

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

Date: November 19, 2016

Time: 11:59 a.m.

Location: Round Table Pizza, Benicia, CA

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:59 a.m.

Roll Call: Present were: Karen Groom, Lynne Ashby, Rose Sanders, Dennis Main, Grant Coffin, Robert Allen, David Rogers, Jeff Matthews, Charles Kenyon, Stephen Senishen, Mike Sanders, Jeff Polder, John Moreno, and Melani Van Petten.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of July 9, 2016 were approved with two corrections.

President's Report: President Scott Spence was absent due to illness. Vice President Jeff Polder said that Scott would be retiring, and that he would take over as President. He asked for volunteers to run for Vice President, and Mike Sanders said he would be available.

Jeff said that Gibson Ranch would not be hosting an event any more, and that instead, an event would be held at Skyline Park in Napa in May, and that another event was being considered for Lagoon Valley Park in Vacaville in April. He said that Angel Island the first weekend in June and Tres Pinos the second or third weekend in September were definitely on, though exact dates are tentative at the moment. There will be a tactical in Auburn in March, and encouraged all members of both brigades to attend Mariposa April 7, 8 and 9.

Vice President's Report: Jeff reported that the Vice President is now very busy.

Treasurer's Report: John Moreno reported that all figures are now entered into Quickbooks. He wanted to acknowledge Galen Dunham for bringing in over \$2,000.00 in donations resulting from his school presentations, which paid for half of our liability insurance. He also reported \$8,800.00 in membership dues. He said that he needs to discuss with former Treasurer Andrew Crockett how the Chart of Accounts is set up, and that he is considering making some changes to it in the interest of clarity. He said that the club had a net income of about \$3,000.00, and that we are now registered with the State of California as a 501(c)3.

Planning Committee: Jeff Polder said that the committee is currently working on setting up the tactical at Auburn and the event at Skyline Park. He said that when things are finalized, the information would be emailed to company commanders, who would then pass it on to their units.

Webmaster: No report.

Marketing: No report.

First Aid: Jeff said that the club does have the necessary equipment, and that each unit should verify that they have a first aid kit. Mike Sanders suggested looking up the OSHA requirements for first aid kits.

Rules: Dennis Main said he had attended the last PACWAR meeting, and that they hope to have the updated PACWAR safety tests available by the end of this year. He said the intent is to have only one test that covers all types of activity, rather than separate tests for artillery, cavalry and infantry, so that all members will be able to recognize any possible safety violations.

It was pointed out that even though the State of California had legalized the use of marijuana, it is still illegal federally, and that club rules banning it and other drug use are still in effect.

Rank Ratio: Rank ratio is still suspended until the end of the year. It was reported that numbers on the field haven't changed very much since 2013, when the suspension was first initiated.

Old Business: Jeff said he would call Chris Brady to check on the status of the proposed event at San Juan Bautista.

New Business: The Woodland Holiday Parade will be Saturday, December 10. The usual procedure is to meet at the home of Cosme Munoz at 7:00 or 8:00 a.m. to get information on our place in the parade, etc. Members of all brigades are encouraged to participate, and to bring candy to hand out to the spectators. This must be done by hand by the civilians, as we are no longer allowed to throw it. Afterward the group will repair to the local rib house, where we can get all you can eat for \$15.00 per person. It was pointed out that the NCWA has won awards every year at this event.

Dennis Main said dates have been set for the tactical School of the Soldier in Auburn in March, but he didn't have the information with him. He said that insurance and portapotties would be needed, and that a rain date had also been set. Mike Sanders suggested that the Board find out what the cost of the tactical would be.

Elections: Kevin Groom said that so far nobody had applied for Board positions, and that anyone interested should tell their friends to write them in. Several applications were then made to him in writing on the spot. He said the ballots would be mailed at the beginning of December.

Break: At 1:07 p.m. a motion for a ten-minute break was unanimously passed.

More New Business: Mike Sanders reported that the Union Brigade was forming an Invalid Corps, to be drawn from all units, including Confederates if they are so inclined. The purpose is to engage people who are either unable to take the field due to age or infirmity, or simply don't want to, and to supply experienced people to train newbies. He said that another aim was to attract actual disabled veterans who might want to participate. Their duties would include provost, and they would be assigned to the hospital, but not officially separated from their actual units. Dennis said that all anyone would have to do is to get the permission of the Colonel of their brigade.

Announcements: Dennis Main said that the Napa site has a horse arena, trails and campsites, and that is how the park earns money. We will be camping at Skyline Park, but will be fighting on land belonging to Napa State Hospital. He said that the plan was to not just stop and break for lunch after the first battle, but to stay in the field until after the second battle, to more accurately represent what the war was really like, with lulls in the fighting rather than just breaking off and then starting over. He pointed out that this didn't mean that we would be on duty all day, but would be on the field from about 12:30 to 4:00. Provosts would be on duty so the public could still tour the camps between actual episodes of fighting. He said work was needed on logistics. If the Union and Confederate armies must pass on the same road during the lull, they will either ignore each other or perhaps engage in a chase of some kind without firing. Dennis said there will be "hot" and "cold" areas of the battlefield, with the public being allowed into the "cold" areas. It was suggested that cell phones should be left in camp, and people should try to act like they are really under fire—"Let's put the 'act' back in re-enacting." It is, after all, a theatrical performance. The idea is that one army should deploy on the field for the battle, and the other army should herd the public into proper viewing positions—civilians following the army. We must also figure out how to use the PA system, which needs a power source.

A motion to accept the Napa Skyline event was made and passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Saturday, January 14, 2017, at 11:00 a.m. at Round Table Pizza in Benicia, CA.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.