



**Minutes
Regular Board Meeting**

MINUTES of Blue Star Mothers of America
National Executive Board
Meeting Date: January 25, 2011

Call to order: The January 25, 2011 regular board meeting of the BSMA was held by electronic means (Go-to-Meeting) telephone and computer. The meeting convened at 6:36pm 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 (late arrival), 2nd Vice President Joretta Pickard, 3rd Vice President Judy Dorsey, 4th Vice President, Lori Danby, 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,

Excused: PNP Jean Burlingame, PNP Joyce Fulford, PNP Joyce Sanford, PNP, Dorothy Mendoskin

Absent: PNP Karen Stevens (Arrived late),

Opening Ceremonies:

Roll Call of Officers - Kathryn Hood

Prayer – Carol Gates

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag – Pat Pell

Blue Star Mothers Preamble – Joretta Pickard

Business:

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of December 28, 2010 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.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

First VP – Julie Roberts – (Submitted).

Julie also gave an overview of current chapters which are in the process of chartering and reviewed the compliance sheet. Julie is going to encourage chapters to start submitting their required documents in September instead of waiting until January. She is very thankful for all the help from the department membership chairs.



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Second VP – Joretta Pickard – Information for the yearbook has been posted on the website. She asks the NEB to review it for clarity. Currently 12 pictures are posted. The deadline for posting pictures is April 30th which was announced the newsletter last month. The Gazette is ready to go with exception of 1 article and should be out by the 1st. She will send out a mass e-mail to the entire organization regarding the picture deadline.

Third VP – Judy Dorsey – (Submitted).

Fourth VP – Lori Danby – Previously covered by Julie Roberts She had nothing more to add.

Dept. of OH – Pat Pell – Pat reported that Kris Dervin has been helping with compliance issues. She will be e-mailing other departments as they see a need for education within the chapters. She will include the National 1st and 4th VPs in those e-mails. She is working on the upcoming convention and is trying to get people excited about National Convention as well.

Dept. of MI – Carol Gates – Carol reported that she is working on chapter compliance. 2 new chapters are in process of chartering. They are planning their school of instruction which will focus on procedures and how to fill out compliance documents. Each member that attends will be able to sit in front of a computer and learn how to fill them out the documents property. A couple of chapters are looking at disbanding due to lack of leadership.

Dept. of OK – Cindy Hood – Cindy reported that their last yellow ribbon pre-deployment would be the upcoming weekend.. There has been great participation throughout the state. They are building a good alliance with National Guard. They've received 1200 bags from USA cares and purchased another 2500. She will be meeting with two chapters who are having issues and still working on what to do with them. Four chapters are still not in compliance. A Department meeting date has been set for April and July making it mandatory that an officer attend the State Convention to go over reporting provided that National is ready to upload the new documents at that time. Wendy said that they will be ready by September 1st.

Dept. of MN – Pattie Kelley – Pattie reported that the DEB meeting has been rescheduled for February. They will be discussing a spring meeting and fall convention. She met with CEB's who are having trouble. A winter carnival parade will be on the upcoming Saturday and moms throughout the state will be attending. She is promoting National Convention in D.C. and moms in MN are excited to go.

National President – PA and DC – Wendy Hoffman – Wendy reported on the event put on by PA9, Marian Moran entitled "Hidden Scars of War". It went very well and Paul Bucha would like to get the word out regarding PTS into cities across the country and inform families how to get help.

At the Pentagon Wendy Hoffman had the opportunity to represent moms and defending the position that we (moms) are members of the immediate family of those serving. She brought up the subject of a free museum in which only members of the immediate family could visit but it excluded mothers. There was a meeting at the White House for organizations having involvement with the military however BSMA was excluded. Eventually an invitation was extended but the meeting only briefly addressed mothers. The commitment has been made to include mothers and give more consideration to the single service



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member. General Chiarelli's (VCOS Army) involvement with the VSO is limited but will help us in any way he can.

