



VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC.

www.battleofthebulge.org

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Teleconference 267-507-0240 handled by Alan Cunningham

Tuesday, 08 July 2014

PRESENT:

J David Bailey	Madeleine Bryant	Tracey Diehl (Guest)	Vicki Rafel
John D. Bowen	Thomas Chambers	Douglas Dillard	Robert Rhodes
Mary Ann D. Bowen	Alan Cunningham	Ruth Hamilton	Bert Rice
Robert Bowles, Jr.	Lou Cunningham	Sally Lung (Guest) part time	Alfred H M Shehab x
Ralph W. Bozorth	Doris Davis	Barbara Moonyhan	

ABSENT:

George Chekan	John J. Dunleavy	Mike J. Levin	Stanley Wojtusik
Kevin Diehl (Guest)	Hope Kirkendall	William P Tayman	

Note: This was the first full teleconference held remotely from where individual Executive Council Members chose to call in from and it was facilitated by Alan Cunningham who handled the technical details. He initially mentioned a teleconference procedure if you wanted to be recognized (Raise your hand) you should hit the 5 and star key on your telephone keypad. This signals to the Facilitator that you have your hand up and at the proper time you will be recognized.

1. Call to Order: President Douglas Dillard called the teleconferencing meeting to order at 10:03 AM via the teleconferencing network. Because of the Maryland law regarding the taping of conversations President Dillard indicated that the teleconference will automatically be taped and anyone having objections should raise them now. No objections were raised. John Bowen was recognized to deliver the Invocation and all phone contacts were open to say the Pledge of Allegiance, which was said by all. Mary Ann Bowen, Recording Secretary, was recognized to take the Roll Call, the results of which is shown above. It should be pointed out that 19 people were in attendance on the teleconference which is the highest attendance ever had at an Executive Council Meeting. President Dillard thanked Past Presidents J. David Bailey and Lou Cunningham for continuing to attend.
2. Minutes: The minutes of the 13 May 2014 meeting, having previously been distributed via the Internet, was recognized for approval. President Dillard advised that he would assume that the minutes were accepted unless he heard an objection or correction. Madeleine Bryant raised her hand and wanted to add clarification to Page 2, No. 8 of the minutes as to what she meant regarding certificates should be added on the Quartermaster sheet. She wanted to clarify that she meant the VBOB Web Site. John Bowen said that he felt that her original statement that the certificate should be on the Quartermaster Form as a line item was a good idea as it draws the attention of the individual, who may only look at the QM sheet that there is a certificate available, and he or she can look elsewhere for the form. John Bowen will look at the Quartermaster sheet to see how it could fit. With that clarification the minutes were approved without objection. Vickie Rafel indicated that we have a large amount of blank certificates and anything we can do to advertise certificates we should be doing
3. President's Comments: President Dillard then offered his comments on the December trip to Europe. Still waiting on a report from the General at the Belgium Embassy who is in Belgium. He had a meeting with Patrick Brion and is meeting with the Minister of Defense (MOD) to try and get a two flight rather than one way for the December trip. On 21 July there was a meeting between the two Patrick's with Patrick Henchey and Patrick Brion on the Itinerary, in Belgium. Once the Itinerary is completed we will go over in detail at the reunion on the itinerary. Doug reported that he had talked with George Chekan who is doing well with his pace maker but he is still in the recovery stage. John Bowen questioned Doug about statements that Patrick Henchey often mentions about promoting the trip. If that means the general public then that may overload the trip and present problems to Belgium and Luxembourg as we have discussed approximate attendee numbers to them for their planning purposes. Doug agreed. Doug said he is still waiting to hear if the Belgium's will be providing the buses.
3. Membership Report: Barbara Mooneyhan was recognized and gave her Membership Report for the period from 1 May 2014 thru 30 June 2014. She reported that we have signed up 32 new members during this two month, 9 as 4-yr Associates, 16 as yearly Associates and 7 Regular Members. She said that Tracey advised her that 178 members were made inactive due to deceased, did not respond to dues letters or no current address available for them. Also during this two months period we had renewal dues from 122 yearly dues payers and 24 Associates who renewed as 4-yr Associates. With 32 new members and

178 lost members this is a net loss of 146 members for this two month's period. For our 2014 Tear-to-Date membership numbers we have a net loss off 320 members consisting of a net loss of 174 in Jan-April 2014 and 146 in May-June 2014.

