



Sons of The American Revolution

Texas Society, McKinney Chapter

June 18, 2020

Meeting held via Zoom® teleconference due to pandemic

Attendees

There were 20, SAR members and guests in attendance for this Zoom® meeting. Attendees included: David Kinsey, Tom Milson, T.L. Holden, Jerry Brown, William Taylor, Luis Juarez, C. D. Mayfield, Clay Tangen, Gary Barker, Blas Uribe, Nathan White, Ralph Thompson, Mark McCraw, Tom Van Fossen, Bob Milwee, Ted Wilson, Peter McLellan, Tomm Schultz, Alfred Lisi, and guest speaker Larry Collins.

Call to Order

David Kinsey, Chapter President, called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

Invocation

- David Kinsey, Chapter President, gave the invocation.

Pledges

- David Kinsey, Chapter President, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

- Blas Uribe, led the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

- Tom Milson, Secretary, led the Pledge of the SAR.

Old Business and Announcements

- Next meeting is on July 16, 2020 at 7:00 pm. Location TBD.

- NSSAR National Congress was scheduled in Richmond, Virginia on July 9 through 15, 2020 and has been cancelled. Congress in 2021 will be in Seattle, WA.

- TXSSAR 125th Annual Conference will be held in The Woodlands, Texas on July 31 through August 2, 2020. Registration is open.

- South Central District (SCD) meeting will be August 28-29, 2020, Hyatt Regency in Richardson, Texas.

- The Fall Board of Management (BOM) is scheduled November 13, 2020, at the Westin Frisco. Still a lot of work to be done as we finalize details with the hotel.



Sons of The American Revolution

Texas Society, McKinney Chapter

-Tom Van Fossen regarding - The SCD meeting of August 28th-29th - registration desk opens at 4PM, dinner that evening, business meeting until noon Saturday. Some states are reluctant to come to the event during the pandemic.



New Business

- Minutes from last meeting have been published on the website by Preston Kinsey, Chapter Web Master. Peter McLellan made a motion to accept last months meeting minutes as written, motion seconded by Mark McCraw, no discussion, motion approved by voice vote.

-David Kinsey mentioned next meeting may be by Zoom® and brief discussion followed about checking with Spring Creek Barbeque to see if banquet room is available and if people would be comfortable showing up in public during pandemic. Nathan White mentioned his Rotary club is meeting and he would be open to attending in-person SAR meetings at this time. Pete McLellan mentioned Rotary Club is doing a hybrid Zoom® and in-person meetings. Additional



Sons of The American Revolution

Texas Society, McKinney Chapter

SAR members referenced some chapters are also doing both in-person and streaming of meetings, including through Facebook and Youtube. Tom Van Fossen confirmed the Dallas chapter was recording SAR meetings. David Kinsey indicated additional follow up with Spring Creek Barbeque to determine banquet room availability. David Kinsey states that the SAR meetings would likely have some sort of recorded options in the future, which are in review, for SAR members unable to attend.

- Treasurer's Report: Ralph Thompson, Treasurer read report. "6/18/20. The bank balance as of today is \$2791.81. There has not been any transactions since the previous report dated May 21, 2020. Our Legacy Texas Bank account was merged with Prosperity Bank the weekend of June 5, 2020. On June 10, 2020, I met with a representative at the Eldorado branch office to resolve issues accessing the SAR bank account over the internet and mobile phone, and ordered new checks. The new checks arrived in a few days with the name "Texas Society Sons". I contacted Prosperity Bank and was able to reorder checks which should have the name "Texas Society Sons of American Revolution, McKinney Chapter #63."

Ralph Thompson, Treasurer, advises there was no charge to reorder the checks and wanted the name to match what was on the previous checks.

Tom Milson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, motion seconded by Nathan White, no discussion, motion approved by voice vote.

- In follow up to a previous email from David Kinsey, Chapter President, On Saturday morning 6/19/20 by Zoom® via Facebook Live, the Catawba Valley Chapter in conjunction with NCSAR will hold the 240th commemoration of the Battle of Ramsour's Mill, Lincolnton, NC, of June 1780. David Kinsey asked for fellow compatriots to join in presenting honors which will help with McKinney Chapter Americanism points, and Luis Juarez will be getting dressed up and participating with the wreath laying. David Kinsey then displayed via video, the wreath he made for the event. This will be the first national event via Zoom®. David Kinsey subsequently sent email to the SAR McKinney Chapter with the link to anyone who wanted to view the event.

-Tom Van Fossen had follow up question for the treasurer, "has the McKinney Chapter received from the state, the 2020 dues because the Dallas chapter has not received theirs." Ralph Thompson, Treasurer, indicates McKinney Chapter received deposit May 15th. Ralph Thompson stated he had sent some questions to the state treasurer and got a partial reply back and the state treasurer is supposed to get with National to address some other questions we had. Ralph Thompson recommended that the Dallas Chapter should contact the state Treasurer.



