

Minutes for the TXSSAR BOM
October 12 and 13, 2013
Hilton Garden Inn NW America Plaza, Houston, Texas

President Stephen Rohrbough called to order the first session of the Fall BOM at 3:45 p.m. He welcomed everyone and asked the Color Guard to post the flags. The pledges were lead by President Elect Bob Cohen. The invocation was lead by Rev. Donald Stone.

Allen Greene, of the Robert Rankin Chapter, gave the hosting chapters welcome, for the three chapters that hosted the event; Freedom, PineyWoods, and Robert Rankin.

After the introduction of guests, President Rohrbough said that Friday afternoon at 4:00 p.m., the Color Guard Retired the Hotel Flags replacing the U. S. and Texas flags and presented the Hotel's representative with an SAR Flag Certificate.

Chancellor Tracy Pounders then reviewed the Rules of Order. He announced who could vote by and advised that the standing rules establish a 3 minute rule for presentations during the business sessions.

President Rohrbough then asked for the **approval of minutes** from the last Texas convention in Dallas. Past President Thomas Green motion to approve the minutes, a second was made by CCP Chair Drake Peddie, and the motion passed. Rohrbough then reviewed the Go-To-Meeting BOM of July 28, 2013 discussing the PG Initiatives and that the Board approved a \$1,500 donation to the CAAH, \$500 to the Martha Washington – Mount Vernon Ladies of \$500, and three \$250 donations to the USO centers at DFW, Houston Bush, and San Antonio International airports. He asked for an approval of these minutes. Tom Green moved to approve the minutes, a second was made by Ron Walick, and the minutes were approved.

President's Report -Rohrbough then gave his report. He discussed his travels as President to the NSSAR congress in Kansas City.

President Elect - Bob Cohen stated his report was on file.

State Secretary - Hank Voegtle said his report was on file.

Communication Secretary -Sam Massey said his report was on file.

Staff Secretary -Larry Stevens said the Minutes of the last Conference, the July BOM, the Committee and Officers Reports had all been posted on the Texas Web-site prior to this meeting. He thanked all for getting their reports in on time.

Treasurer - John Beard said his report was on file. He added that 53% of 990's had been filed and this would be corrected. He said all chapters should go to fiscal calendars, he said there was one \$1300 check not cashed, he said 29 of 45 chapters now have provided electronic information for deposits of state

checks to chapters. If all chapters did this, there would not be a problem of checks not being deposited. He concluded by saying TXSSAR was in good shape financially.

Chancellor - Pounders said there was nothing to report.

Trustee - Bob Clark said he attended the NSSAR Congress in Kansas City, the South Central district meeting. He said Texas received many National Awards in Kansas City including the Stark and Furlong.

Coastal Registrar - Gerald Irion said his report was on file.

Inland Registrar - David Temple said his report was on file.

Historian – Report on file.

Vice President ACMA – Russell Dart -Staff Secretary Stevens said his report was on file and that Russell had been taken to the hospital due to dizziness.

District VP 1 – This position is vacant but Past President Dr. Jim Heath said he would fill in temporarily.

District VP 2 – Bill Harper said his report is on file.

District VP 3 – Ed Heath said the report is on file.

District VP 4 – Ron Walcik said the report is on file.

District VP 5 – James Alderman said his report is on file.

District VP 6 – Drake Peddie said his report is on file.

District VP 7 – Larry Casey said his report is on file.

District VP 8 – John Thompson said his report was on file.

District VP 9 – Art Munford said the report is on file.

District VP 10 – Lee said his report was on file and that Captain William Barron Chapter has added 15 new members.

District VP 11 – Peter Rowley's report is on file.

Council of Chapter President - Drake Peddie said the report was on file the CCP Bylaws were approved and on file.

President Rohrbough asked for **Committee Reports**.

Executive Committee – Larry Stevens reported the minutes were on file.

Americanism, Contests, Medals and Awards Committee Chairman was not present but the following **Sub-Committees** Reported:

Annual Reports Committee – Peter Baron stated his report was on file and chapters need to be preparing their reports that are due in January.

CAR-DAR Committee - Chairman Ron Carter

Eagle Scout contest Committee Chairman Art Munford said his report is on file. He said Charles Luna is still the state and notional contact.

History Teacher Contest Committee Chair K. B. Hallmark said chapters need to send to forward contestant form to him.

Knight Essay Contest – Chairman Joe Allen Rice was not present and there was no report. Texas placed 3rd National in 2012.

Public Service Awards Chairman Terry Holden reported he had received only 50% of reports from the Chapters and that time was running out to report Public Services awards for 2013.

Oration Committee – Tom Green said participation in the contest is getting lower.

JROTC Committee Chairman John Thompson report Texas Enhanced Cadets have place first and Second in the past three years in the NSSAR contests.

Poster Contest Chair Steven Lee said there are now two sub-committees with the new Brochure Contest for 6 thru 8 grades. The guidelines for the new contest is not on the National Web-site as yet. He said March First 2014 is the deadline for entries and the subject this year is Francis Marion.

