



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

In the Spirit of Service Not Self, for our Veterans, God and Country

Department of Alaska
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DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Wasilla, Alaska October 12, 2014

President Penny Mazonna called the meeting back to order at 1:00PM at the Susitna Valley Post 15 in Wasilla, Alaska following adjournment of the American Legion Auxiliary Alaska Girls State meeting and lunch.

Motion was made by Lavonne Collier to dispense with the reading of the minutes. The motion was seconded. Motion approved.

ROLL CALL

OFFICERS	NAME	P	A	E	TOTALS
PRESIDENT	PENNY MAZONNA	X			
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	SHARON CHERRETTE	X			
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	SUSAN WALDHAUS	X			
SEC./TREAS	LINDA SCHMITT	X			
CHAPLAIN	BARBE WOLKOFF			X	
HISTORIAN	SHARON DILLON	X			
SGT-AT-ARMS	COLLEEN NEWMAN	X			
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEWOMEN	JANE LARSON	X			
	SUE COUP	X			
TOTAL OFFICERS					8
STANDING COMMITTEES					
AMERICANISM	EVA AULSTON	X			
AUDIT	LINDA GUNVALSON	X			

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND	KATHY MOORE	X			
CAVALCADE OF MEMORIES	SHARON DILLON	X			
CHILDREN AND YOUTH	ZONA GREGG	X			
COMMUNITY SERVICE	COLLEEN NEWMAN	X			
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS	LAVONNE COLLIER	X			
DISTINGUISHED GUEST	BEVERLY EADS			X	
EDUCATION	LORI FITZSIMONS	X			
FINANCE	NORA ANDERSON			X	
GIRLS STATE	YVONNE LAMM	X			
JUNIOR ACTIVITIES	ADRIENNE HUFF		X		
LEADERSHIP	SUE COUP	X			
LEGISLATIVE	LORI FRUHWIRTH	X			
MEMBERSHIP	SUSAN WALDHAUS	X			
NATIONAL SECURITY	BEVERLY EADS			X	
PAST PRESIDENT PARLEY	MARGE BLANKENSHIP	X			
POPPY	LINDA GUNVALSON	X			
PUBLIC RELATIONS	LEONA SCHANK	X			
VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION	SHARON CHERRETTE	X			
TOTAL STANDING COMMITTEES					16
UNITS		P	A	E	TOTALS
JACK HENRY	UNIT 1	X			
JOSEPH T. CRAIG	UNIT 3		X		
SEWARD	UNIT 5	X			
MERLIN ELMER PALMER	UNIT 6	X			
DORMAN H. BAKER	UNIT 11	X			
LYNN CANAL	UNIT 12		X		
SITKA	UNIT 13		X		
MAT. VALLEY	UNIT 15		X		
GENERAL BUCKNER	UNIT 16	X			
ROBERT G. BLAIR	UNIT 17	X			
NINILCHIK	UNIT 18	X			
NOME	UNIT 19		X		
GEO. H.PLUMLEY MEM.	UNIT 20	X			
GLADYS M. HEINTZ MEM.	UNIT 27		X		
SPENARD	UNIT 28	X			
MULDOON	UNIT 29	X			
CON MILLER	UNIT 30		X		
PETERS CREEK	UNIT 33	X			
CHAPPIE JAMES	UNIT 34		X		

SUSITNA VALLEY	UNIT 35	X			
C. RUSSELL HUBER	UNIT 57			X	
TOTAL UNITS					12
PAST DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS		P	A	E	TOTALS
LYNN BASH			X		
CAROLYN NULL			X		
SUSAN CASWELL		X			
LAVONNE COLLIER		X			
BETTY RANDALL		X			
JILL PAWSON			X		
LISA WILLIAMSON				X	
JEAN CLAYTON				X	
REHTA FOSTER			X		
JEAN SHANDY				X	
FRANCISCA GUILFORD			X		
LINDA GUNVALSON		X			
EVA AULSTON		X			
JUDY PUSTI				X	
BETTY PORTER				X	
SUE CHERRIER				X	
LORI FITZSIMMONS		X			
JUNE HAAS				X	
SUE DIAZ			X		
BEVERLY EADS				X	
MARGARET BLANKENSHIP		X			
TOTAL PDP'S					7

There is a quorum.

TREASURERS REPORT

General Checking - \$10,088.57
Gaming - \$22,373.23
Girls State - \$4,955.41
Rehabilitation - \$5,776.55
Girls State Savings - \$14,047.96

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from Tim Benintendi requesting a donation on behalf of the Blood Bank of Alaska building fund. Secretary Linda Schmitt made a motion to donate \$500.00 to the Blood Bank of Alaska. Motion seconded. Motion approved.

Senate Resolution 506 of the 2nd Session of the 113th Congress of the United States of America recognizing the patriotism and contributions of auxiliaries of veterans service organizations. Dated September 16, 2014 the committee discharged, considered and agreed to this resolution.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Department of Alaska Constitution and Bylaws Revision

Lavonne Collier gave a report on the progress of the Constitution and Bylaws committee. The committee has received the most recent updates to the work being done on the Constitution and Bylaws. Membership eligibility remains intact because the American Legion did not address the eligibility revisions at the National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina so there are no changes to the eligibility dates at this time. Departments revising their constitutions and bylaws should include the current wording along with the new wording. The question of step-relatives continues to come up. Eligibility information regarding step-relatives has never been mentioned in the national governing documents. Department is the final authority on matters of a members eligibility or discipline.

