

**National Civil War Association, Incorporated
Combined Administrative Board and Unit Board Meeting
Minutes**

Date: Saturday, January 10, 2015

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: Round Table Pizza, Benicia, CA

Roll Call: A quorum was found to be present.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed, and a motion to approve was made by Midirise Arnold and seconded by Andrew Crockett. The motion to approve with corrections was passed with 13 ayes, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Grant Coffin, and seconded by Andrew Crockett. The motion was passed with 13 ayes, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Election Results: 200 ballots were mailed; 73 were returned. Results as follows:

Administrative Board: President: Scott Spence
Secretary: Melani Van Petten

Civilians: Mayor: Karen Groom
Vice Mayor: Lynn Ashby
Town Clerk: Debra Johnson

Confederate Brigade: Colonel: Dennis Main
Lt. Colonel: Glenn Johnson
Sgt. Major: Michael McKinsey

Federal Brigade: Colonel: Jeff Polder
Major: Dan Bishop
Sgt. Major: Cosme Munoz

President's Report: Scott Spence reported that Gibson Ranch, Tres Pinos, and Angel Island were very successful events, and that membership was up slightly at the end of the year.

Vice President's Report: Midirise Arnold said that 2014 went well.

Treasurer's Report: Andrew Crockett reported that five new membership forms were available on the website to print. He said that things were in good shape, with a stable income and a 40% jump in public support. The club is looking forward to the same amount in membership renewals, and increased expenses to better support the members. He said fundraising was up as a result of selling "swag," and that the average amount spent per person on such items at Tres Pinos was \$1.60. He said that the cash balance was

down due to investing, and that there is a large cash reserve. Retiring reenactors have donated clothing to the club. The unit accounts are down due to the use of their funds by the units. He said that the NRA has grants for reenactors, which can be used for rifles, uniforms, or black powder, and asked how many present were NRA members.

See attached Treasurer's Report.

Secretary's Report: Marcie Hale bid the Board a fond farewell, and handed the position off to Melani Van Petten. Marcie received thanks and a round of applause.

Planning Committee: There will be a sale of various items at Gibson Ranch on Saturday afternoon, as well as a Silent Auction and a dance on Saturday evening. There will be a tactical School of the Soldier at Summit Hill on March 7-8, and battle events at Knight's ferry, March 21-22; Mariposa, April 18-19, and Angel Island, June 13-14. The Woodland Christmas Parade will be December 5. The first Planning Committee meeting will be Saturday, February 7, at 11:30 a.m. at Round Table Pizza in Livermore.

Marketing: Scott Spence said that 500 flyers were distributed at the Woodland Christmas Parade, and that another were planned for Fort Point in January. Wooden rifles will be obtained for drilling the public, and there will also be a poster to go into appropriate stores, possibly in time for Gibson Ranch, if agreement can be obtained. Flyers should also be passed out at Angel Island.

Rank Ratio: Rank ratio requirements will be suspended until next year.

Website: Scott said that new files cannot be put into the old website due to format issues, and a new format is being sought. He is trying to get the administrator's name changed to his, and to get a grant from Netraising, a group dedicated to non-profits. Netraising will do training so that the club can update the website easily.

At the tactical, engaging the public will be discussed. The Secretary will get the original copies of the Safety Tests, to be filed with each membership form.

Safety Committee: There currently is no Safety Committee. We need to use the 2014 PACWAR rules—the NCWA website currently has only the 2008 rules. The current rules can be found by googling PACWAR. Unit commanders are responsible for safety-testing their members and making sure the rules are followed.

Someone will be found to run the Safety Committee and to make sure all units have proper first aid kits, and markers in each camp to show where the kit is kept.

Break: A motion was made and seconded to take a break; it passed with 12 ayes, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Old Business: Scott Spence proposed that the membership rules be amended to agree with what is written in the handouts. Andrew Crockett said he had created new membership forms to make everything consistent. A motion was made and seconded to amend the bylaws to agree with the new forms. There was discussion of a "greenhorn"

category, to be good for one year, for new members who haven't yet decided on a unit. Greenhorns would have to be part of a brigade, and the brigade commander would be responsible for them. The motion was amended to provisionally adopt the new rules, and was passed with 11 ayes, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Scott said that Judith Peebles had burned out on the *Dispatch*, and that he had been working on a newsletter with James Marks, the member from New Zealand. He said he will pursue Judith's idea to have an actual paper newsletter at Gibson Ranch.

New Business: Scott Spence said he had been in touch with Dylan Hendrickson, the person in charge of the Boy Scout Venturing and Explorer programs for Santa Clara and Monterey counties, which are open to both boys and girls. Explorers are focused on careers, and Venturers on interests. Five adults and five teens are required to form a unit of either. They have asked for an NCWA gift basket to be handed out at their events—the NCWA would provide that materials, and they would market our programs to the Scouts. Their Civil War Marine unit wants to join the NCWA, as they like us better than the ACWA. Scott says they are not farby. He said that individual units could start their own Venturing posts, and that the Scouts can use the money they raise as BSA units for their gear.

Scott said that all schools that have been approached have agreed to let us distribute our brochures.

The 7th Michigan Cavalry currently has no members in the NCWA. They quit when the NCWA left PACWAR, and they have \$337.50 in their account. A motion was made and seconded to assign the funds to the general cavalry fund, and was passed unanimously.

Announcements: The 69th New York Infantry is going to Appomattox, so please get your applications in ASAP if you would like to go along.

Everyone was urged to attend Knight's Ferry and Mariposa. Cosme Munoz said that the NCWA won Best of Show for an Historical Impression at the Woodland Holiday Parade. There were 42 reenactors and about 40,000 spectators. He suggested the NCWA should get a booth for the parade next year.

The 71st Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry has elected its first female company grade officer.

Scott requested that announcements be sent to him, and that he could send them to the membership.

Next Meeting: Saturday, March 14, 2015 11:00 a.m., at Round Table Pizza, Benicia.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.