon Unit 29
Peters Creek Unit 33
Susitna Valley Unit 35
C Russell Huber Unit 57

Past Department Presidents

Lavonne Collier
Susan Caswell
Carolyn Null
Rehta Foster
Betty Randall
Lisa Williamson
Margaret Blankenship
Penny Mazonna
Linda Schmitt

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Excused:

Committee Chairmen
Constitution and ByLaws Sue Diaz
Legislative Sue Waldhaus
Past President Parley Sue Waldhaus
Public Relations Sue Waldhaus
Past Department Presidents
Sue Diaz
Sharon Cherrette
Sue Waldhaus

Absent

Committee Chairmen
Audit Jennifer Roalsen
Units
Lynn Canal Unit 12
Sitka Unit 13
Robert G. Blair Unit 17
Nome Unit 19
Gladys M. Heintz Memorial Unit 27
Con Miller Unit 30
Chappie James Unit 34
Peter Heyano Unit 442

Past Department Presidents

Sue Cherrier	Jean Clayton	Laverne Kearns
Evelyn Oliver	Judy Pusti	Jill Pawson
June Haas	Etta Singleton	Francisca Guilford
Lori FitzSimons	Wilma Stokes	Lynn Bash
Betty Porter	Jean Shandy	Beverly Eads
Eva Aulson	Betty Bumula	

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for meetings held on August 20, 2017 and October 1, 2017 were distributed earlier this year. An official approval of the minutes is needed for the record.

MOTION: by Rehta Foster (Unit 28) and seconded by Linda Schmitt (Unit 33) to dispense with reading of minutes and to approve the minutes with the following corrections:

Past Department Presidents Betty Bumala and Louise Kearns were not on the roll call and should have been and marked absent.

Linda Schmitt was not on the Finance Committee.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Diana Estrada reported the balances in the following accounts:

Checking	\$17,742.24
Gaming Checking	\$14,435.47
Rehab Checking	\$6,555.19
Girls State Checking	\$5,322.34
Girls State Saving	\$14,072.99

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to be read.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ALA Honorary Junior President Report – The ALA Honorary Junior President would not be present until Thursday. Her report will be moved to the Department Convention agenda.

Domiciliary Gift Shop – Debbie Lowndes noted that she needs a chairman for Domiciliary Gift Shop. If someone doesn't volunteer and there is no chairman, then we will not have a Domiciliary gift shop in December. That would be the first time in many years that there has not been a Domiciliary gift shop.

Linda Schmitt reported that the issue is that the chairman has not been providing an inventory or a report and she has not registered for this Department Convention. She is being removed as chairman. It will be necessary for someone to go to the storage unit and do an inventory. The Department Secretary has the key and the address. The lock will be changed. Another issue is that the items that were purchased last year were so big and cumbersome that our postage went from \$1600 to \$2600. We will need someone who is conscientious and follows through. It is preferable that there is a Committee Chair and a Co-Chair. Ann Robinson from Unit 33 and Jane Larson from Unit 35 agreed to fill those positions.

Barb Nath will work to get access to the storage unit. Ann Robinson and Jane Larson will help conduct an inventory as well as Diana Estrada. If anyone else wishes to assist, they should let the Department Secretary know.

AEF Application – Department Secretary Barbara Nath reported that we had received an application from Unit 57 for AEF funds. The documents were forwarded to National Headquarters who approved funds from National. The application was then forwarded to AEF Committee Chair Zona Gregg. She formed a committee who reviewed the application. They recommended approval of up to \$2,000 from the Department of Alaska. An email was sent out to Department Executive Committee members, however only two responses were received. Therefore, this is being brought forward at this meeting for action.

MOTION: by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded by Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) to approve the AEF Application for Ruth Sunford as recommended (up to \$2,000).

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

There was no further Unfinished Business to come before the Department Executive Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

SCHOLARSHIPS

Department Secretary Barbara Nath explained what had happened with the Children of Warriors National President Scholarship Applications.

She had forwarded all applications to the Department Scholarship Chairman for her review and a decision regarding the winner. She did not connect that one of those applications was from the Chairman's unit. By the time she realized her error, the decision had been made and the scholarship application forwarded to Western Division. There were three applications received, one of which was not complete and was not considered. The winner was the application from the Department Chairman's unit, however she noted it was very close between the two and it was difficult to make a decision. When the scholarship is forwarded to Western Division, the winner is automatically given a \$1,000 Aggie Parks Scholarship. Due to the inconsistency with our Department rules regarding the way the scholarship review was handled, the Department Secretary was asking that the DEC, for this year, award two Aggie Parks Scholarships, one to each of the complete applications received.

MOTION: by Sue Caswell (Unit 33) and seconded by Lori Fruhwirth (Unit 11) to give two \$1,000 Aggie Parks Scholarship for this year only, one to each of the individuals who submitted a complete application.

The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

RESOLUTIONS

There are two resolutions at this time to come before the Department Convention. Both resolutions have to do with the Honorary Junior meetings and Honorary Junior Officers.

There is also an amendment to the Bylaws. This is in regard to Standing Committees (Education/Scholarship). It will expand how the process works and elaborate to help avoid conflicts in the future.

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee will be working with these resolutions and amendments and will bring them before the membership during the Department Convention.

Darlene Sheldon (Unit 6) is the current Education/Scholarship Chairman. She stressed the importance of making sure that whoever takes over this committee gets the current information so she can assure the procedure is followed correctly.

There was no other New Business to come before the membership.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) noted that the pullover jackets in both blue and red would be available again as a fundraiser for Kathy Daudistel for National President. In addition there are now full zip jackets which are also available in red and blue. All jackets are \$40 each plus \$5 for shipping. They will be shipped directly to the buyer. Also, for an extra \$5, the full zip jackets can have your name on them.

Linda Schmitt (Unit 28) reminded those present that at the PPP Luncheon there will be awards for Unit Member of the Year and for Service Member of the Year. Anyone from the unit can be nominated as long as they have never held a position higher than Unit President. Nominations will be reviewed by a committee consisting of Past Department Presidents and the award will be made at the PPP Luncheon.

This is the Month of the Military Children. Everyone was encouraged to wear purple on Thursday. They were also encouraged to wear red on Friday to Remember those Deployed.

All books and projects to be judged should be brought in by Thursday. Committee assignments will be made and judging will begin.

Carrie Doores (Unit 15) announced that there is a brown bag auction again this year by the Juniors. Donations are being accepted. The more items there are, the better it will be. If an item is brought in, they can be stored in the back room.

Lisa Williamson (Unit 57) reminded members about the baby shower on Friday. Mikayla has not had her baby yet, but is very close. Lisa has had support from a number of units for the shower. Lavonne Collier (Unit 1) noted that the SAL will be bringing special cupcakes. There will be a guest book and members were asked to provide their name and address so that Mikayla will be able to send thank you cards.

Marge Blankenship (Unit 33) noted that the mother of Pat Francois (Unit 35) had passed away yesterday. Marge will bring a card for people to sign. Pat will not be present at the meeting.

Betty Randall asked about transportation to the PPP Luncheon. It is not known at this time if transportation will be available.

Chaplain Marge Blankenship (Unit 33) said a closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.