



Minutes
Regular Board Meeting

MINUTES of Blue Star Mothers of America
National Executive Board
Meeting Date: June 28, 2011

Call to order: The June 28, 2011 regular board meeting of the BSMA was held by electronic means (Go-to-Meeting) telephone and computer. The meeting convened at 6:40pm MST, President Wendy Hoffman presiding, and Kathryn Hood, Secretary. A quorum was present.

Attendees:

Members in attendance: National President Wendy Hoffman, 1st Vice President Julie Roberts, 2nd Vice President Joretta Pickard, 3rd Vice President Judy Dorsey, , Financial Secretary Anne Parker, Treasurer Robin Countryman-Valk, Recording Secretary Kathryn Hood, Pres. Dept. of MN Pattie Kelley, Pres. Dept. of OK Cindy Hood, Pres. Dept. of OH Pat Pell, Pres., Dept. of MI Carol Gates, PNP Susan Naill, PNP Karen Stevens

Excused: 4th Vice President, Lori Danby, PNP Joyce Fulford, PNP Joyce Sanford, PNP Dorothy Mendoskin,

Opening Ceremonies:

Roll Call of Officers - Kathryn Hood

Prayer – Carol Gates

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag – Cindy Hood

Blue Star Mothers Preamble – Pattie Kelley

Business:

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of April 26, 2011 Minutes.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

Officer and Committee Reports

Financial Report – Anne Parker/Robin Countryman-Valk (Submitted)

MOTION: To approve the financial report for audit.

Anne Parker reported on a question brought up at the Convention meeting regarding contributions to a 501c3 which are no long tax deductible. Wendy mentioned it was likely a reaction to what she sent out to Chapters who had their status pulled for lack of filing.

First VP – Julie Roberts – (Submitted).

Second VP – Joretta Pickard – \$417.50 in ad sales have been taken in. The yearbook is finished and ready for submission. The price is set at \$25. She also requested officer article submissions for the last Gazette of the term. The deadline is July 15th

Third VP – Judy Dorsey – (Submitted) – Since submission there has been 1 more fallen for a total of 39 for the month. 3 banners have been ordered.

She also mentioned an email she received from Service Flags regarding a request from Survivor Outreach Services with Fort Knox. She works with families of the fallen and has requested 200 banners to be distributed at a function. Susan suggested contacting the SOS and Judy will gather additional information



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Forth VP - Lori Danby – (Submitted)

Department of MI – Carol Gates - Carol reported that the service of Robert L. Voakes, Jr. from L'Anse, MI in the upper peninsula was attended and they presented the family with Gold Star Banner. She is working with chapters on completing charitable trust registration forms with the State of Michigan, Department of Attorney General. She is also getting quotes from local hotels so planning can begin for Department of Michigan convention. Dates of convention are October 14 – 16, 2011.

Department in MN – Pattie Kelley - Pattie reported she is been very busy. Banners were presented to the families of WWII soldiers who were found. There were many volunteers at the VA Hall for an Ice Cream Social. Pine City Chapter has been chartered and she has started to work on the State Convention. One chapter has had their 501c3 status revoked. Wendy reported the IRS ruling that any subordinate chapter who has had their status revoked is no longer under the National umbrella. They must now apply for their own 501(c)3.

Department of Ohio – Pat Pell – The convention is moving along very well. The date is set for September 30th at the Hilton Garden in Columbus. She is hoping for informative education sessions. OH Chapters each received a \$500 donation from the Purple Hearts. She reported that the Chillicothe situation has been resolved by having the funds given to the department. The department did represent BSMA at the golf outing and \$2000 was brought in which will be distributed for soldiers' needs. A very large homecoming party is coming up for a severely wounded soldier which will include the City of Ashland Patriot Guard and the Police Department. The grievance regarding a current member of an Ohio Chapter has been forwarded to the appropriate committee.

Department of OK – Cindy Hood – Cindy reported that one Chapter that was going to charter is now on hold but another one is moving forward quickly. The Department meeting is scheduled for July 16th. It will be a luncheon and they will be going over the VAVS presentation. There are currently no VAVS representatives in OK and she wants to see that changed. They are reviewing the proposed Governing Documents for Convention so they are familiar with them. The last count for Convention attendance from OK is 26. They are also reviewing the Chapter membership timeline and renewal procedures. The DEB Board will be making a decision on the Department Convention location. She did not have an update on Tulsa.

Convention Committee – Susan Naill – Plans for the Convention is moving along. The red tape for the memorial Service has been difficult. She has made many phone calls and so far it has been the biggest obstacle. Carol and Joretta have been a tremendous help in getting door prizes and Joretta has done a great job on the history. They are all working hard to keep the cost down as much as possible as Washington DC is quite expensive. There was discussion on transportation for the tours.