PNP Karen Stevens arrives at 7:27pm MST

Unfinished Business

America's Run – The agreement was sent to the NEB for review and is now ready to be signed. A committee will be formed to look after the money and a separate bank account will be created. A second committee will also be created to work directly with Chapters who are involved. The soft announcement will be on February 15th and March 1st is the deadline for Chapters to decide on whether they want to participate. There was no objection to Wendy Hoffman signing the agreement.

Oklahoma 1 – Cindy Hood reviewed last months' motion to obtain the banking information for OK1. Although the Chapter said the NEB had everything, Wendy stated there was still more to acquire. A new chapter has now been formed and they've had a meeting with their new CEB which is 4 members. There are now 5 members who are mothers. Minutes are to be taken to the bank to authorize the release of all documentation and to have proper signers on the account. They will close the one account and reopen one at another bank to start anew. The new Financial Secretary will work with the IRS to make sure all is in order. The Annual Report has been filed. Cindy Hood is working with them as a new chapter.

Operation Blue Star – There was discussion regarding this program which was approved at Convention 2010 but some problems have been revealed.

MOTION: That we (NEB) put out a notice to Chapters and in the newsletter informing them of the proper use of the program and then move forward in supporting USA Cares and in the notification asking for their financial support for the program.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

2 oppose.

New Business:

Chapter Compliance – There was discussion on how to proceed with Chapters who have not responded and refuse to comply in submitting the required documents.

MOTION: That a letter be sent to all Chapters that if the required documents are not received in 15 days the Chapter will be suspended. Inform them what they are missing and give them 15 days to turn it in or their charter will be revoked.

Friendly Amendment: Let them know what they are losing and what that means for the Chapter.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

California Gold Star Memorial – An invitation was sent to Wendy to attend this event on February 17th & 18th in San Francisco.

MOTION: That we send a nice letter thanking them for the invitation but decline.

Friendly Amendment: Send a representative a letter addressed to the Gold Star Families that they



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can choose to read or not read at the event.

Motioned is seconded and passes on vote.

Viral Complaints and Requests – Wendy reviewed the 2 groups of letters which have been received, both from members and non-members.

Kathryn Hood leaves the meeting due to an emergency. Julie Roberts is appointed Recording Secretary Pro Tem.

MOTION: That we set down certain qualifications for a committee that will be formed at our next meeting to investigate the letters that have been received to be sorted by the committee and those that are deemed necessary will be investigated.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

MOTION: That a letter by the NEB will be sent to every single Blue Star Mother, which should be very generic and at the end of the letter the NEB is creating a committee to address recent correspondence.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

MOTION: That a letter for Joanne Reda, outlining the e-mails we are currently receiving and pursuant to his letter asking no contact by the NEB, we request that she ceases all correspondence to the NEB.

Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

Next meeting – February 22, 2011

Remarks – All information discussed in executive session and with the NEB should not be discussed outside the NEB.

Adjournment:

The President adjourned the meeting

1ST REPORT FOR JANUARY 2011

Number of **online** new members from December 1, 2010 to December 31, 2011: **119** new members and new associates.

Online Active Profiles: 10,084

Online Member Profiles: 5,070

Online Associates Profiles: 2,479

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

Have successfully moved all members/associates out of CA6, MD1 into other chapters and/or archived their profiles per their request.

Moving of members/associates from the following chapters that have either been disbanded or revoked: KS133, IN2, PA22, IN7, IN4, TX10, CA3, and NJ2.

Successfully opened up the following NEW Chapters: _____

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 Master Compliance Spreadsheet.

Continue to update Chapter Officers Roster Spreadsheet.

Army:	21
Marines:	5
Navy:	1
Stateside:	4
Total	31

Afghanistan:	21
Iraq:	5
Gulf of Oman	1

Banners requested	21
Older request	7
Total	28

Respectfully,
Judy Dorsey
National 3rd Vice President
Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.