

DRAFT



Michigan Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
Board of Managers Meeting, Livonia, Michigan
September 9, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 10:00 am by President Paul Callanan.

Attendance:

BoM Members Present: Paul Callanan, James Petres, Kenneth Goodson Jr, Dennis VanWormer, David VanHoof, Charles Stevers (via phone), Gregory Winters, Gerald Wall, Joseph Conger, Warren Alter, David Anderson, Bernard Grosskopf, Eugene Tomlinson, John Critchett, Samuel Laswell, John Matthews, Charles Barr II, Robert C Huber, James Walker, Gerald Burkland, John Daly III, William Vette.

Other SAR Members Present: Jeffrey McQueen (Oaks), David Moore (Oaks), John Raya (Oaks), Douglas Schell (Kensington Valley) (via Skype), James Schell (Kensington Valley), Paul Schell (Kensington Valley), William Sharp III (Huron Valley), Jack Underwood (Huron Valley).

Guests Present: Mrs. James Schell, Mrs. Paul Schell.

Colors posted by the MISSAR Color Guard.

Invocation offered by Chaplain Gerald Wall.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Chancellor & River Raisin Chapter President David VanHoof.

S.A.R. Pledge led by National Trustee & Northern Michigan Chapter President Joseph Conger.

Induction of New Members: Secretary General Warren Alter inducted three new compatriots of the Kensington Valley Chapter: James Michael Schell, his son Douglas Michael Schell, and his brother Paul Matthew Schell. Compatriot Douglas Schell was inducted via Skype from his current location in the Middle East.

Approval of Alternate Chapter Trustees: Compatriot Samuel Laswell was submitted as the alternate for Huron Valley Chapter Trustee Michael Pohlman. Compatriot James Walker was submitted as the alternate for Oaks Chapter Trustee Raymond Lucas. Compatriot William Vette was submitted as the alternate for the unfilled River Raisin Chapter Trustee position. President Paul Callanan requested approval of the three alternate chapter trustees. Alternates approved.

Approval of Agenda: President Paul Callanan added three agenda items to New Business: Application Policy, State and Chapter Dues Timing, and SAR Patch. Amended agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Secretary Dennis VanWormer and seconded by Kensington Valley Chapter Trustee John Matthews to approve the minutes of the June 2017 BoM meeting as mailed out. Motion approved.

Acceptance of Financial Reports: Moved by Treasurer Dennis VanWormer and seconded by Detroit Metropolitan Chapter Trustee Eugene Tomlinson to accept the January 1 through August

DRAFT

31, 2017, financial statements as mailed out. Motion approved.

Reports of Officers, Committees, and Chapters: President Paul Callanan accepted all officer, committee chairmen, and chapter reports as received and mailed out. There were no additional reports received.

Special Presentations: President Paul Callanan presented bronze Century Club Medals to all who have qualified for them. He presented a complete set of bronze, silver, and gold Century Club medals – as well as a small Liberty Bell award – to compatriots Charles Barr II and Gerald Burkland for their top contributions to the Century Club over many years. President Callanan then announced and handed out awards received at National Congress in July:

Individual awards:

William Vette – received the National Meritorious Service Medal for his work as VPG.

Paul Callanan – received the National Distinguished Service Medal for his service over time to the National Society. (Only two of these medals are awarded by the PG each year.)

Paul Callanan – received an Oak Leaf Cluster for the National Meritorious Service Medal for his service on the Executive Committee.

Paul Callanan – received the Gold Sam Adams Congress Medal for being the National Congress Planning Chair.

Theodore Spear – received the Liberty Medal for being the first line signer on ten approved applications.

Paul Callanan – received an Oak Leaf Cluster for the Liberty Medal.

Michael Huey – received three Oak Leaf Clusters for the Liberty Medal.

Joseph Conger – received an Oak Leaf Cluster for the Liberty Medal.

Robert Wagel – received an Oak Leaf Cluster for the Liberty Medal.

National Certificate of Appreciation:

Mickey McGuire as Co-Chair of the Community Engagement Committee

Paul Callanan as Chair for Congress Planning and Congress Review Committees

State and Chapter Awards:

Patriot Biographies Certificate and Streamer:

Michigan Society

Kensington Valley Chapter

Northern Michigan Chapter (star for streamer)

Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest Certificate of Participation and Streamer:

Michigan Society

PG's Challenge for Youth Awards Council:

Michigan Society

Partners in Patriotism Certificate:

Michigan Society

Central Michigan Chapter

Northern Michigan Chapter

Paul Emery Chapter

Sauk Trail Chapter

Blue Water Chapter

Kensington Valley Chapter

Oaks Chapter

River Raisin Chapter

West Michigan Chapter

Second Vice President Kenneth Goodson Jr read a proclamation that had been signed by the members of the BoM and other compatriots present which congratulated President Paul Callanan on his many accomplishments that were recognized at National Congress with the Minuteman award for 2017. The signed proclamation was presented to President Callanan.

