



MEETING MINUTES

BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA, INC.

July 13, 2025

Call to order: The National Executive Board meeting was called to order by National President Rebecca Stafford at 5:05 P.M. CST.

Opening:

PNP/VAVS REP Anne Parker opened with prayer. 1VP Karen Stillwell led the Pledge of Allegiance. Recording Secretary Amy Jo Hutchinson conducted roll call.

The following were present:

- National President-Rebecca Stafford
- 1VP-Karen Stillwell
- 2VP-Karla Keller
- 3VP-Mary Johnson (Pro-Tem)
- 4VP-Sonya Kay
- Recording Secretary-Amy Jo Hutchinson
- Financial Secretary-Carrie Beck
- Treasurer-Jacqueline Ransom (Pro-Tem)
- PNP/Chaplain -Carla Brodacki - Excused
- PNP/VAVS REP-Anne Parker
- PNP Pat Soler
- Dept. MI President-Trudy Wysocki
- Dept. Ohio President-Barb Cook – Excused
- Dept. MN President-Jen Pecarina
- Parliamentarian-Patti Elliott (Joined at 7 P.M. CST)
- Julie Straw – Finance Chair - Excused

Minutes Approval: Minutes from NEB June 10, 2025, were sent to the NEB. No corrections were noted.

MOTION to approve NEB Minutes from June 10, 2025, as presented.

Seconded

Call for the Vote.

No Opposed/ 2 Abstentions – **MOTION PASSED**

Finance Committee Report to NEB July 8th, 2025

1. FC meeting held on Sunday, July 6th, 2025 to discuss financial matters:

The NEB was sent the June financial statements to look over.

Motion coming from Committee for the NEB to approve the June 2025 financial statements to be set aside for audit.

Coming from committee a second is not needed.

Call for vote

No Opposed/ No Abstentions – MOTION PASSED

2. The Audit and Tax return are complete.

3. Convention planning 2025 - 501c3 Donation nominations have been submitted and vetted - spreadsheet will be printed in convention handout. Also for printing: Audit, Proposed Financial Policies & Proposed Budget.

4. Fundraising - The appropriate Ohio report has been filed via MP May.

5. Compliance matters of a financial matter - 4VP can provide NEB with a more current update, but at this point, all financial reviews are complete.

6. Financial Officer Updates, Concerns or Requests

A. QB Training modules is set up and being fine-tuned.

B. Alternate banking option - Chase Bank has branch and online access. It is possible that we can purchase a scanner at \$25/per month fee.

Motion coming from Committee to change the organization's banking account to Chase Performance Checking and the NFS to open checking and savings accounts with \$2,500 each.

Coming from committee a second is not needed.

Call for Vote

No Opposed/ No Abstentions – MOTION PASSED

Since a scanner is not needed just yet the NP suggested we hold off on purchasing one at this time.

C. Close the Online Store on July 11th and begin packing up. Discussion regarding what will be shipped to the Convention store and new process for order retrieval.

D. Yearbook Sales.

Motion coming from Committee to sell the Current Yearbooks for \$30 each, Prior year Yearbooks to be sold for \$25 each. This motion was voted on and approved through email. We are ratifying this vote at this time.

Coming from Committee a second is not needed.

Call for Vote

No Opposed/ No Abstentions – MOTION PASSED

E. Garrison hats need to be re-ordered, Treasurer communicating with vendor - Discussion to order the Large and Medium sizes.

7. Suggested changes to the Proposed Financial Policies - grammatical only.

8. New Business -

A. Reimbursement of additional \$190.70 to send boxes of Chaplain items to current NP and be charged to Chaplain line item (will go over budget).

Motion coming from Committee to approve the reimbursement.

Coming from Committee a second is not needed.

Call for Vote

No Opposed/ One Abstention – MOTION PASSED

B. Discussed the need for a detailed breakdown of the Convention budget. We have a lot of items donated for convention. The NP feels we need a breakdown to share and create a budget that more closely resembles the needs during convention.

The next regularly scheduled FC meeting is TBD.

C. Chapter Grant Request:

Motion coming from Committee to approve chapter grant for NY14 to be used for their Veterans program.

Coming from Committee a second is not needed.

Call for Vote

No Opposed/ No Abstention – MOTION PASSED

Old Business

Convention 2025

- NEB Members Garrison hats that you did not purchase, and they belong to the NEB, please have them cleaned and brought to convention. We will allow incoming officers to use for installation only. The new officers will purchase their own hats after convention.
- Pre-convention NEB Meeting Sunday July 27th at 6 P.M. There will be sixteen in attendance including Parliamentarian and Mentor Chair. We normally exchange small gifts for each other.
- Name plate from last year if you have one bring it with you to convention.
- Official Name Tags should be worn.
- Registration at convention: FinSec, 1VP, and RecSec will all be at the table. We will have the FinSec first, and she will sign everyone up and give them a Ribbon with collections to be donated to Operation Surf in Memory of Stacy Anders, PNP – Blue Daisy. 1VP and RecSec will issue voting paddles and stamp them. We are trying to help prevent the line at registration and keep things moving.
- Training handouts if you have them for your portion of the training get them in by Wednesday July 16th to NP.
- Transition Documents – make sure you add passwords and logins. Change your passwords to generic so you can pass them on. Make sure your Transition Document is in a WORD document so that it can be added to and utilized in the future.
- Clean up your laptops. Personal emails. Do not wipe them clean some information needs to be passed on to the next officer. Please put emails in folders inside your email so they are ready for the next officer.
- All training documents will be placed on the National Website after convention for all to utilize.

- Really old yearbooks may be available for purchase at \$5 each. 1VP is currently searching for a 2010.

New Business

- **Old Laptops** - NP opened the floor for discussion on what we need to do with them. We have three that we need to address. RecSec, 2VP, and 3VP all received new laptops in 2025. 3VP is going to check with her counterparts and see what might be feasible. All Officers are to bring the old laptops to convention. It was noted that in the near future the 1VP will need a new laptop as well.
- **Honor Our Children Ceremony at Convention** – NP asked who we should task to take this on, we had the 2VP do this as she had access to backside website and yearbooks. We also need to decide where the covers and flags will be stored. Some discussion was had. It was noted to leave this in the 2VP Transition document for now and let the new NP decide who will continue this.

MOTION to have the NT be the keeper of the Covers and the flags for this ceremony.

Seconded.

Call for Vote.

No Opposed/ No Abstentions – MOTION PASSED.

NP took NEB into CES at 6:03 P.M. CST

NP took NEB out of CES at 7:56 P.M. CST

Reminders

- Please check emails at least once per day.
- Newsletter items to 2VP by the 15th of the month.

Seeing nothing further for the GOOD of the Order she asked our PNP/ VAVS Rep Anne Parker to close us in prayer at 7:58 P.M. CST.

NEB Minutes

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Jo Hutchinson, National Recording Secretary