4. South Carolina Reunion: Barbara Mooneyhan said everyone there is very excited. The numbers at the hotel have exceeded what we expected at this time. Once the Bugle gets in people's hands in a couple of weeks she expects that there will many more coming in. They have had great support from the businesses and others in Columbia. They have had the alcoholic beverage beer, wine and mixers and water donated for the Hospitality room. PepsiCo has been a big contributor. The Harry James orchestra and the Belles performance are being provided by the city of Columbia. One of the local military groups has picked up the cost of the buses. People have been very generous. John Bowen asked if parking was complimentary. Barbara indicated that it was complimentary parking passes will be provided to those that drive. The Hotel is also providing complimentary airport shuttle.
5. Chapters: Doris Davis said she did not have a report as she had just gotten back from a Europe trip on June 30th. She said that there would be an update report on the chapters in the November Bugle.
6. Financial Report: Sally provided a financial report which was distributed by e-mail. A copy is attached. The report covers the period 31 Dec 2013 through 30 June 2014. He reports lists Total Income for the period as \$24,300.36 and Total Expenses as \$29,110.22 for Net Income of --\$ 4,809.86. She indicates that the membership dues were slow coming in during this period and we generally catch up on membership payments in September. Deficit is there in part because of the Life Memberships not having to pay dues yearly to help cover costs. Vickie Rafel said that we really need to think about a financial plan as this deficit continues. Doug indicated that he will meet with Vickie and Sally to work up a plan. Sally said that it seems to get smaller each year but the deficit is still there. Sally then had to leave as she was at her job.
7. Bulge Bugle: George Chekan in his talk with Doug talked about the need for getting the material for the Bugle in quickly for it to come out on time. He is planning a memorable cover for the next Bugle.
8. 70th Anniversary Trip: Doug said that when we arrive in Brussels we will stay that day in Brussels as well the last day we will stay in Brussels and also have a gala dinner that night that hopefully the Belgium's will provide. Doug said that he and John Bowen met with the Belgium Military Attaché, on 30 May at Ft Meade, at which he was personally responsible for making our requests happen. He indicated that the Belgium Military Attaché was also contacting the US Air Force relative to providing a one way trip to make it a round trip. Doug said that he had contacted staff in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force relative to veterans flying on US Air Force planes and received a response that they would not approve such a request unless they were retired military. They informed him that if they approved one veteran group they would have to approve all veteran groups. Doug said that it may be possible for MilSpec to get a discounted price on commercial airfare for the trip.
9. Reunions for 2015 & 2016: Alan Cunningham reported that he and Doris did a survey of where our members are located and about 70% of our members live east of the Mississippi and 50 % of those are within a days drive of the Williamsburg VA area so he is proposing that we hold our 2015 reunion in that area. He said that we could spend one day with the many military post in that area such as the US Army Women's Museum, US Army Transportation Museum. He is looking at doing it during August during the 14th, 15th 16th to take in the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II V-J day and so that it can be a family affair before children and grandchildren have to be back at school. It is a very good area for families and folks can work out things for families going or beyond that. He has no yet looked at hotels there are a wide choice of locations from Richmond to Williamsburg VA. For 2016, he is looking at Seattle Washington in the September 2016 time frame.
10. Nomination Committee: Alan Cunningham reported that the committee is working very hard to come up with the slate have a couple of positions they are still working on and it will be published on the web site in a week.
11. Suggestion: David Bailey suggested that we should send an appreciation to the Fort Meade Bowling Center for the work they have done for us in the past, especially Evelyn, and Doug has been putting together a letter for the folks at the Bowling Center and to the Post Commander.
12. The meeting Adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann D. Bowen, Recording Secretary
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FUTURE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS
Tuesday, 14 October 2014 10:00AM Teleconference

The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Inc
Profit & Loss

December 31, 2013 through June 30, 2014

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Donations	\$3,225.00
Interest Income	\$1,438.56
Program Income	
Lifetime Members Dues	\$1,050.00
Membership Dues	\$15,930.00
Total Program Income	<u>\$16,980.00</u>

Quartermaster

Certificates	\$1,095.00
General Supplies	-\$213.81
Postage and Shipping	-\$1,328.15
Purchases	-\$233.82
Sales	\$3,206.75
Total Quartermaster	<u>\$2,525.97</u>

Reunion

Convention	\$170.00
Postage	-\$239.17
Reunion Income	\$200.00
Total Reunion	<u>\$130.83</u>

Total Income \$24,300.36

Expense

Bugle Publication

Other Services	\$1,038.00
Postage	\$2,966.02
Printing	\$6,338.67
Total Bugle Publication	<u>\$10,342.69</u>

Operations

Bank Service Chages -\$9.97

The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Inc
Profit & Loss

December 31, 2013 through June 30, 2014

Dues and Subscriptions	\$125.00
Licenses and Permits	\$146.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$2,128.70
Office Supplies	\$452.03
PayPal Fees	\$279.83
Postage, Mailing Service	\$696.14
Printing and Copying	\$1,547.36
Professional Fees	
Accounting Fees	\$2,225.00
Total Professional Fees	<u>\$2,225.00</u>
Rental	\$39.00
Repair and Maintenance	\$47.00
Subcontractor	\$10,584.00
Telephone, Telecommunications	\$353.44
Travel and Meetings	
Seminars and Meetings	\$89.00
Travel	\$65.00
Total Travel and Meetings	<u>\$154.00</u>
Total Operations	<u>\$18,767.53</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$29,110.22</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-\$4,809.86</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-\$4,809.86</u></u>