Remarks: Secretary General Warren Alter addressed the BoM with his thoughts on the current

DRAFT

state and future of SAR.

Old Business

Future BoM Meeting Schedule – Second Vice President Kenneth Goodson Jr reviewed the upcoming state meeting schedule, which includes:

February 3, 2018 – BoM meeting at Hillsdale College, River Raisin Chapter hosting

April 13 & 14, 2018 – Annual Meeting at Kellogg Center in Lansing

June 2, 2018 – BoM meeting at location TBD, Paul Emery Chapter hosting

2017-2018 State Committees – President Paul Callanan announced that he was appointing First Vice President James Petres to serve on the Resolutions Committee. Moved by River Raisin Chapter Trustee William Vette and seconded by Oaks Chapter Trustee Robert Huber to approve the addition of First Vice President James Petres to the Resolutions Committee. Motion approved. President Callanan also requested that the three members of the Emeritus Committee determine who will be the chairman and report that to him.

Status of Youth Programs – President Paul Callanan reported that the information on the several youth programs has been updated on the MISSAR website. He also noted that the entry forms have changed somewhat and that the chairmen should make sure that they use the latest forms.

Constitution & Bylaw Amendment Proposal – Chancellor David VanHoof reported that there have been Constitution and Bylaw changes on the National level with which MISSAR must comply. Moved by Chancellor David VanHoof and seconded by River Raisin Chapter Trustee William Vette that the Secretary be authorized to correct administrative errors to the Constitution and Bylaws if needed after an amendment resolution is approved. Motion approved. Chancellor VanHoof also asked that all MISSAR officers and committee chairmen review the Bylaws concerning their actual responsibilities and practices and report any necessary revisions to him. Of the 21 proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws in the Chancellor's report, 17 have been recommended for approval of the BoM by the Resolutions Committee, 2 need further review by the Resolutions Committee, and 2 are to be reviewed by the Emeritus Committee. Any further proposals for amendments must be submitted to the Chancellor by December 1, 2017, to allow sufficient time for the Chancellor and the Resolutions Committee to review them so that they may be brought to the BoM at the February 3, 2018, meeting.

Annual Dinner – President Paul Callanan announced that there will be a formal dinner on Friday, April 13, as part of the Annual Meeting. Formal dress (tuxedo or Continental uniform) will be required, and spouses or significant others will be invited.

Training – Director of Training Charles Stevers (via phone) presented his plan and timing for the initial training initiatives. A copy of the report was distributed to the attendees.

Service to Veterans – Moved by Second Vice President Kenneth Goodson Jr and seconded by Paul Emery Chapter Trustee (and Veterans Committee Chairman) John Daly III to approve payment of \$250 to West Michigan Chapter from the Service to Veterans budget to cover 50% of chapter in-kind donations to the Grand Rapids Veterans home. Motion approved.

New Business

Hurricanes Harvey and Irma Veterans Relief – President Paul Callanan challenged the attendees to support veterans in the areas ravaged by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. If the group would contribute \$200, then he would donate an additional \$100. If the group would

DRAFT

contribute \$400, then Secretary General Warren Alter would donate an additional \$100. The attendees present contributed a total of \$515, so the President and the Secretary General added their donations to make the total \$715. President Callanan will purchase gift cards and send them to appropriate veterans groups in the South.

Color Guard Medal Policy – Moved by Second Vice President Kenneth Goodson, Jr. and seconded by Paul Emery Chapter Trustee John Daly III to adopt the point system, as set by the National Color Guard Handbook of March 2017, as the requirements for earning a bronze or silver Color Guard medal for MISSAR. Motion approved.

Chaplain Wall gave a blessing for the food, and the meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:01 pm. The meeting was reconvened at 12:40 pm.

National Officer Candidate Endorsements – Moved by National Trustee Joseph Conger and seconded by Detroit Metropolitan Chapter Trustee Eugene Tomlinson that the Michigan Society endorse all unopposed declared candidates for national office in 2019. Motion approved. President Paul Callanan appointed Emeritus Committee members Joseph Conger and William Vette along with Chaplain Gerald Wall as tellers for balloting for the contested offices of President General and Genealogist General. The results of the balloting were that the Michigan Society endorses Warren Alter for President General and James Faulkinbury for Genealogist General. Secretary Dennis VanWormer will send an endorsement letter to the chairman of the Nominating Committee, J. Michael Tomme.