Audit Committee – Vice Chairman Peter McLellan said the minutes were on file. He said the on September 13, 2013, the Audit Committee met and completed the internal audit; the last of two a year. There were problems to report. He said the 2012 Audit was completed on time. He said 990 must be completed before November 15.

Finance Committee – Chairman Peter McLellan said the committee mission statement was completed. He said only 50% of chapters have filed the IRS Form 990. Ron Walich stated one of the problems could be non-functioning chapters. McLellan said we need to re-examine our awards payments procedures where we hold cash for scholarship for up to five years or until a request is received to forward the money to institutions. This is too troublesome to track. We really just need to have cash awards. McLellan made a **motion** to increase the two Registrar's stipend to \$105 a month to help pay expenses. This motion passed.

Breaking away from committees reports, President Stephen Rohrbough reported on the National Office Candidate Forum from Friday evening October 11. He said that there are two contested positions and that those candidates were hear seeking TXSSAR endorsements for National office. Past President Robert Clark made a motion to endorse all uncontested candidates for National Offices. Past President Thomas Green made the second to the motion and the board approved endorsing these candidates. President Rohrbough said there would be a board member vote, secret ballot, for the endorsement of one candidate each for the offices of Librarian General; Larry Guzy or Bruce Pickett, and for Treasurer General; Larry Cornwall or Mike Tomme. The vote was to endorse Larry Guzy and Mike Tomme.

President Rohrbough discussed the new SAR Library in Louisville. Larry Guzy talked about the need for funds to help with Networking, Computers, and collections. He said a group has been established called Friends of the Library which are those who have made donations. He said they are asking chapter in all states to support the Library with donations of \$25 or more. A motion was made to make a donation to the Library. Then a friendly amendment was made to change to state donation to a donation in the name of each of the 45 active Texas chapters for \$25 each totaling to \$1925. Ron Walcik motioned to approve the motion with the friendly amendment, Bill Marrs seconded the motion, and the board voted to make the donation.

Sunday, October 13, 2013

President called the meeting back in session at 9:00 AM.

Pledges to the US, Texas Flags and the SAR Pledge lead by Bob Cohen. This was followed by the Invocation by Rev. Don Stone.

Continuation of the Business Session.

President Rohrbough mentioned that the handouts of the President General Dooley's five initiatives and copies of the Constitution had been distributed to each chapter.

By-Laws and Resolutions Committee – Tracy Pounders. Revisions have been suggested to Article VIII, Section 3 of the Constitution. The section deals with terms of office of chapter and state officers. These will be proposed before the state meeting. Chairman Pounders requested that all proposed revisions to By-Laws be sent to him in advance of the meeting.

DAR Liaison Committee – Tom Green reported on the DAR Veteran's Day program at Minute Maid. SAR has been invited to have a table. SAR will be at the 2014 DAR Convention in Dallas and man a table for membership inquiries.

Color Guard Committee – Frank Rohrbough. It was reported that the committee has reviewed and approved Color Guard Committee By-Laws. Election of officers for command staff, were completed with the following results: Color Guard Commander Frank Rohrbough, Northern Commander - no candidate, Southern Commander, John Thompson. As Color Guard Commander Frank Rohrbough appointed Peter Baron as his Adjutant. The new officers and by-laws have been submitted to the Staff Secretary for review and approval of the Executive Committee. Manual of Color Guard Operations has been updated and also submitted to the Executive Committee. Color Guardsman of the Year has been

selected; it is Jay Leller of the San Antonio Chapter. The committee requested a budget line item of \$600 be included in next year's budget to fund items such as flag poles and other items needed by the Color Guard.

District VPs Committee – Bob Cohen. Met and report will be filed.

Executive Committee – Stephen Rohrbough. New Business – Session on Collection Process, By-Laws Change 23, Officers, He did not discuss anything so I think it is “no report”

Expansion and Retention - Hank Voegtle. No Report

Former State Presidents – Bob Clark. Reported that they had a good meeting and will report with some suggestions at the next meeting.

Genealogy – Gerald Irion. reported that there was a suggestion at National that fees be increased. It was tabled but it will certainly be revived.

Information Technology – Bill Marrs. Chapters need to know how to access the private site. A resolution to this problem was discussed. Bill reminded members that he can use his Go-to-Meeting for training. The Districts VPs are being encouraged to set up a training schedule over the next six months. It was suggested that a District VP meeting be set up with Bill Marrs in advance of the chapter meeting to ensure the District VPs are comfortable with the process. Sam Massey reported that DADA can send message out, please take advantage of this mechanism. Please make sure your chapter members are receiving DADA message. Cohen suggested that TXSSAR budget Go-to-Meeting for future years.

History and Archive Chair David Temple reported on the status of our Archives and the University of North Texas at Denton. He said they have hired an excellent Intern with our backing to digitize records and put on the web.

Long Range Planning Committee Chair Bob Cohen reported. The LRP moved and passed that the meetings of the BOM and the Annual meetings be put on a web live so that members who cannot attend can view the meeting. It was suggested that it could help with our retention.

