

Minutes for Chapter Meeting
April 19, 2014
Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter #6, Texas SAR

9 am.

President Russell Leavens called the meeting to order.

- **Chaplain Roger** Tate led the invocation.
- President Leavens led the pledge to the flag of the United States of America, the pledge to the flag of the State of Texas and the pledge to the SAR flag.
- **President** Leavens requested an ancestor roll call from the members present and requested that each member present to tell about their Patriot ancestor.
- **President** Leavens requested the previous month's minutes be considered as posted on the Chapter Web page. The minutes were approved as posted. At this time President Leavens introduced the speaker for the day, retired Air Force colonel Bruce Bailey, who gave an interesting presentation on his experiences while serving in the Air Force with RB-47 aircraft.
- **President** Leavens called for reports from the chapter officers and committees:
- **Vice President / Acting Secretary** Mike Connelley passed around a copy of the recent BOM minutes for the members to take note of the discussion that took place during this recent meeting. Vice President Connelley also mentioned to the members that he would begin work on a history of the chapter and put together a written record of events from our chapter's history; any member with old documents or stories of historical significance to the chapter are requested to make copies available to Mike.
- **Treasurer** Vaughn Oliver reported that the current balance in the operating fund is \$7,860.07; the Pray TCU fund is \$2,537.82 and the Goodman Youth Fund is \$1,776.89. The total of all three funds is \$12,174.78.
- **Past President** Ray Leftwich gave a report on the recent TXSSAR annual convention. The chapter had five members who were in attendance at the convention; they were Ray Leftwich, Russell Leavens, James Alderman, Gerry Gieger and Virgil Ellis. Leftwich noted that the convention reported that many of the state chapters are not filling out the annual report and submitting the information to TXSSAR; this report and process is under review by TXSSAR. Our chapter won two awards at this year's convention; one was the Marshall Hunter attendance award for chapters with more than 100 members and the E. A. Limmer Award for chapters with the highest percentage of approved supplements during the year 2013. Chapters were reminded to file the 990 form to IRS; this is taken care of by Treasurer Vaughn Oliver.
- **Genealogist** Gerry Gieger mentioned that in the absence of James Alderman, he would mention the status of the JROTC / ROTC awards. Gieger noted that several have been completed to date and five other award ceremonies are schedule to be completed in the next 30 days. Gieger then added that at present, he has one new application approved along with one supplemental approved. There are several pending at TXSSAR and at National and that he currently has 8 additional application in process.

Old and New Business

- **President** Leavens recognized Gerry Gieger who discussed a topic which came up at the BOM meeting; the topic concerned the idea that the chapter conduct meetings in July and August of the year. The feeling was this would add a better flow of attendance and / or interest in the meeting as opposed to taking those two months off. Goodman checked with the club and this would not be an issue with the country club. A motion was made to change the by-laws to include

meeting in July and August. There was discussion on this point and the decision made to bring the matter to vote; the motion carried.

- **Vice President** Mike Connelley discussed another matter which was brought up in the BOM meeting; the chapter offering cash awards to chapter winners of high school level competitions such as the Knight Essay Contest and the Eagle Scout award, both of which are part of the current activities of the chapter. The reasoning behind the discussion was to increase participation in these events and to further honor the winners of these competitions, something that is done by some other TXSSAR chapters. Discussion centered on the amount with \$200 to \$250 being mentioned. There was also discussion as to whether the by-laws need to be modified for this issue and whether it could just be kept as a motion from the floor and a vote of the membership. One member said not putting this concept in the By-Laws may cause the reasoning behind the cash awards will be lost over time. A motion was made by Ray Leftwich and passed that stated the topic of cash awards to high school level competitions should be discussed at a BOM before the next meeting with a decision coming back to the chapter at the May 2014 meeting.
- **Compatriot** Donald Goodman said the chapter will participate in the July 4th parade at White Lake Hills and those participating should be at Goodman's residence on the morning of July 4, 2014. Goodman added that the country club has been sold and a new owner is taking over; he has assurances from the old owner, John Scoma, that this will not affect the current arrangements with the club. Goodman suggested the chapter issue a certificate of appreciation to John and Sue Scoma. This was set in the form of a motion and was passed by the chapter.
- **President** Russell Leavens has tasked Treasurer Vaughn Oliver to find a replacement candidate for secretary for the chapter. Leavens then called for a motion to adjourn.
- **President** Leavens led the recessional.
- **Chaplain** Roger Tate gave the benediction and the meeting was concluded at 11:00AM. In attendance, per the sign-in sheet and observation, were 15 members and 7 guests for a total of 22 attendees.

Respectfully submitted,

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