Membership and Dues – Moved by First Vice President James Petres and seconded by Northern Michigan Chapter Trustee Charles Barr II to decrease state dues for regular members from \$22 to \$20 and to increase chapter dues for regular members from \$8 to \$10 as of the 2018 fiscal year. Motion approved.

2018 Preliminary Budget – Treasurer Dennis VanWormer reviewed the preliminary budget for 2018. The final budget will be presented for approval at the February BoM meeting.

Mentorship Program – President Paul Callanan handed out a document about the SAR Mentor Program and stressed the importance of having an experienced member be the mentor for each new member to get him involved and active in SAR.

Electronic Financial Transactions – President Paul Callanan reported on the investigation into making electronic financial transactions available to the membership for paying dues and other transactions with MISSAR. Both Square and PayPal charge over 3% per transaction, which would amount to over \$2.00 on a \$65 regular member dues payment. A fee may need to be charged to make up that loss to the state treasury. Oaks Chapter Trustee Robert Huber suggested considering direct bank transfers, which may not involve a fee.

Investment Policy – Moved by Treasurer Dennis VanWormer and seconded by Second Vice President Kenneth Goodson Jr to approve the MISSAR Investment Policy as mailed out to the BoM. Moved by Oaks Chapter Trustee Robert Huber and seconded by River Raisin Chapter Trustee William Vette to amend the motion to add the requirement that the BoM be notified each time that investment money is moved (bought or sold) by the Committee. Amendment motion approved. Main motion, as amended, approved.

Membership Application Timing Procedure – Secretary/Treasurer Dennis VanWormer presented his current procedure for delaying submission of membership applications – at the request of each applicant – so that applicants will receive at least six months of membership from the dues paid with their application.

DRAFT

NGS Family History Conference in Grand Rapids – Compatriot William Sharp III reported on the conference that is scheduled for May 2-6, 2018, in Grand Rapids and the advantages of MISSAR having a booth at this event. Moved by National Trustee Joseph Conger and seconded by First Vice President James Petres that MISSAR pay the entry fee for this event. Motion approved.

Retention for Upcoming Year – President Paul Callanan stressed the importance of getting current members involved so that they will want to pay their 2018 dues and remain a member of MISSAR.

Changes to Constitution and Bylaws Procedures – President Callanan reported that he asked the Chancellor General and the NSSAR Bylaws and Resolutions Chairman for feedback on our current and proposed procedures. Initial feedback from the CG was that the MISSAR amendment article in the Constitution was too restrictive in that it requires BoM approval of any proposal before it can be brought to the general membership. The CG stated that any member should be able to bring an amendment proposal directly to the general membership, as long as proper notice is given.

Membership Application Policy – President Callanan reported that First Vice President (and Membership Chairman) James Petres is working on a policy for the membership application process, including such issues as whether two SAR watermarked copies of any application are required. He stated that the current practices will be followed until a policy determination is made.

Dues Application Timing – President Callanan reported that the MISSAR Bylaws do not allow for crediting state and chapter dues for new members to the next calendar year as the National Bylaw does for national dues. Past MISSAR practice has been to follow the national practice for state and chapter dues, so MISSAR will continue that practice until the Bylaws can be amended.

SAR Patch – Oaks Chapter President James Walker and Compatriot Jeffrey McQueen made a presentation on the possibilities of various patches that could be applied to an SAR shirt to give MISSAR compatriots a distinctive appearance. Moved by Oaks Chapter Trustee James Walker and seconded by Huron Valley Chapter Trustee Samuel Laswell to further investigate the possibility of MISSAR shirts and patches and report at the next BoM meeting. Motion Approved.

Grave Marking – Grave Marking Committee Chairman Gerald Burkland and Oaks Chapter Compatriot John Raya reported on the upcoming grave marking ceremony for Nathaniel Squires at the Utica Ceremony.

Color Guard Flag Poles – Color Guard Commander Gerald Burkland announced that there are several wooden flag poles that are no longer needed by the Color Guard. Moved by Vice Commander Kenneth Goodson Jr and seconded by River Raisin Chapter Trustee William Vette to donate the used wooden flag poles to any chapter that needs them. Motion approved.

S.A.R. Recessional led by Huron Valley Chapter Trustee Samuel Laswell.

Colors retired by the MISSAR Color Guard.

Benediction offered by Trustee Gerald Wall.

Meeting adjourned at 3:01 pm by President Rodney Wilson.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis VanWormer
Secretary, MISSAR