

# Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

## National Council of Administration

### Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 8, 2013

Milwaukee, WI

The Council of Administration meeting was opened by Commander-in-Chief Perley Mellor at 9:15 PM. Acting Chaplain Charlie Kuhn provided a moment of prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. CinC Mellor thanked everyone for attending and gave general opening comments.

The National Secretary called the roll and recorded the following members of the Council of Administration and Guests as present or (ABSENT):

#### **Voting Members Present:**

CinC Perley Mellor	Council Member Vieira ( <b>ABSENT</b> )
SVCinC Kenneth Freshley	Council Member Robert Petrovic
JVCinC Tad D. Campbell	Council Member Steve Hammond
Nat. Secretary Eugene G. Mortorff	Council Member Donald Shaw
Nat. Treasurer Richard D. Orr	Council Member Donald Martin
Nat. Quartermaster Danny Wheeler	Immediate PCinC Donald Palmer

#### **Non-Voting Members Present:**

Exec Director David Demmy Sr.	PCinC Stephen Michaels (Banner Editor)
PCinC Ed Krieser	PCinC Jim Pahl
PCinC Andy Johnson	PCinC Leo Kennedy
PCinC Donald Darby	PCinC Elmer Atkinson
PCinC Charlie Kuhn	

#### **Guests of the Council of Administration:**

National Chaplain Jerome Kowalski	Bruce D. Frail (NGRA)
Brother Ed Norris (National Chief of Staff)	Brother Alan Russ (Dept of KS)
Brother John Bates	Brother Michael Beard (Nat SES Chair)
Mark R. Day (Marketing Chair)	Bruce D. Frail (NGRO)
James Ward (PDC Dept of Florida)	

CinC Perley Mellor gave a short address to the Council expressing his sincere appreciation for the help he was given resulting in his successful administration.

OLD Business

Ken Freshley - Discussed changes to SUVCW Forms

ROTC Form

Form 22

Form 61 (Returned to the Committee for more work)

Scholarship Application Form (Returned to the Committee for more work)

(It was recommended that a Statement to the effect that the check will not be given to the student, but mailed directly to the college due to tax reasons.)

SES Forms - Ken Freshley discussed the problems we have had with the SES Event Applications, especially those requiring providing insurance and other confusing information. Brother Beard will be presenting a proposal to address these problems during the National Encampment. He commented that if the National Park Service (NPS) is the host of an event, then the event is covered by the NPS insurance. PCinC Charlie Kuhn said some state parks are the same way. Brother Beard fears that if we don't make some changes, the program may falter.

PCinC Kreiser brought up that we have a dual cassette recorder that we have been using to record the Encampment Proceedings. It is being replaced and it will no longer be used. What should we do with it - it is fully depreciated and has no value to the organization.

**Motion by Brother Petrovic, seconded by Brother Wheeler and amended by Brother Pahl to let Brother Freshley decide how to dispose of it. Motion Unanimous Passed.**

Junior Vice CinC Campbell reported that to date he has processed 213 internet membership applications.

National Treasurer PCinC Richard Orr reported that our 501c3 application is still in process at the IRS. It may have been caught up with the IRS controversy on 501c4. Our Lawyer is talking with their lawyers. He also reported that all the State forms have all be submitted. We have heard back from about one-half of them. There were some problems dealing with three states (They are requesting a copy of our original Article of Incorporation). The rest are completed.

Brother Orr announced copies of our Original Charter will be made in Color. He also discussed the Financial Reports (Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss) and reported that our bills are paid and we are in good financial condition.

Brother Orr also discussed the requirement for Departments to report the status of theirs, and their Camps EIN reporting status. He prefers the report be made on an XL Spreadsheet.

We have started placing funds in the investment tools we earlier decided on earlier in the year. It is a combination of mutual funds (income producing) and Growth Funds. Life Membership is primarily income producing. GAR Fund 50/50 Others 70/30.

PCinC Pahl has a person researching digitizing the National Proceedings conducting a cost analysis.