For Information Only - Resolution from the Membership Chairman – Waive female veteran’s dues.

For Information Only – Resolution from Sue Waldhaus to make the Department Reports due dates to be uniform across department. Mid-year reports being due by December 1st and Year-End reports being due by April 15th.

Sharon Cherrette made a motion to waive the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska per diem (\$7.00) portion for new female veterans joining the American Legion Auxiliary for the 2014-2015 membership year. The motion was seconded. Motion approved.

Membership Report – Sue Waldhaus Chairman

Million Member National goals for 2019 information was handed out. Membership Unit increases for 2014-2015 were explained. All information is included in your membership kit that was handed out to you at the workshop. The biggest change is monthly goals instead of target dates. The Department of Alaska’s goal is set at 295 new/renewals each month. Award information was also handed out and discussed. The American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska has a wager with the Department of Utah to have recruited more female veterans than the Department of Utah by February 15, 2015.

Public Relations – Leona Schank Chairman

Leona is requesting to be copied with any articles submitted regarding events at your Units that you submitted to be publicized so that she can follow up with the publications.

Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation – Sharon Cherrette Chairman

Home Service and Field Service have been joined into one sub-committee now called Service to Veterans. No longer will hours be counted separately, the hours will now all be counted together. There is no distinction between field service hours and home service hours. Tracking of hours form is on the national website. Be sure to track your hours. Sharon will be mailing out the new booklet once she receives them. Remember that you don't get credit for helping your own veteran.

Children and Youth – Zona Gregg Chairman

Good Deed Hero award form – fifty states turned in 62 award applications last year. FBI Sexual Predator Online Class - very, very informative. Every young girl should be encouraged to take this class. Zona suggested to look into having this class at Department Convention.

Americanism – Eva Aulston Chairman

Eva suggested children who write Christmas cards to be sent to servicemen and women, add on the bottom of the card, "We support you in what you do for us by being good at home." (or some similar sentiment to demonstrate that the children are appreciate for the service members service on their behalf). Eva quoted John F. Kennedy - "Ask not what your country can do for you...." She suggested that every Unit ask what they can do for their country.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominations for Second Alternate National Executive Committeewoman (NEC)

Letters of Endorsement for the office of Second Alternate National Executive Committeewoman (NEC) have been received for consideration from Past Department President's Eva Aulston, Lavonne Collier and Margaret Blankenship. It was determined to put into place a Nominations Committee and a Balloting Committee. President Penny asked for volunteers who are not members of Unit 1 or Unit 33. Diana Estrada Susitna Valley Unit 35, Donna Brockschmidt General Buckner Unit 16 and Zona Gregg Merlin Elmer Palmer Unit 6 were appointed as the nominating and balloting committee. The endorsement letters were read by the nominations committee. Linda Gunvalson Spenard Unit 28 was nominated from the floor by Susan Waldhaus. There were 26 ballots cast. It was explained that there would be no applause or expressions of congratulations after the announcement of the successful candidate. The election resulted in a tie between Eva Aulston and Marge Blankenship. There was a run-off election between the tied candidates. Past Department President Margaret Blankenship was declared the Second Alternate National Executive Committeewoman.

JBER Christmas Stockings

Linda Gunvalson is making lap blankets for the residents of the Domiciliary. Sue Waldhaus has volunteered Spenard Unit 28 to provide the Christmas stockings or mugs at the hospital on JBER for Christmas. Sue stated that Unit 28 would accept any and all donations either monetary or items for the stockings.

Donations

Department Secretary Linda Schmitt made a motion to donate \$500 to the American Cancer Society in Christy Hill's name, \$1,000 to the Parade of Checks at the Washington D.C. Conference, \$750 each to the VA Women Veterans and the VA Creative Arts Festival out of the gaming account. The motion was seconded. Discussion ensued. The motion was amended to make the \$500 donation to the American Cancer Society without mention of Christy Hill. Motion approved.

Ratify Girls State Changes

Department Secretary Linda Schmitt made a motion to ratify the changes made to the American Legion Auxiliary Girls State application, registration and other documents pertaining to the Alaska Girls State program along with incorporation of the National Girls State Program and Operations Guide. The motion was seconded. Motion approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zona Gregg asked for the floor to announce the results of the Marine Corps marathon that her daughter and son-in-law participated in this morning. Her daughter finished her run in 13 minutes.

Marge Blankenship challenges everyone to donate \$20.00 the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Alaska Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Linda Gunvalson made a \$22.00 donation to AEF.

Vonn Lamm, Girls State Director has Girls State shirts for sale for \$5.00 each.

Michele Giddings donated \$40.00 to Children and Youth.

Poppy orders need to be placed by Tuesday, November 11, 2014.

This year's poppy contest is for a Poppy Banners for the poppy contest at Department Convention in Seward. The banner should be big enough to cover the front of a six foot banquet table.

Department Secretary Linda Schmitt made a request for all Units to provide her with their meeting dates and times.

Silver Tea – Jack Henry Unit 1 – Saturday, November 1, 2014 from 2:00 – 4:00PM

Legionnaire articles are due into the American Legion Department Headquarters office by the tenth of the month in even numbered months.

Domiciliary Gift Shop – Saturday, December 6, 2014 from 10:00AM – 2:00PM

Sue Caswell offered closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda A. Schmitt
American Legion Auxiliary
Department of Alaska
Secretary/Treasurer