

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

October 18, 2020, Teleconference

Commander-in-Chief Edward J, Norris called the meeting to order at 8:00 am on October 18, 2020 and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by the invocation given by CofA Member Harry W. Reinke, IV.

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

Voting Members Present:

CinC Edward J. Norris
SVCinC Brian C. Pierson
JVCinC Michael A. Paquette
National Secretary Jonathan C. Davis
National Treasurer Michael Beard
CofA Member Kevin P. Tucker
CofA Member Bruce D. Frail
CofA Member Harry W. Reinke, IV
National Quartermaster James Lyon

Voting Members Excused:

CofA Member Immed. PCinC Donald W. Shaw

OPEN ITEMS FROM PRE 2017 Lansing, Michigan National Encampment CofA Meeting

National Treasurer: David McReynolds

1. National Treasurer Additional Reporting

501c3 status for the National Organization approved February 8, 2017. Registrations complete for charitable solicitation except for D.C. Treasurer's Handbook to follow with directions on a variety of financial and tax issues for Camps and Departments. Examining impact of change in tax exempt status for National on Departments and Camps.

[ACTION: See National Treasurer's report – General Order No. 18 issued, once all items are completed per Form 11, will re-apply to IRS for Group Exemption] Complete, Form 11 to be submitted to Program & Policies Committee] ACTION: Camps already 501c3, camps should state incorporated under the laws of their state and include in their By-Laws. Form 11 to be modified, refer to P&P Committee with Form 11 after G.O. 18 dates. Language to C&R for 501c3 status of camps and departments, will look into whether camps and departments can be grandfathered in as subordinates.]

[ACTION: That the Treasurer be approved to file new application to change the group exemption for all departments and camps to change from 501c4 to 501c3. This was so moved by JVCinC Brian Pierson, seconded by PCinC and National Quartermaster Danny Wheeler.]

[ACTION: Tabled]

ITEMS FROM 2018 NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT REPORTS

PCinC Mark Day's Recommendations:

2. Recommendation #2: That the Fraternal Relations Committee be allocated a small budget (\$500) that can be used to support its efforts and that the Fraternal Relations Committee job description be modified to show that, [Budget line item of \$500 approved. Job description be sent to C&R Committee though P&P Committee, Passed]

[ACTION: Currently with C & R, moved to 2021]

3. Recommendation #4: That a Committee be established tasked with identifying all the financial aspects requirements, facilities requirements and staffing requirements that are necessary to Establish a standalone Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War National headquarters by the year 2022, and which would bring both our administrative and quartermaster functions under one roof. This committee should be tasked with providing a plan to accomplish the establishment of a permanent national headquarters by the National in 2020. I believe this is a necessary step if we are to grow and prosper and be recognized as a legitimate and professional heritage organization in the 21st Century. [CinC to appoint CinC Committee, chaired by Brother Kevin Tucker, PCinC Mark Day, David Demmy, Sr., Michael Paquette, and David McReynolds and Bruce Frail.]

[ACTION: Discussion on duties, continued]

4. Recommendation #7: That the CinC Appointed Committee on the Allied Orders and National Encampments be continued so that it can continue to work with the Allied Orders on Joint Encampment Agreements.

[CinC to appoint CinC Committee consisting of members if they will accept of Mark Day, Donald Darby, Michael Paquette, Faron Taylor and Kevin Tucker, committee appointed till 2024]

ITEMS FROM 2019 SPRINGFIELD CofA REPORTS

5. 2.3 Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief; Brian Pierson, PDC

RECOMMENDATION: Retire the Form 60 as soon as practical in favor of the Form 3, either as is or updated.

[ACTION: JVCinC Brian Pierson to prepare updated Form 3 and ask P&P Committee for comment and vote by Electronic means or bring back to CofA] [ACTION: Revised Form 3 needs finalized and placed for voted]

5. 5.8 National Special Committee on Strategic Development, David McReynolds, PCC

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1) The committee recommends to the CoA that it provide authorization for the Strategic Development Committee to move forward to write a suitable case statement to support the initial phases of fundraising for the SUVCW. The case statement might be incorporated into the online fundraising page recommended below. The case statement will be reviewed and approved by the entire CoA prior to implementation.

2) The committee recommends to the CoA that it provide authorization for the Treasurer to contract with a company that will allow the SUVCW to collect online donations by check, credit card or PayPal. This might be PayPal since we already contract with them for the Quartermaster Store. Further, the Webmaster would be authorized to work with the Treasurer in setting up the online giving page. The Treasurer will provide the proper budgetary location for any expenditures related to this effort. The contract along with a summary of any financial impact on the organization will be brought back to the entire CoA prior to execution.