PCinC reported on the status of the most recent SUVCW Scholarships. One recipient has provided the name of their school (Checks are mailed to the school, not the individual) and we have received a very nice thank you letter also. The other scholarship winner has not responded to our communications on school address, or any other matter. The CinC decided to withdraw the scholarship and only issuing one scholarship this year.

National Quartermaster:

Having problems with Sieman Brothers providing inventory (medals) to the Quartermaster. Often when we order, we do not get the whole order and we are near running out. He has met with ESCO in Milwaukee and they are very interested in our business. We already do get our military badges from them, and they are very responsive to provided our needs. The Quartermaster recommends going to Simons Brothers and getting our molds, then giving our business to ESCO. ESCO says they will try to match Simons' price. Discussion followed on ownership of dies, costs, time frames, etc. Brother Wheeler, as Quartermaster has authority

under the job description to make this decision. He will report back to us on his decision at the November CofA meeting.

Charlie Kuhn mentioned there are some Peace Light medals from the rededication available - would Danny like to buy them and sell them in the Quartermaster Store? Pennsylvania Department was selling them for \$20. Danny said yes, he will take them and sell them.

There was a discussion on the need to publish a new ritual to include all the recent changes made by the Encampment. No specific action taken.

Secretary Mortorff pointed out some additional votes in the Electronic Boardroom and the results of the Change to the Preamble to the Constitution. These did not make the deadline for the printed Officer Reports.

CinC Mellor discussed the recent gift of money for our Scholarship Funds. We had (online) discussed how we may change the distribution of these funds. The committee is making a recommendation of two \$2500 scholarships. This will be brought up on the floor of the Encampment.

Past CinC Don Palmer discussed criteria for MSM w/Gold Star. There appears to be discrepancies on how we make this award. Subjectivity leads to inconsistency.  
**CinC referred this to the incoming Programs and Policies committee for action.**

Senior Vice CinC Ken Freshley discussed a need to replace the current webmaster (himself). He is in conversations with two candidates for the National Webmaster position and he is reviewing their qualifications. There is a possibility of having both work on this highly important and detailed position. He will make the appointment when if he becomes CinC.

A discussion was lead by PCinC Richard Orr to purchase new computer for National Officers.  
**A Motion by Brother Palmer, seconded by Brother Martin to have our treasurer investigate the cost of, then purchase, new computers for national officers. Discussion followed. Passed with some abstentions.**

**Motion by Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Freshley, that no organizations are exempt from paying a fee for their website that is being hosted on our website. Discussion ensued - passed unanimously.**

The Auxilliary wishes treasurer Richard Orr advise and assist them in their goal to convert to 501c3 tax status.

The Penn State University / Jerry Sandusky situation has caused forty-nine states (not PA) to adopt new child protection legislation. There will be a Webinar (next Thursday) explain the 30 policies that we may have to adopt and comply with, including detailed training of our Board of Directors (CofA), volunteers, and any member who works with any of our juniors. Discussion followed. When the detailed requirements of the new legislation is known, the CofA will form a policy to ensure we comply with the law.

**Motion by Brother Wheeler, second by Brother Petrovic that the SUVCW pay the \$89 fee for PCinC Rich Orr to take the webinar. Motion passed unanimously.**

Good of the Order

Chaplain Kowalski reported on USLI insurance in the State of Illinois. He stated that at functions, members and participants are covered for very low cost.)

PCinC Leo Kennedy reported that Connecticut is the only Department still on suspension for not completing paperwork. Camp Simcoe also.

Brother Mark Day (DC Chesapeake) spoke on the progress of the National Advertising and Promotion committee's progress. A full report will be made at the Encampment.

Bruce Frail requested time at the Encampment to address the Veterans Administration policy of allowing only family member's to order gravestones.

Brother Orr reported that the Department of Florida is \$25 short on per capita and technically cannot be seated at the encampment. The per capita was paid by a member in the room and the Department of Florida is now in order and will be seated at the Encampment.

The Chaplain provided closing remarks.

Adjourned at 10:45 PM

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,  
Eugene G. Mortorff, National Secretary, SUVCW