Sons of The American Revolution

Texas Society, McKinney Chapter

-Nathan White states Tom Milson has worked on applications which include Judge Copeland and grandson, along with Nathan's grandson. Several other applications are also in process, and a box of applications was sent by the Texas Society Registrar to National per David Kinsey. Tom Van Fossen states there is a backlog at National. Tom Milson asked David Kinsey about Harry Thurmon's application. David Kinsey states, "that one has been switched out, the genealogist has now changed the files".

Awards

David Kinsey, President, verbal presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to the Guest Speaker Larry Collins. Stated he will mail actual certificate to him.

Program

Mark McCraw, VP of Programs introduced our speaker, Professor Larry Collins, Retired, Collin College discussing: Declaration of Independence and the People Involved

Professor Collins- 40 years teaching, 17yrs MISD, Collin College's first full time history professor, Living History Legend



Above: Committee of Five

It was felt that a vote should be unanimous by the colonies.

A Committee of Five, Thomas Jefferson, James Livingston, Roger Sherman, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams formed to draft a declaration of independence in furtherance of



Sons of The American Revolution

Texas Society, McKinney Chapter

the Lee Resolution passed by the Congress, which declared the United Colonies independent. The committee initially thought that Adams should write the document, but Adams persuaded the committee to choose Jefferson. Jefferson was the primary author.

Jefferson age 33 consulted with other committee members over the next seventeen days and a final draft was presented to the 2nd Continental Congress on June 28, 1776. The declaration was introduced on Friday, June 28, and Congress began debate over its contents on Monday, July 1, 1776. On July 4, 1776, the Congress ratified the Declaration, and delegates signed it on August 2; in doing so, they were committing an act of treason against the Crown.

Again, vote needed to be unanimous by the colonies, that is, no colony could vote NO as a colony. How did vote get passed.

NY State could Not decide, so abstained.

Delaware had 3 delegates- Caesar Rodney had cancer, had gone back to Delaware, one delegate goes back to Delaware to get Rodney to bring him back to cast vote, who voted yes helping preserve the passage of the vote.

South Carolina – James Rutledge wanted word slavery taken out of Declaration, and it was.

Last Colony to decide- Pennsylvania 3 delegates - James Dickinson- leaned towards loyalist, voted No. Ben Franklin-votes yes. Remember this name, James Wilson- Judge from PA, usually voted with Dickinson his good friend. Franklin called for a roll call vote by each colonies delegates. James Wilson by roll call vote, votes yes making the vote unanimous by colony. James Dickinson was furious.

7/2 vote passes 12- 0- 1 abstention

7/4 vote again to make official most don't sign until 8/2

Book by Paul Harvey – on the sacrifices by the signors of the Declaration of Independence. Paul Harvey's research found

Carter Braxton, VA -wealthy planter and trader – ships swept from seas, sold home to pay his debts seized, dies in poverty

Thomas Lynch Jr, SC – 3rd generation rice grower, aristocrat, plantation owner, after signing, his health failed, sailed to France with wife but ship never made it and never heard from again



Sons of The American Revolution

Texas Society, McKinney Chapter

Thomas Mckean, DE- so harassed by enemy, he was forced to move his family 5 times in 5 months, served in congress without pay, his family in poverty and in hiding

Francis Hopkinson NJ Hessians seized home

Francis Lewis, NY - home seized, home destroyed, wife imprisoned and she died within few months

Richard Stockton, NJ - captured and mistreated, his health broken to the extent he died at 51, his estate was pillaged

Thomas Heyward Jr, SC – captured when Charleston fell

John Hart, NJ - Hessians had driven him from wife's bedside while she was dying, their 13 children fled in all directions, his fields and grist mill were laid waste, for over a year he hid in caves and woods to return home after the war to find wife dead, children gone, property gone, died shortly later of failing health

Lewis Morris, NY - land destroyed, family scattered

Phillip Livingston NY – died in a few months from hardships of the war

Of the 56 signors 5 captured/tortured, 12 from the area from, Rhode Island down to Charleston, had their homes seized/looted/destroyed or occupied by the enemy, 2 lost sons in the war, 1 had 2 sons captured, 9 of the 56 died in the war. These were men of wealth, and means. They had nothing to gain by signing document, everything to lose.

7/4/1826 50 years to the day after signing, last two living signors died. John Adams 91 died morning of 7/4/1826, Jefferson died same day

- General discussion and questions of presentation,

The Musical "1776" was very accurate, very well done, shows roll call vote of the passage of the Declaration of Independence, highly recommended

Nathan White suggested 9 minute video about Paul Harvey research of the sacrifices of the signors <https://youtu.be/b2qCOZOJ4p4>



**Sons of The American
Revolution**
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Benediction: David Kinsey, Chapter President gave the benediction.

Recessional: Lead by Mark McCraw

Adjournment: President Kinsey adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Blas Uribe, aid to Secretary