

Minutes for Chapter Board of Managers (BOM) Meeting

April 9, 2014

Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter #6, Texas SAR

2:40PM

President Russell Leavens called the Board of Managers (BOM) meeting to order via a conference phone call; Leavens was unable to attend in person. The meeting was held at the residence of compatriot Donald Goodman and those present at the residence were Goodman, Gerry Gieger and vice president Mike Connelley. Leavens stated that he wanted the group to discuss several items that need decisions made by the chapter and / or chapter officers.

- A. Leavens stated the first order of business was the selection of a new secretary to fill the position left vacant by the resignation of David Wise. The discussion among the group was for vice president Connelley to continue in the capacity as acting secretary until such time as a permanent replacement could be found. Gieger thought that David Wise had resigned his current employment position which might make it possible for him to reconsider the secretary position. It was also pointed out that the secretary needs to be computer literate and with strong word-processing skills since much of the current SAR reporting is via digital records and excel spreadsheet format.
- B. The next item of discussion was the concern over committee vacancies on several committees. The current constitution identifies several committees (Article VI). Eagle Scout Committee is Scott Manning; ROTC committee is James Alderman; Civic Awards Committee is Donald Goodman; TCU Awards Committee is Vaughn Oliver; Nominating Committee is currently vacant due to recent chapter elections.

Goodman mentioned the Poster Committee which is led by Alan Shorkey; the Hero Committee led by Goodman; the Knight Essay committee led by Mike Connelley. Goodman said that at present he also takes care of the Law Enforcement / EMT-EMS committee and that Bob Truitt takes care of the Fire / Safety Committee. It was mentioned that replacements need to be made for these committees, especially the Fire / Safety committee headed by Bob Truitt. Goodman also feels that we need to appoint someone to the Americanism committee to reenergize this program since this activity has been dormant for some time. The need for volunteers will be mentioned at this next months' meeting.

- C. Status of the repairs for the trailer owned by the chapter was mentioned; Gerry Gieger stated he is taking care of getting this done and will get the fender replaced and the trailer painted. It was mentioned whether the trailer can / will be used in the White Lake Hills parade this year and the decision of the group was the trailer could be used this year in the parade once the repairs are made and personnel needed will volunteer to be in attendance [follow-up information from Gieger and several others notes a smaller trailer will be used in the White Lake Hills parade in lieu of the chapter owned trailer.] The attendees agreed to have Goodman tell the White Lake Hills that the chapter would be able to participate in the parade.

- D. The question was asked about the status of amending the constitution to have the election of officers coincide with the TXSSAR procedure of chapter officers set on a January through December election. Vice president Connelley mentioned that Vaughn Oliver was currently in the process of preparing draft amendments to the chapter constitution and the change to a calendar year process was already written into the draft.

Gieger mentioned the chapter should consider amending the constitution to have meeting in July and August. Gieger feels the chapter should meet each month, other than December, and feels this would be better than taking the two summer months off – Gieger feels this two month break is counter-productive to the activities of the chapter. Goodman said he would check with the County Club to make sure the club could host the meetings in July and August. The discussion centered on making a motion for amending the number of chapter meetings to include July and August at the next meeting of the Van Zandt chapter.

Vice president Connelley also mentioned that the constitution also needs to be amended to take into consideration making a cash award to the chapter winners of the high school level awards such as Eagle Scout, Knight Essay. This should help increase participation in the scholarship programs of the chapter. The amount discussed was around \$200 - \$250 to each chapter winner of the high school level winners. The issue was discussed but no decisions made on this matter.

- E. Gieger had another topic to discuss and that is the issue of some form of dress code for attendance at meetings. He mentioned that Dallas / Plano have more formal dress codes for meeting (Plano requires a tie) and feels our chapter needs to emphasize an acceptable attire of “business casual” such as collar shirt, sport shirt, slacks – Gieger is opposed to shorts or flip flops at the meeting. It was mentioned this could be a sensitive issue with some and the decision on a dress code would have to be gently presented to members. The attendees are in agreement that the adherence to some form of dress code needs to be mentioned or emphasized with the membership without it being offensive to the members.
- F. Vice President Connelley mentioned that he is considering taking on a task of writing up the history of the chapter and the goals of the chapter in a 3-5 page document that could be made available to new members and current members. The thought being it would document the history of the chapter and also be a reminder to members of what the organization is about (the various committees and awards). All in attendance were supportive of this idea.

A motion was made, and seconded, to adjourn the Board of Managers meeting; the meeting adjourned at 3:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence M. Connelley, acting secretary, Major K. M. Van Zandt chapter