

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Council of Administration
MINUTES**

November 21, 2021, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Commander-in-Chief Michael A. Paquette called the meeting to order at 8:00 am on November 21, 2021 and those present or online recited the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by the invocation given by Rev. Jerry Kowalski.

The National Secretary called the roll of officers and recorded the following members of the Council of Administration:

Voting Members Present:

CinC Michael A. Paquette
SVCinC Bruce D. Frail, PDC
JVCinC Peter J, Hritsko, Jr., PDC
National Quartermaster Jim Lyon
National Secretary Jonathan C. Davis, PDC
National Treasurer Michael Beard
CofA Member Immed. PCinC Brian C. Pierson

CofA Member Shane Milburn, PDC
CofA Member Harry W. Reinke, IV, PDC
CofA Joseph Hall
CofA Member Kevin L. Martin, PDC
CofA Kevin P. Tucker, PDC

Non-Voting Members Present:

PCinC James B. Pahl, Banner Editor
National Conselor PCinC Mark R. Day
PCinC Edward Norris
PCinC Donald Shaw

Guests of the Council of Administration:

SVR National Chaplain Jerry Kowalski
Executive Director David Demmy, Sr.
National Signals Officer Tim McCoy

Nat. Aide-de-Camp Ross Schwalm
Assist. Nat. Quartermaster Daryl VerStreate, PDC

ITEMS FROM 2019 SPRINGFIELD CofA REPORTS

1. 4.11 National Committee on Graves Registration, Bruce D. Frail, PDC

RECOMMENDATIONS:

2) We should add advertisement banners to some of our database pages, i.e. search page and results page. These banners would be controlled by the SUVCW and the profit from them would go to the upkeep of the database (up to the yearly amount that has been budgeted) any additional funds could go into the General or Permanent Funds. The upgraded database and our new server location give us the ability to add banners, collect and track revenues. We should take advantage of this.

[ACTION: Motion by Brother Day that we allow the Technology and Graves Registration Committees to work on developing the program or plan on how this would be implemented by 2019 Gettysburg, seconded. Passed. CONTINUED ACTION: Report deferred action till web site updated.]

3) We should create and market a line of lineage items that can be personalized and sold thru a database web store to people who learn of their relatives or are helping with our project. Some ideas are certificates that identify American Civil War Service, t-shirts or polo shirts that submitters or admin users can purchase that would identify them as working and/or supporting our project. These items would be dual purpose; they would generate revenue and promote our database, which in turn promotes the SUVCW. The revenue would pay for the expenses generated in this product line, go towards the budget for upkeep of the database and lastly any additional could go into the General or Permanent Funds. This line would not interfere at all with the Quartermaster store or the Charitable Foundation as it is targeting a different group of buyers. As this three year

plan is a base to my ideas for the future, we should discuss these before I submit a complete five or ten year plan.

[ACTION: Coordinate with QM on feasibility, deferred to Gettysburg CofA Meeting] [Moved to strike the motion, seconded. Passed]

2. 5.8 National Special Committee on Strategic Development, David McReynolds, PCC

RECOMMENDATIONS:

3) The committee recommends that the CoA authorize it to produce a presentation to be made at the Annual Encampment that would include a challenge to get 1,000 Brothers to commit to give just \$15 per month for three years. A small individual gift (\$540 total) can become increasingly significant when multiplied by 1,000. The total would yield \$540,000. It seems feasible that 1,000 members would commit to giving \$15 per month. And perhaps some would commit to give even more. The presentation would be reviewed by the entire CoA prior to it being made at the Encampment.

[ACTION: National Treasurer to look at individual funds. See Reports for draft, keep open and provide feedback to committee. This is also in seeking grants, discussion on awards for donations. Corp badges to be used. Deliver complete by Gettysburg CofA] [Motion to strike this item, seconded. Passed]

2021 SPRING CofA REPORTS

INTRODUCING the SUVCW LETTER

3. **[Action: Turned over to Marketing and Promotions as a publication, include on review schedule and review by P&P and Programs and Marketing]. [Continued ACTION: In the hands of P&P, minor edits to the writing but approved for publication. Item Closed]**

ITEMS FROM 2021 ST. LOUIS REPORTS

4. **Department of Massachusetts has issue to IRS of 501c3 status stating that IRS states system declares all departments and camps are 501c4. [ACTION: Incoming CinC to address issue.] [ACTION: Motion to defer to Springfield, seconded. Passed].**

5. **The Order advocate to the DOD, US Army, Arlington National Cemetery, and other patriotic and veterans organizations to reinstitute the honored practice of patriotic organizations wreath-laying on Memorial Day. [ACTION: Currently being tracked, ongoing action]**

NATIONAL SIGNALS OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

6. **Considering the ever-growing role of social media in serving to enhance the visibility of SUVCW and attract new members, the Commander-in-Chief establish a national award, to be presented at the annual National Encampment, that will recognize outstanding accomplishments and achievements by Departments and Camps in promoting the mission of SUVCW through social media. [ACTION: Need recommendation from the Social Media Committee, report back by Springfield].**

7. **The incoming Commander-in-Chief direct the National Signals Corps to develop a resource guide, to be made available to all Departments on request that will suggest optional best practices in developing and maintaining SUVCW-related websites and social media accounts. [ACTION: Assigned to Nat. Signal Officer, to present by Springfield].**

2021 GETTYSBURG REPORTS

Commander in Chief Paquette Discussion Topics

- **GAR Kit Carson Monument located in Santa Fe, NM [CofA Meeting In Springfield]**
- **Request from Vicksburg National Cemetery requesting our participation as a consulting party**

[ACTION: Henry Duquette to be representative].

