

National Civil War Association, Incorporated
General Membership, Combined Administrative Board and Unit Board
Minutes
Corrected

Date: January 9, 2021

Time: 12:13 p.m.

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

General Membership Meeting

Call to Order: The General Membership meeting was called to order at 12:13 p.m.

Roll Call: Present were: Skott Borello, Jon Nickerson-Tremayne, Kurt Reidel, Kevin Groom, Dave Rogers, Lynne Ashby, Debra Johnson, Stephen Senishen, Robert Allen (proxy for Vicki Allen), Joe Cedillo, Marcelo Pontin (proxy for Charles Kenyon), Mike McKinsey, Jane Beckman, Midirise Arnold, Dennis Henderson, Nelson Snook, Eric Paape, Cosme Muñoz, Mike Sanders, Jeff Polder, and Melani Van Petten.

Elections: Kevin Groom reported the election results as follows: President, Skott Borello; Vice President, Jon Nickerson-Tremayne; Secretary, Melani Van Petten; Treasurer, Marcelo Pontin; Civilian Mayor, Lynne Ashby; Vice Mayor, Debra Johnson; Town Clerk, Susan Pfiefer; Federal Brigade Commander, Charles Kenyon; Federal Chief of Staff, Nelson Snook; Federal Chief of Infantry, Marcelo Pontin; Federal Sergeant Major, Cosme Muñoz; Confederate Brigade Commander, Jon Nickerson-Tremayne; Confederate Lieutenant Colonel, Jonah Hatch; Confederate Major, Dennis Henderson; Confederate Sergeant Major, Eric Paape.

There was a moment of silence in honor of those re-enactors who have left us in the past year.

Skott Borello said that since we have decided that dues paid in 2020 would carry through 2021, any additional dues paid by members would be characterized as donations. Melani Van Petten said that members would need to fill out the membership forms for 2021, to make sure contact information was updated and the PACWR waiver was signed and dated. Safety tests will also be needed, and whatever is currently on the PACWR website should be used. Melani will send donation letters along with cards to those who choose to send dues for 2021.

Kevin Groom said that the 2021 election would be conducted electronically, so members with email should make sure their addresses were correct, as should members with Post Office addresses.

Adjournment: The General Membership meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Combined Administrative Board and Unit Board Meeting

Call to Order: The Combined Board meeting was called to order at 12:38 p.m.

Roll Call: Present were Skott Borello, Jon Nickerson-Tremayne, Marcelo Pontin (proxy for Charles Kenyon), Dave Rogers, Robert Mayer, Cosme Muñoz, Mike McKinsey, Robert Allen (proxy for Vicki Allen), Stephen Senishen, Jeff Polder, Kurt Reidel, Kevin Groom, Lynne Ashby, Debra Johnson, Midirise Arnold, and Melani Van Petten.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made and passed to table the minutes of the meeting of November 7, 2020 until the next meeting, at the request of Jon Nickerson-Tremayne.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved.

President's Report: Skott Borello said that he had been trying to contact someone from PACWR without success. He said that the NCWA has a whole lot of events in the works, including a tactical and a full battle event at Mahon Ranch, a tactical at Capay Valley, and potential new events at Petaluma, Laytonville, and a new site in Fresno. He also said that the Kennedy Mine at Jackson really wanted us back. He said that our insurance was still inactive, and that he has until March 1 to decide whether or not to reactivate it, and that the premium was \$4300.00.

Vice President's Report: Jon Nickerson-Tremayne thanked Skott for being pro-active in regard to scheduling. He said that we had lots of possible new event to choose from, and that new relationships were being formed with possible hosts. He said that some hosts really wanted school programs, but that the kids would have to be back in school for that to happen. He mentioned a possible new event at Laytonville, in a nice wooded area that was a former gun range. He said that we could do a public event if restrictions were lifted at least six days before the event, and otherwise it could be rescheduled as a tactical. He said there was possible financing from historical museums for an event in Petaluma, but there was no set date yet because of COVID restrictions. Jon said that the new site in Fresno was state property, and required a deposit from us, which would only be 80% refundable if we canceled. Skott observed that we would like to standardize our contracts, with no money required from us, and a split of revenues from the school days. Jon said he thought the deposit requirement was suitable for a new event, as they didn't yet know us. Jane Beckman commented that she had been trying to make contact with someone at Angel Island, but with no success so far, and she really wasn't expecting the event to happen this year.