State Meetings - Larry Stevens reported annual meeting will be held in San Antonio Omni on March 27th to 30th, 2014. A host for the 2014 Fall BOM has not been identified. The 2015 Annual Meeting will be in Houston, so a northern location is wanted. Dallas indicated they may consider it. The 2018 NSSAR Congress is still on the schedule, as Tennessee is still planning to host the 2017 Congress. This has been budgeted over the next few years (\$5,000/year.) The South Central District meeting will be August 22 and 23, 2014 in Dallas.

Newsletter Committee Chairman - Charles Baker was not present. Chapters are encouraged to send their activities to Baker.

Nominating Committee – Bob Clark. Bob Cohen will be nominated as TXSSAR President. There will be a meeting on Saturday morning at the Annual Conference. The slate will be voted on at this time. Bob Clark discussed some of the names on the Nominating Committee slate: President Bob Cohen; President Elect Larry Stevens; and Staff Secretary Mike Radcliff. District I needs a replacement for Jim Heath. A candidate for Historian is needed.

Operation Reach - Gerald Irion reported that we have gotten fifty references from the Ancestry.com database. This is far less than the anticipated 17,000. These have been distributed to chapters for follow-up with the candidates. We will contact National to see why the volume is so low.

Patriot Fund Fundraising – No Report

Patriot Graves – Report Filed. The Texas Society has been challenged chapters to survey the graves in their area and photograph it and report on the condition of the grave.

Patriot Fund Projects – Arnold Seigle announced that he will be retiring as Chairman. The activities of this committee have been moved into the Contests and Awards Committee. All contests have been funded. All awards have been increased \$500 and expense reimbursements.

Patriot Funds Trustee Committee – This committee did not meet.

Patriot Medal Selection Committee - Chairman Bill Marrs announced those selected would receive this recognition in the March Convention. He said the following were approved by the committee; Harmon Adair, Gerald Irion, Marvin Morgan, Dan Stauffer, Hank Voegtle.

Perpetual Fund Committee – Did not meet.

Publicity – Jim Kuykendall The Committee is in the process of reforming the committee. They are preparing a process for press releases to be used statewide. They will address the issue of how to publicize activities at the state and local levels. They want to contact chapters to get newspapers and e-news links. There will be a press package containing examples of press releases etc.

Veterans Committee - Frank Rohrbough. He first discussed Operation Patriot Search, which is aimed at helping the wounded warriors learn to research their genealogy. He then discussed the PG's Initiative to honor Veterans from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam with service certificates. They must have proof of service; DD214 is needed for Vietnam Service recognition.

Presentation of Medals and Awards by Stephen Rohrbough:

Liberty Medals - Larry Stevens and Jim Jones received their medals at the annual NSSAR Congress in Kansas City Other individuals received medals: F. M. Jackson, Stephen Lee and William Sanders, Sr. One member received four oak leaf clusters for sponsoring forty new members – Dan Stauffer. Gerald Irion received two oak leaf clusters (20 members.) One oak leaf cluster was award to Lloyd Briar, Michael Everheart, Gerald Geiger, Thomas Green, Larry Stevens, Bill Marrs and Reeves Winn.

Bishop Kenneth Walscik was given a Certificate of Appreciation for his assistance during the meetings. Don Stone was recognized for his contributions to the meetings.

The Kuykendalls', Jim and his wife were thanked for providing programs for the meeting.

The three chapters-- Freedom, PineyWoods and Robert Rankin-- were recognized for their planning and execution of the meeting. Each chapter president, Alan Green (Robert Rankin), Larry Blackburn (PineyWoods), and Jim Kuykendall (Freedom), was award Texas Silver Service Medal. Larry Stevens was given a Certificate of Appreciation for stepping in to coordinate the meeting when Thomas Jackson became ill.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

NSSAR By-Laws 23. This amendment discusses the investment policy. The concept is to remove specifics of the investment policy from the By-Laws. The current By-Law requires that at least 50% of the investments be in government bonds and 50% in stocks and other investment choices. This has resulted in losses in recent years. Last year, TXSSAR approved the by-law amendment be submitted. It was also submitted from several other state societies. The Investment Policy will be approved by the trustees. The Alexander Hamilton Fund, now called the Permanent Fund, will have changed guidelines for investment. The other funds, including the George Washington Fund, will remain the same as they are now. It was passed by a vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the trustees and also by $\frac{3}{4}$ votes of the delegates at the Kansas City Congress. The State Societies are being asked to ratify the amendment. This Uniform Prudent Investment Management Act has been adopted by 49 states gives guidance on management. This action will bring the investments of NSSAR into better compliance with this Act. Tom Lawrence will frame this issue and present it at the San Antonio meeting. President Rohrbough sent the provisions of the By-Law change to Jim Jones, Russell Dart, and John Beard for comment. The proposal will be sent to the delegates. Tracy Pounders was requested to explain what is necessary. The ratification is required by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the state societies. Our by-laws do not permit the BOM to approve the ratification. The BOM may recommend the state society accept the amendment at the March meeting. A quorum was determined with 23 voting members present. Tom Lawrence moved, and Ed Butler, that the BOM recommend the approval of this By-Law to the Texas State Society.

The colors were retired. Reverend Don Stone gave the Benidication.

The meeting was adjourned at 1103 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry G. Stevens
Staff Secretary