- NPS Policy on placing of flags in the Gettysburg National Cemetery – what is our way forward?
[ACTION: Commander-in-Chief Paquette will pass on to DCs that a joint effort to flag all graves within the National Cemetery.]
- Congressional initiative to promote Ulysses Grant to General of the Armies of the United States
[ACTION: Letters are ready to send out to the Senators who sponsored such legislation].
- Resolution of SUVCW copyright infringement by DUVCW [ACTION: Covered in Executive Session]
- Potential additions to the National Secretary job description
[ACTION: Task to P&P Committee]
- Contract for Gettysburg events starting 2023 currently being reviewed.

2.15 Executive Director; David W. Demmy, Sr.

Recommendation: Records, reports, documents, correspondence photos, proceedings, auxiliary proceedings, fiche, credential cards of old encampments, national encampment VHS tapes, old department records, PCinC records, former JVC records, and potential surplus *Banners* at Hqs be added to our Retention Schedule or be a stand-alone schedule or policy.

[ACTION: P&P Committee just released a retention policy to cover this recommendation, deferred to Zoom Meeting in late January]

3.33 Assistant National Quartermaster ROTC, Daryl V. VerStreate, PDC

Recommendations

- I would request that the ROTC Officer on the website be updated to daryl7374@gmail.com I get a lot of garbage mail with my Hotmail address and Gmail seems to handle this a lot better.
[ACTION: National Signal Officer to handle]
- I would like to see Space Cadet added to the Form 7. Last year I received at least 2 requests for space cadet. [ACTION: Deferred to P&P Committee]
- On the Department Patriotic instructors report (Form 41) Line 17 says did you actively support the JROTC/ROTC Cadet program...the last two boxes are blacked out for Hours and amount. I would like to see these two boxes opened so camps can report the hours invested and then calculate the amount equivalent to dollars as demonstrated above. These forms turned in to be forwarded to the ROTC chairman each year to be tallied and written into the ROTC officer yearly report for National Records in case we are ever audited by the IRS for our tax-exempt status. [ACTION: P&P Committee to address, un-blackout the boxes]

6.23 Department of Ohio, Richard A. Davis, DC

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Given the rampant confusion at all levels of The Order, the topic of “virtual”, “in-person”, or some combination of “mixed” meetings at the National-, Department-, and Camp-levels, needs to be addressed

For example (but definitely not limited to): [ACTION: Deferred to virtual meeting committee].

a. The possibility of the National organization’s acquiring, and paying for, a subscription to ZOOM or suchlike that would allow all departments and camps to use the system without their having to acquire and pay for individual subscriptions [ACTION: Moved that National does not pay for any virtual meeting capabilities for department, camps or SVR, seconded. Amended that Departments, Camps or SVR be responsible for subscriptions for virtual meetings. Passed].

b. What equipment and practices need to be (¿ are required to be ?) used at the National-, Department-, and Camp-levels, how much it will cost, and how those costs will be covered, and by whom [ACTION: Deferred to Virtual Meeting Committee].

c. Is it permitted at the Department level for Department By-Laws to specify whether and how “virtual”, “in-person”, or some combination of “mixed” meetings be used at the camp-level? ----- especially with the proscription against “paper-camps”? [ACTION: To be communicated to the DCs).

6.27 Department of Southwest, John R. Conrad, DC

Recommendation: We recommend that Form 30 Line 5 (Change of Status) be amended to include a box to check for Termination of Dual Status; currently, that has to be written in by hand. Camp Annual Report Form 27 has such a line (14) for noting loss by Termination of Dual Status. **[ACTION: Deferred to P&P Committee]**

Executive Session entered 9:44 am

Executive Session Closed 9:48 am

OLD BUSINESS

PCinC Mark Day brought up discussion on Scholarship donation. **[ACTION: Deferred to Springfield CofA Meeting].**

Sr. Vice CinC Bruce Frail on digital documents. **[ACTION: Request will be placed in The Banner for any brothers that might have certain dates of proceedings needed scanned that current copies at headquarters were bound to tight].**

Henry Duquette additions to his report on Confederate Graves Registrations. **[ACTION: Motion by Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Bruce Frail to limits to actual burial sites, seconded. Passed].**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review of the new web site Nat. Signal Officer
2. Form 5 Resolution for Dept. of IL (Talked during the Zoom Meeting. Hand over to P&P for action.
3. Honoring Departments who host National Encampment Turn over to P&P to cover by Springfield
4. Motion by Bruce to raise the cost for National Encampment room night to max of \$150
5. Motion by CofA Member Joseph Hall to increase the donation to departments hosting National Encampments to \$10,000, seconded. Motion Failed
6. Motion by Nat. Treasurer to accept brother Ward offer of \$1000 for computer that he holds from a committee he chaired, seconded. Passed
7. National Quartermaster James Lyon brought new National ties for purchase
8. 2022 Department Encampment Representatives Chief of Staff Harry Reineke
9. Assistant within the National Headquarters, to be addressed during Spring CofA Meeting in Springfield.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- CofA Member Kevin Martin gave his intent to seek the office of Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief during the 2022 National Encampment in Michigan.
- PCinC Donald Shaw gave his intent to seek the office of National Quartermaster during the 2022 National Encampment in Michigan.
- CofA Member Harry Reineke, IV gave his intent to seek re-election next year during the 2022 National Encampment in Michigan.

Benediction: Chaplain Jerry Kowalski.

Adjournment: 11:28 am

Submitted in Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Jonathan C. Davis, PDC
National Secretary