

# Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

## National Council of Administration

### Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2011

Reston, VA

The Council of Administration meeting was opened by Commander-in-Chief Brad Schall at 4:05 PM. Chaplain Kowalski provided a moment of prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. CinC Schall thanked everyone for attending and gave general opening comments.

The National Secretary called the roll and recorded the following members of the Council of Administration and Guests as present:

#### **Voting Members Present:**

CinC D. Brad Schall	Council Member Alan L. Russ
SVCinC Donald D. Palmer Jr.	Council Member Robert Petrovic
JVCinC Perley Mellor	Council Member Ken L. Freshley
Nat. Secretary Eugene G. Mortorff	Council Member Tad D. Campbell
Nat. Treasurer Richard D. Orr	National Quartermaster Danny Wheeler
Immediate PCinC Leo F. Kennedy	

#### **Non-Voting Members Present:**

PCinC James B. Pahl	PCinC Keith Harrison
PCinC Ed Krieser	PCinC Charles Kuhn
PCinC David V. Medert	PCinC Donald Darby
SVR Commanding Officer Robert E. Grim (PCinC)	PCinC George Powell
Exec Director David Demmy Sr.	

#### **Guests of the Council of Administration:**

Assist. Nat. Treasurer Max L. Newman	Brother Bill Dryer
Nat. Chaplain Jerome Kowalski	Brother Bill Johnson

- Brother Russ Paid a \$1 fine for not wearing his Membership Badge.
- Last Year's National Encampment Proceedings are done and presented by Ken Freshley.
- Brother Orr discussed our 501c3 documentation requirements. He also discussed what states we will have to file with in order to solicit funds as a 501c3 Non-profit organization and the documentation we would have to prepare/submit for each. He passed out (to those who wanted it) copies of the state required paperwork. Discussion followed.
- Brother Orr reported on Camps who lost Tax-exempt status and what will have to be done to restore their status.
- Brother Orr passed out copies of last year's confidential audit of our finances and provided a line-by-line explanation.
- Brother Orr Passed out copies of the Consolidated Balance sheet and discussed it. He provided a line-by-line explanation of the report.

- Brother Perley Mellor presented the Long Range Financial Plan (10 Years) Committee Report and discussed it. Brother Orr gave a short explanation of what organizational funds may be freed for investment. It was decided to put a motion before the Encampment to engage a professional financial counselor to review and make recommendations and advise us on making financial decisions.

**Brother Russ, seconded by Brother Wheeler, moved to present the plan to the National Encampment for Approval. Discussion followed. Brothers Russ and Wheeler withdrew the motion.**

**Brother Orr, seconded by Brother Russ, moved to have the Encampment approve contracting a Financial Advisor. Discussion followed. Motion Passed Unanimous.**

- Brother Mortorff discussed Honorary Membership Presentation for Ed Berris. The Certificate is complete and a membership badge will be provided by Brother Wheeler. The presentation will be made Thursday evening after Mr. Berris finishes his presentation.

- Don Palmer (Chairman, Program and Policies Committee) Presented and discussed the proposed Harassment & Fraud Policy. Discussion followed.

**Brother Russ, seconded by Brother Campbell, moved to approve the harassment policy pending required changes to the disciplinary section of the National Regulations. Passed Unanimous.**

**Brother Russ, seconded by brother Petrovic, moved to approve the fraud policy pending required to changes to the disciplinary section of the National Regulations. Passed Unanimous.**

- Brother Orr presented the proposed budget and the COA went through it line-by-line. There was a lively discussion on the negative effects of the Life membership program on the financial health of the organization, but there was no new action resulting at this time.

Took a break at 7:00 For Dinner and participation in Ed Berris' Program.  
Reconvened at 8:45

- Brother Kuhn Spoke about the annual Remembrance Day events and parade. After failing to get responses from the Merchants Association (Tammy Hughs) the Business Improvement & Development Association did come through with the Check for \$1000 to pay for the parade permit. BUT, the Sheriff's office required an additional, unexpected, \$30 fee for processing the permit application.

**Motion by Brother Mortorff second by Brother Mellor to reimburse Brother Kuhn for his out-of-pocket \$30. Passed Unanimously.**

- Brother Mellor introduced Brother Bill Johnson who spoke about advertising the SUVCW in the media. He provided different examples (and costs) for advertising on websites, television, newspapers, magazines, etc. A general discussion of past advertising efforts, and the pros/cons of one type over another, ensued. There was a general consensus that we need to define the direction we want to go concerning advertising and develop a recruiting vision.

- Brother Petrovic spoke about the Banner and addressed some problems perceived by some members. One concern addressed is the possibility that we may be paying too much to have the magazine published. Brother Terry Dryer was introduced and he spoke about his background and experience working in media and printing. Following his presentation, a question answer period ensued. It was decided that this issue will be directed to incoming administration.

**Brother Petrovic, seconded by Brother Russ, moved that the incoming SVCinC and the new Programs and Policy Committee be assigned the task of exploring possible/alternative methods of publishing the Banner in light of the pending resignation of our current Banner Editor. Passed Unanimously.**

- Brother Freshley discussed our progress on publishing outstanding Proceedings. He has completed and posted 2010 and 2003. We still need 2002, 1999, 1993, 1990, (1986 and 1983 possibly published?). A brief discussion ensued concerning our difficulties in finishing the publication of these proceedings.

**Brother Freshley, seconded by Brother Kennedy, moved that any Proceedings we don't have, but someone else has, should be shared with Brother Freshley by Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Passed unanimously.**

- Brother Mortorff shared Resolutions received from the Departments which will be referred to the Committee on Resolutions at the Encampment meetings. A brisk discussion resulted on the late submission of two resolutions to change the Constitution. A decision was made for the Secretary to write a letter to the Department of Rhode Island advising them that their resolutions failed to meet the deadline for submission to be considered at this year's encampment.

- Brother Palmer discussed a proposed SUVCW Vision Statement and explained recent changes made to it. He will present this Vision statement, and the related survey instrument, on the Encampment floor along with an explanation on how he wishes it implemented within the Order.

- Brother Mellor discussed his supplemental report on new membership.

- Brother Orr discussed the new Sesquicentennial Gettysburg Challenge Coins (First in a series of 4) that will be available to members and the public. He passed around a photo of the first coin in the series.

- Brother Wheeler announced that he implemented a tracking slip system for Quartermaster Store merchandise shipping. Also, he has a box of old photographs that they are trying to copy for the purpose of having older members identify the subjects/persons in the photos.

- Brother Schall discussed awards he plans on giving at the Encampment. The Council of Administration voted to approve a "Gold Star" for one of the awards

Meeting adjourned at: 10:50 PM

Respectfully submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

Eugene G. Mortorff, DC, National Secretary, SUVCW