Bylaw Committee – Julie Roberts – The approval for the Convention Rules will be done at the July meeting. She has sent out the Governing Documents and they will be posted on the Website. One amendment is being reviewed by a lawyer but it will still be included.

At this time there was discussion regarding a 2004 vote to have permanent membership cards for BSMA. This will be brought before the convention body under new business and Susan will get price quotes prior to it being brought before the convention body.

Unfinished Business

Enter Executive Session – 8:22pm MST



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Letter Review Committee (report) – A motion was made to accept the report. After discussion the motion passed.

Resolution (update) – Wendy Hoffman asked each Board Member to write their Senators and ask for their support. Julie will send the summary with instructions.

GBTA Pin and Patch – The pins are in. Robin Countryman-Valk will submit the patch to the Board for review.

NM5 – The checkbook and assets have not yet been turned over although the Chapter has disbanded. There is every effort to move forward in compliance with our Governing Documents. A motion was made and passed regarding further action.

Facebook Postings – There was an update on Facebook postings. A motion was made and passed regarding suspensions

Exit Executive Session – 8:58pm MST

Parliamentarian – Wendy was able to talk with someone and she sent Wendy a list of her fees which was very high. She is still looking for one and will consider going to the membership.

New Business

Membership Dues, Online Payments and Invoicing – Anne Parker reported on online payments and invoicing. There is a difference between what the database reported as coming in for membership and what actually came in. **MOTION: To immediately put in place then necessary steps to use auto pay via e-check debit, or credit cards for chapter and department dues.**

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

Postage Increase – Online Store – Anne Parker gave here recommendation regarding the online store and the increase in postage.

MOTION: That we increase the minimum shipping from \$3.75 to \$5.00 and that each bracket of shipping be increased \$1.00, i.e.

\$25.01-\$50 - \$7.00

\$50.01-\$75 - \$9.25

\$75.01-\$100 - \$10.50

\$100.01-\$150 - \$13.50

\$150.01-\$200 - \$14.75

Over \$200 - \$16.50

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

Financial Policy and Budget for Convention – Cindy Hood expressed concern for the Convention Budget for this year and asked about making adjustments.

MOTION: That we increase the 1vp funding by \$1600 dollars to be moved out of the contingency fund.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

MOTION: That we move the balance of the contingency fund of \$1400 to the yearbook.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.



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Amendments for Posting – Discussed earlier in the meeting.

Flag Case – Wendy Hoffman

MOTION: That we purchase a flag case for \$21.95 plus shipping

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

Washington DC Hotel – Wendy Hoffman listed the people who would need room extensions for the convention due to their responsibilities. Those listed are: Convention Chair, Historian, 1st VP and Financial Secretary.

MOTION: That Convention Chair, Historian, 1st VP and Financial Secretary have a two night extension for their hotel expenses be paid for national convention.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote with two (2) abstaining.

Announcements

Next meeting – July 26, 2011, 6:30pm MST

Remarks – None

Adjournment: Closing prayer – Susan Naill, 9:42pm MST

1ST REPORT FOR JUNE 2011

Number of **online** new members from May 1, 2011 to May 31, 2011: **153** new members and new associates.

Online Active Profiles: **11,551**

Online Member Profiles: **6,706**

Online Associates Profiles: **2,634**

Input all applications received from our Financial Secretary into the database as received.

Moving of members/associates from the following chapters that have either been disbanded or revoked: OK9.

Continue to work with chapters that have not elected all 5 needed positions to keep in compliance with the governing documents (i.e., giving them deadlines to elect, etc.)

Continue to work with chapters on issues relating to their annual reports.

Continue to update 2010-2011 Master Compliance Spreadsheet.

Started a 2011-2012 Master Compliance Spreadsheet.

Continue to update Chapter Officers Roster Spreadsheet.

Maintain the delegate count for convention.

Change all the Applicants that have applied online expiration dates to 2012 and work with all the chapters on getting their members that are renewing via chapter level, expiration dates changed to 2012.

3rd VP REPORT FOR JUNE 2011

Fallen: 53

Afg. 38

Iraq: 11

Stateside 4

Banner Request: 27

Current: 20

Older 3

Stateside 4

Respectfully,

Judy Dorsey

National 3rd Vice President

Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.

4th VP Report
June 2011

We had 3 Requests to Charter since last month.

IN12 – Frankfort, Indiana
CA36 – Piedmont, California
OK21 – Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Three Chapters are just about ready to be chartered. I will not be able to review all documents and issue charters until July 4th.

CA31 – Coastal Chapter – Lompuc, California
CA99 – Napa, California
TX15 – Wilco, Texas

DC-1 is working on their charter – they have turned in an EIN, however, they are still looking for members to fill all officer positions.

Lori Danby
4th VP
Blue Star Mothers of America