



MEETING MINUTES
BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, INC.
MARCH 14, 2023

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by National President Stacy Anders at 5:31PM PT

Opening:

PNP/Chaplain Carla Brodacki opened in prayer
PNP Anne Parker led the Pledge of Allegiance
Recording Secretary Marisol Gonzalez conducted roll call and the following were present:

National President-Stacy Anders
1VP-Rebecca Stafford
2VP-Karen Stillwell
3VP-Cheree Barrett
4VP-Brenda Ternullo
Recording Secretary-Marisol Gonzalez
Financial Secretary-Sonya Kay; joined at 5:46pm
Treasurer-Alethea Tennill
Dept. of Ohio-Lynn Feldman
Dept. of Michigan-Jackie Ransom
Dept. of Minnesota-Karla Keller
PNP/Chaplain-Carla Brodacki
PNP/VAVS-Anne Parker

Finance Committee Report:

Report from committee meeting held on Sunday, March 12, 2023 chaired by Julie Straw.
February financials were presented to NEB for consideration.

MOTION coming from committee to approve February financials and set aside as approved pending audit.

Call for vote

No opposed, No abstentions

PASSED

- Final audit issued by CPA. NP or NFS can provide a copy to the NEB. Will be included in financial package to be printed for the Convention body.

- 990 is being prepared by the CPA
- CFC application for 2022-2023 has been submitted
- Notified by Square that they will no longer refund the "Square fee"
- Online Store:
 - 1) Ball caps have been restocked.
 - 2) Navy-blue soft-shell vests arrived-initial cost quote was in error; did not include the stitching run charge of @\$10.50/item. Anticipated costs between \$38-\$43 and NEB approved selling price of \$48 each back in November 2022. Final invoice not received, but expecting costs to run between \$45 and \$49.

MOTION coming from committee for approval to sell the vests at a price of \$50 (M-XL) and \$55 (2X-5X)

**Discussion occurred regarding invoice and stitching
Conditional MOTION, if can get back to original price**

Call for vote

No opposed, no abstentions

PASSED

- Chapter grant applications: Approved grants for following chapters: CA52, CA10 and FL3
- VAVS scholarship checks: 103 facilities with no VAVS representation to date.

MOTION from committee for approval to disburse \$100 per unrepresented VA facility for a total of \$10,300

Call for vote

No opposed, no abstentions

PASSED

- Convention body approved donations:
 - A. Wingman
 - B. Gary Sinese RISE program
 - C. New Directions

Audit results show net profit last year to be \$2,822. 10% each for a total donation of 30% would equate to \$282 each.

MOTION coming from committee to authorize a \$300 donation to each of the recipient organizations

Call for vote

No opposed, no abstentions

PASSED

Next FC meeting will be on April 2, 2023

Officer Reports:

2VP added proposal to NEB to purchase 10 extra pages for 2023 yearbook for advertisement pages to raise funds to donate.

Discussion occurred.

MOTION was made to approve 10 additional pages for 2023 yearbook for a total of 110 pages

Friendly amendment was made from 10-12 pages and proceeds to go to VAVS fund

Discussion occurred

Friendly amendment withdrawn

Seconded

Call for vote

No opposed, no abstentions

PASSED

MOTION for proceeds from ads in yearbook to go to VAVS fund

Seconded

Discussion occurred regarding budgeting for this; already set in Code of Conduct, Article 10

MOTION was withdrawn

4VP added- CA53 chartering on March 15, 2023

"Wolf Creek Blue Star Mothers"

Dept. of Minnesota President added email invitation was sent for spring meeting

Old Business:

Standing rules- a template was sent to the NEB during midyear meeting; was to be sent to attorney for review.

Further discussion occurred regarding standing rules

NP discussed blue to gold banners that are being presented without blue border around gold star. 3VP to research and find suppliers that provide.

4VP working on brochures, version 5 was sent to NEB for review

Veterans Memorial Day Flowers Foundation Fundraiser

MOTION to move forward with

Seconded

Call for vote

No opposed, no abstentions

PASSED

Convention President project to be Smoky Mountain Service Dogs from Lenoir City, Tennessee

New Business:

Veteran rights information discussion

MOTION to post information on website and send out to body

Seconded

**No opposed, no abstentions
PASSED**

NP took the NEB into CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION at 6:26PM PT and back out at 7:46PMPT

PNP/Chaplain Carla closed in prayer
Having no additional business for the good of the order, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Marisol Gonzalez
National Recording Secretary

APPROVED

National IVP Report

March 2023

- Attended all NEB meetings
- Assisted President when needed
- Responded to emails which included
 - New members
 - Chapter Dues Renewals
 - Membership renewals
 - Questions in general
 - Chapter Officer Rosters
- Assisted Chapter Presidents/Membership Person in how to access their chapter roster
- Worked with Mentor Chair

