

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

Date: April 4, 2020

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: This meeting was a telephone conference call, due to social distancing restrictions resulting from the coronavirus pandemic.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m.

Roll Call: Present were: Skott Borello, Debra Johnson, Kevin Groom, Charles Kenyon, Melanie Borello-Schwartzler, Marcelo Pontin, Lynne Ashby, Stephen Senishen, Dave Rogers, Jon Nickerson-Tremayne, Robert Allen, Vicki Allen, Joe Cedillo, and Melani Van Petten.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of January 11, 2020 were approved with one correction.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved.

President's Report: Skott Borello said that units whose existence was questionable should be given until June 30 to come up with sufficient members, and be removed after that. Melani was instructed to contact them.

Skott said that the club's various possessions had been removed from the storage locker in Livermore and were now at his home, stored on Flo's trailer. He posted photos on Facebook, and everything was now under a tarp. The club's PA system is stored with Jon Nickerson-Tremayne. Skott said there was a small trailer donated by Cosme Muñoz which would be used for supplies for school days, and that he needed to remove boxes of files from Flo's trailer. It was agreed that Skott should sort the documents with advice from Vicki Allen as to what needed to be kept, and would build a small storage shed. Vicki suggested that the club records should be digitized. It was noted that there were thousands of pages that need to be sorted.

Vice President's Report: Jon Nickerson-Tremayne said that he had called Interpreter Teri Pope at Angel Island in regard to the upcoming June event. He said that she was hopeful that the event would take place, but Jon was worried about so many people sleeping in close proximity in the Quartermaster Warehouse. Melani pointed out that people could bring tents if they didn't want to sleep indoors. Jon said that Petaluma wanted us to hold an event there, but that we needed to see what the "new normal" was going to be. He suggested that the Administrative Board should have a monthly phone meeting to plan ahead. There was discussion of what would happen if the club was forced to cancel half of the 2020 events, but was able to proceed with the ones that were later in the year. Kevin Groom suggested that 2020 membership might carry over to 2021; Jon

suggested that membership might be prorated. The subject was tabled until the next meeting.

Jon inquired about the club's insurance. Skott said that he had verbal assurance from the agent that we would be able to get insurance next year, even if we didn't make any money this year. He said that we are the best-insured club on the West Coast, and apparently the only one that takes insurance seriously, and the insurance company did not want to lose us as customers.

Treasurer's Report: Marcelo Pontin said that the club currently has \$691.50 in the checking account. He had provided balance sheets (see attached), but said that there were a number of "artifacts" included that needed to be removed, such as the unit accounts, which no longer exist. He said that he was working with former Treasurer Debra Johnson to clean up the accounts, and that there were plans to show income from separate sources such as dues, donations, school days, etc. Jon requested that income and expenses be broken down for each event.

Secretary's Report: Melani Van Petten reported that there were 170 members, and that 58 people had renewed so far.

Committee Reports:

Planning Committee: Jon said that there was a possible change of venue for Marysville, and that Petaluma event was pending, but no plans could be made at the moment because of social distancing restrictions and uncertainty as to how long they would last.

Webmaster: Melani said that she was adding unit information bit by bit, using the blurbs that had been sent to Andrew Crockett. She requested that unit COs should send any photos of their actual units at events. She was instructed to remove non-existent units from the list, and to contact those that were in doubt.

Marketing: no report.

Safety: no report.

First Aid: no report.

Rules: Skott said that PACWR had not updated their rules, and that inconsistencies remained unaddressed. He said there was currently no PACWR chairman, and that the secretary was taking care of things for the moment. Lynne Ashby commented that the NCWA had voted previously to use PACWR rules, and that voting to go back to NCWA rules would require starting from scratch. Skott said having a different set of rules would create insurance problems with re-enactors from other clubs. It was concluded that the NCWA could continue to use PACWR rules.

Rank Ratio: no report.

PACWR: see above.

Old Business: Skott said that there was a strong chance that Duncan's Mills would not take place this year. He said that CHAS could not afford to put on the event, and had approached the ACWA to fund it. The ACWA will give them an answer by May 1., but their rules require a vote of the entire membership, and Skott didn't think they would be able to have a Board meeting by that date.

Skott said that he had talked to the host at Elk Grove, and that he really wanted the event to take place, and was aware that he would not make any money without a school day. He said that the owner was amenable to moving the event to a different month if necessary. Jon pointed out that if there is no Duncan's Mills, we would not have an event in July.

Jon had already addressed Angel Island in the Vice President's report (see above).

New Business: Charles Kenyon explained that the "8th Ohio" was a catch-all name for the 7th WVA, the 69th NY, and the 71st PA, for convenience and so that he would not have three separate units of five each on the field. Skott suggested that if the "8th Ohio" wanted to invite people to NCWA events, they should use the name of their actual unit to avoid confusion.

Everyone agreed that more "in-school" presentations should be explored, but obviously would have to be put on hold for the time being.

Debra Johnson questioned whether or not this "virtual" Board meeting was legal under California laws for non-profits, or whether we would have to amend the bylaws to make it so. Kevin Groom checked the bylaws and found that virtual meetings were already provided for.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Saturday, July 11, at 11:00 a.m.—hopefully at Round Table Pizza in Benicia.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.