Secretary's Report: Melani Van Petten reported that nothing had changed since the last meeting, with a total of 246 members for 2019 and 2020, including babies and children, of whom 171 were current for 2020. She said that all members, even those with Lifetime memberships, must fill out membership forms every year, to make sure that we have current contact information and signed waivers, as well as safety tests. She said that she would send an email reminding members to register for 2021, and encouraging them to send whatever money they could, as we could use the income in the absence of our regular sources.

Treasurer's Report: Marcelo Pontin said that the good news was that we had received around \$2300.00 in membership dues, about \$985.00 in donations from members, \$485.00 from Facebook donations sought by members, and \$70.45 from Amazon. He said that we have enough money to cover our insurance premium. He said that unit assets were held by the individual units. He detailed yearly expenses as \$40.00 per month (\$480 per year) for Quickbooks, \$99.00 per year for the website, and \$118.00 for the Post Office Box, for a total of \$697.00 per year in regular expenses. (See attachments) Lynne Ashby commented that we should pay the premium for insurance for the Executive Board as soon as possible. Skott gave examples of why such insurance might be needed, and said that Grant Harrison had negotiated with Marysville to provide their own event insurance, but that Mahon Ranch and state-

owned venues required us to have our own insurance. Jane said that Angel Island called us volunteers to bring us under their insurance, and Skott asked if we could document that. Jane and Melani said they would try to contact someone at Angel Island.

Committee Reports:

Planning Committee: Jon said the committee would hold a meeting soon.

Webmaster: Melani said that she would continue to update the website, including a list of our tentative events for 2021.

Marketing: Skott said that the workday would be focused on setting up Flo's trailer to be used for advertising and recruiting. He said that Daniel Smith would be bringing his portable woodshop to the workday, and also was donating materials. It was decided that Daniel should be reimbursed \$200.00 for the gas he would use to get to and from Skott's place, and after some discussion, it was decided that Skott and Cosme would each donate \$90.00, and Jon would put in \$20.00. Melani will send donation receipts if requested.

Safety and First Aid: Lynne Ashby said again that we have been very safe, since we haven't done anything. It was suggested that brigade commanders need to check their units' kits to make sure that everything needed is present and not outdated.

Rank Ratio: No report; rank ratio has been suspended since 2011. Skott said we should try to recruit more privates.

PACWR: Skott said again that there is effectively no PACWR at the moment, as the only active officers were Secretary Brendan Krepchin, and webmaster Scott Spence. He asked again for volunteers to chair PACWR, and said that we had to maintain it for insurance purposes, to show that we all operate under the same safety rules. Jon said that perhaps an NCWA past president should volunteer to chair PACWR, and suggested Jeff Polder. Jeff said that he might be moving away soon, but was willing to look into it in the meantime.

Old Business:

Rules and Bylaws: Skott said that the Rules Committee should be temporarily suspended, since we have so much else to deal with at the moment.

New Business:

Dispatch: Jon suggested that there be a deadline of February 25 for a *Dispatch* on March 1. Melani requested that everyone should send articles by that date.

Work Party: Joe Cedillo said that all are invited to the work party for Flo, and anyone interested should contact him.

Flo: Eric Paape suggested that Flo might take part in a non-firing drill at Williams, CA. Skott said that he was responsible for Flo as a club asset, and any proposals for her use should be made to him, with details. He said that the only way Flo would be allowed to go anywhere was in the

charge of an experienced NCWA artillery crew. Lynne Ashby suggested that the Rules Committee should draw up guidelines for Flo's use.

Capay Valley: Cosme said that he had a rough draft of an event to present to the hosts, and suggested a viewing of the site and camp out for February 2, at 2:00 p.m. He gave tentative dates for a tactical as April 24 and 25, or May 8 and 9; he said the dates were flexible. He said it's a great site with lots of room, no overhead wires, and an old stone barn. He also said he had potential sponsors.

2021 Events: Skott listed a tentative event schedule as follows:

January 16 or 23—Workday for Flo at Skott's place
March 27-28—Elk Grove (Mahon Ranch) Tactical
April 17-18 or May 22-23—Jackson
April 24-25 or May 8-9—Capay Valley Tactical
April 30 (school day)-May 2—Elk Grove Full Battle Event
May 29-30—Roaring Camp (ACWA)
June 12-13—Laytonville
July 17-18—Duncan's Mills (ACWA)
September 17 (school day), 18-19—Tres Piños
October 1 (school day), 2-3—Marysville
December 4—Woodland Christmas Parade
January 8, 2022—Grand Ball (location TBA)

A motion was made and passed to approve this as a tentative schedule.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Saturday, April 10, 2021, at noon. Location TBA, depending on COVID restrictions.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.