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca

Rebecca Stafford

National IVP

573-220-0807



**National 2nd Vice President
March Report 2023**

- Attended all NEB Calls – Regular and Special**

- Attended the National BD Meeting**

- Received and sorted through email submissions for the March Newsletter**

- Communicated through emails and phone calls with multiple Chapters with questions**

- Converted pictures and files to fit properly into Publisher**

- Edited, resized, redesigned and organized Newsletter Submissions**

- Designed and created pages for the March Newsletter**

National 3rd Vice President Monthly Report
March 2023

- 1) Processed 8 Veterans
- 2) Processed 17 Servicemembers
- 3) Processed 2 Blue Daisy
- 4) Confirmed the challenge coins to Gov. Greg Abbott, Rep Brian Harrison, Sen. Brian Birdwell, Sen. Bob Hall and Sen. Angela Paxton and enclosed a note to them. Pictures with all and separate pictures Ed per chapter.
- 5) Sent pictures and detail to 2nd VP for newsletter of Texas group.
- 6) Prepared pictures for yearbook for Jan and Feb.
- 7) Prepared mother addresses for chaplain.

March 2023

4VP Monthly Report

In the month of February:

I attended all NEB meetings

I attended all Finance Committee meetings

Answered emails regarding where chapters are located and/or starting a new chapter

Sent emails to troubled chapters trying to stop them from folding, coming up with ideas on how to keep them going, MA1, NM6, OK16 cannot seat a board

As of today April 10, 2023 these are the chapters still not complete with compliance

CA25

IN14

MO4

NJ6

NJ7

OK16

TN3

TN5

TX11

Respectfully submitted

Brenda Ternullo

N4VP, 2022-2023

National Financial Secretary Report – March 2023

Attended all NEB meetings

Attended all Finance Committee Meetings

Emails - answered and filed as needed

Texts and Calls - responded as needed

National Financial Assistant

She has worked on building spreadsheets with info needed to enter deposits into QB, she has completed these through March. She has through today complete now and is pulling invoices/creating the spreadsheet each week.

Financials:

Completed entering March deposits in QB for Checking, Savings, and PayPal.

Continued to work with NT to reconcile BSMA accounts

Will Reconcile March 2023 and generate 13 reports, then send those to the Finance Committee for review as soon as the bank has the statements ready

Started entering April deposits into QB.

Convention

Created a spreadsheet for all convention income outside of registration to track that as it comes in, shared this spreadsheet with our President and our Convention Chair.

Due to Chapter/Department Checks

Worked with the Treasurer to prepare and send all December/January/February Due to Chapter/Department checks, all mailed 3-28-23.

Other Checks

Received other checks from the Treasurer due to various payees – VAVS checks for VAs not represented, Parke Scholarship, Convention charties, chapter grants, WIMSA - reviewed, signed, and mailed all checks.

Incoming Mail:

Retrieved all Incoming mail from PO Box. Opened and sorted mail into appropriate batches. Processed all mail.

Added mail to spreadsheets (mail received with funds, mail received without funds, member renewals, Convention)

Contacted appropriate NEB member/committee chair with scan of mail relevant to their needs or mail needed items to them

Deposited all funds received

Entered deposits into QB

Mailed anything received for Chapters on to their address on record.

Memberships

Working with 1VP to research all emails received from members with questions.

Chapters

Worked with Chapters on various financial related questions.

Prepared a Best Financial Practices Newsletter page for submission to the April newsletter.

Submitted by Sonya Kay, National Financial Secretary - April 2, 2023



Department of Michigan

March 1 – March 31, 2023 Report

Department of Michigan:

- Created agenda for DEB meeting
- DEB meeting
- Reviewed minutes from DEB meeting
- Attended Dept Big Dipper meeting
- Reviewed Dept Financials
- Submitted article for Dept MI newsletter
- Reviewed and approved Dept MI newsletter
- Spoke at House of Representatives Blue Star Mother's Day hearing
- Worked with Sisters in Action committee
- Answered phone calls, emails and texts

Respectfully submitted
Jacqueline Ransom
Department of Michigan, President
Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.



Department of Minnesota

March 2023 Report



Department of Minnesota Report

- Attended NEB Zoom meeting
- Attended Chapter meeting and chapter Troop packing
- Attended Memorial Day Zoom meeting
- Worked with host chapter for Spring Meeting

Respectfully,
Karla Keller
Department of Minnesota, President
BSMoA

Department of Ohio

March 2023 Report

1. Monthly Department Executive Board meeting
2. Monthly National Executive Board meeting
3. Represented the Department of Ohio at the Ohio Department of Education's sponsored Signing Ceremony for high school students committed to entering the US Armed Forces held at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, Columbus
4. Continued to work on plans, arrangements for the Spring North South mid year conference, including a video call with the contact person at the venue location (Sawmill Creek Resort), which also include the Department of Ohio's Financial Secretary Amy Hutchison
5. Various emails, calls with Ohio Chapter Presidents and Department Officers, and general public.

Respectfully Submitted
Lynn Feldman, President
Department of Ohio