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: Motion by JVCinC Brian Pierson that the committee to authorize to moved forward with their recommendations, second by PCinC Danny Wheeler. Passed]

[ACTION: Portions in process or taken care of]

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INDEPENDENCE, OHIO OFFICER AND DEPT REPORTS

6. Commander-in-Chief Shaw

Recommendations:

1. Special Committee on Monument Protection

[ACTION: To be addressed during National Encampment]

7. Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Pierson

Recommendations:

5.2. Consideration towards the development of policy with respect to actions to be taken should an objection be raised to the installation of a duly election officer.

[ACTION: C & R Committee]

8. Executive Director Demmy

Recommendation # 1: Require all Departments and all Camps to have an appointed Assistant Secretary & Assistant Treasurer (or Assistant Secretary-Treasurer). The purpose would be to have an Assistant already in place, with bank account & records access, to provide backup to all administrative and financial functions of the Department/Camp in the event that the elected officer(s) was unable to perform their duties due to illness, disability, death, divorce, relocation, natural disaster, resignation or any other reason!

Having an appointed Assistant Secretary-Treasurer would be part of a “Professional Continuity Plan” for the Department and Camps that could minimize future business interruption between the Camps, Departments and National Headquarters; and avoid any potential suspension due to lack of filing reports and remittances in a timely manner! **[ACTION: C & R Committee]**

Recommendation #2: It appears under Regulations, Chapter II, Departments, Article I, Formation, Section 3 that when footnote 26 may have been established, that section 3 (a) and (b) were dissolved! Therefore, language in section 11 and 12 below require correction as they reference data no longer in section 3 (a) and (b)!

Likewise, section 11 states “consolidated report”; I believe this consolidated report to be known as “Department Annual Report Form 35” and therefore ‘*consolidated*’ should be changed to reflect the proper name of the annual report due to headquarters on or before May 31 of each year.

[ACTION: Editorial Change]

2019 GETTYSBURG OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

9. Brother Preble - Section 3.6

I would like to make the following recommendation for two awards to be included in the Awards and Recognition Policy:

The Chaplain William Corby National Chaplain Award - This award may be presented by the National Commander, upon recommendation of the National Chaplain, to any Department or Camp Chaplain for outstanding ministry leadership in the Department or Camp. Recommendations for this award are to be made to the National Chaplain no later than 45 days prior to the National Encampment. **[ACTION: CofA Passed]**

The Jerome W. Kowalski Chaplain Award - The Jerome W. Kowalski Chaplain Award may be awarded by a Department Commander, on the recommendation of the Department Chaplain, to a camp chaplain for

outstanding ministry leadership in his camp. Recommendations are to be made no later than 45 days prior to the Department Encampment. **[ACTION: CofA Passed]**

2020 SPRING TELECONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS (Not covered during meeting)

10. SVCinC Brian Pierson

b. Guidance for creating and revoking a Camp

CinC Norris asked the P&P Committee to examine a discrepancy between the number of Brothers required for a Camp to be chartered (five) and the number required to vote to continue a Camp that is in danger of being closed (ten). **[ACTION: C&R Committee]**

11. JVCinC Michael A. Paquette

Recommendation: I have been in contact with a number of Brothers in reference to a suggestion made by PCinC James Pahl during the CofA meeting in Gettysburg, a case can be made, per our Constitution and Regulations, that the JVCinC has authority to issue membership cards to applicants seeking membership via the online membership application process. **[ACTION: P&P, forward to C&R Committee]**

12. National Treasurer D. Michael Beard

a. **Department use of 501(c)(3) Status.** I have asked our tax attorney for an opinion on whether or not a department can solicit tax deductible donations for our National Encampment using our tax-exempt status. **[ACTION: Commander-in-Chief to issue a G.O. that makes Department Host Committee a Special National Committee pending change to the C&R]**

13. National Civil War Memorials Officer, Walter E. Busch, PDC

My request for national to create a national database that I can enter our information into. **[ACTION: New database to be constructed]**

14. National GAR Records Officer, Dean A. Enderlin

Make a more accessible GAR Records link from the SUVCW Main Page. **[ACTION: Pending]**

15. National Comm. on Promotion and Marketing, Bruce D. Frail

a. We would like to present a resolution for the use of a National Public Information Office/r. **[ACTION: Resolution sent to National Secretary, withdrawal]**

Adjournment:

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