

**AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary
Department of Michigan**

**PRE CONVENTION S.E.C. MEETING
June 7, 2018**

The SEC meeting was called to order at 6:05 by President Wendy Lynema.

The invocation was presented by Chaplain Linda Marshall.

The salute to the Colors was led by Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe.

Roll Call of Officers by Secretary showed all in attendance with the exception of 3rd Vice President Allison Aldrich (who will be late) – excused.

Finance Report, Gloria Hall reported the problem with the IRS has been resolved (by the accountant who made the error).

OFFICERS REPORTS:

President Wendy Lynema turned in her activity report. She attended all but one event this year. She also loved the edible arrangement of fruit which was delivered to her room. It looked like a bird!

1st Vice President Kathy Schultz turned in her activity report. She sent the membership chart and individual local roster to each Auxiliary.

2nd Vice President Bert Lema turned in her activity report. The evaluations for Child Welfare this year were 370 projects, 184 volunteers with 9162 hours. The total evaluation is \$246,263.

3rd Vice President Allison Aldrich - excused

Secretary Nancy Middleton turned in her activity report. All reports turned in will be in the back of the room tomorrow. If you would like individual copies of the reports, please take one of each. They are 3-hole punched so they will fit in the convention book. Nancy also complimented the 2nd Vice for the excellent information this year and some very good suggestions for projects.

Treasurer Gloria Hall turned in her activity report. She reported we had the proposed budget meeting and copies will be distributed tomorrow for all to look over.

Americanism Officer Pat Michalski made copies of her activity report and they will be on the table tomorrow. She reported all 14 Department winners have been sent for judging by

National. The theme next year is "Why Should We Say Thank You to a Veteran". There was no SOS project selected this past year.

****Motive Pat Michalski/2nd Bert Lema to accept Selfridge Families as the 2017/18 SOS project. CARRIED**

Hospital Officer Harriet Biela turned in her activity report. Her bulletin is on paged 39-40-41 of the convention books. President Wendy gave a thank you to the Hospital Reps. She learned a lot this year and had a good time on her official visits.

Scholarship Officer Sally Abshire turned in her activity report. She thanked all the Auxiliaries for their donations to the Scholarship fund – over \$5,000. The total evaluation for the reports is \$33,554.

Chaplain Linda Marshall turned in her activity report. She stated there were 20 deceased members reported this year. She also discussed the Sunshine fund and suggested an increase in the amount allotted.

****Motion Linda Marshall/2nd Nancy Middleton to increase the Sunshine Gift to \$20. CARRIED**

Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe turned in her activity report.

NEC Pat Michalski received a thank you from National for our donation of \$500. The only problem is we didn't (as a Department) donate \$500. Pat has Freedom Foundation tickets available. They are \$1 each of 6 for \$5. She has the National 50/50 raffle tickets which at 6 for \$5. This is usually a large raffle and covers each day of convention. She has the Freedom Foundation pins available for \$5 each.

Honors & Awards Chairman/Liaison Seletha Robertson made copies of her activity report and will distribute them tomorrow. Kathy Biela stated some of the rules in her award were incorrect. She wants the line about e-mails removed. She also stated the rules about changes can be made by the SEC is incorrect and needs to be removed. Maureen Jackson has the same thing for her award and wants it removed. It was pointed out there are several awards which state this and they have been in the rules for over three years.

Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer turned in her activity report. The By-law meeting was held earlier today. The proposed changes will be distributed tomorrow for everyone to look over. There are three Auxiliaries not in good standing at this time - #110, #1941, #3720.

Ways & Means Chairman Harriet Altherr is present at this convention but she is out working in the hallway selling tickets.

PRO/Historian Kathy Keizer stated she has no officer pictures. She will be working on the Department book.

Convention Chairman Carol Pickett said the room we are in now will be the room for the entire weekend. We will be at this hotel for Fall Conference, Convention and the Spring SEC for three years. The banquet tickets for this convention were to be pre-ordered. They are marked with what the food order is and need to be put on the table where you are sitting. There is a limited number of late check outs available – 1st come/1st serve. The hotel is very accommodating and Carol is happy to just handle the piddly stuff!!!

Fall Conference Chairman Kathy Keizer has a few suggestions she would like to talk with next year's Chairman about.

Personnel Chairman Kathy Biela said there doesn't seem to be any problems....yet! It has been an easy year.

Higgins Lake Lodge Rep Peggy Liss said there have been no meetings and no communications except for the wish list. We did have a wonderful time at the Auxiliary weekend. Many of those who attended brought things from the wish list and filled 2 big tables with their donations. President Wendy stated she talked with Carol Hebert who said we can now book the lodge six months out (non members can book 3 months out).

Website Committee Pat Michalski said the committee was put together in February. They have been in contact with the person who does the AMVET Website and talked about him doing the Auxiliary one. There was no decision. She made contact with 1 and 1 (the current website and they agreed to lower the monthly cost. If we decide to stay with them, we will keep the lower cost. The committee knows what they want – they just don't know how to do it.

****Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Bert Lema to keep 1 and 1 for at least 6 months while they decide if they want to change providers. CARRIED**

Nancy Middleton stated she was very disappointed in the website. When it first started there were many who submitted articles, pictures, etc. In her opinion, the failure of the website lies in this room. She asked how many put in articles consistently – or at all. (answer 2). Maureen noted you don't have to be an Officer – locals can advertise too.

Ways & Means – Harriet Altherr – the 50/50 winner of \$36 was Clarice Poisson. The \$25 gas card was won by Doreen Pierce and the mystery prize winner was Carmen Simpson. There will be more 50/50's, gas cards and mystery prizes tomorrow.

VAVS/MVH Reps:

Aleda E Lutz VA – Linda Marshall turned in her activity report. She has spent 198 hours at the facility. The balance in her checking account is \$53.56 and \$461.09 is in the savings account. She thanked all those who donated and thanked President Wendy for visiting.

Ann Arbor VA – Pat Krzesowik turned in her activity report. She thanked everyone for the donations. She has \$440.26 in her account.

Battle Creek VA – Faye Richardson-Green turned in her activity report. She stated volunteers are needed at several VA Clinic locations. She had her joint review and the number of hours is down 37%, but donations are up 43%. She thanked several local Auxiliaries and Districts for their donations. She hosted the President visit and saw places at Battle Creek that she had never seen! She has \$294 in her account.

John Dingell VA – Harriet Biela is grateful for the volunteers who help and the many donations she received. The earlier tour for the President had to be cancelled because of an ice storm. The new tour was held in May. There is \$584.17 in the checking account.

Grand Rapids Home – Clarice Poisson received donations from District III, District V, #23, #120, #114, #121, #126 and #4250. President Wendy had her tour of the facility in May. There is \$1,590 in her account but most of it is designated for the carnival (in July) and the White Caps baseball game.

Jacobetti Home – Judy Smith turned in her activity report. She has \$15.22 in her checking account and \$6.88 in Savings. She thanks those who donated to Jacobetti Home this year: District VI, #114, #79, #121 and #1988.

District I President – Cel Rose Solak introduced the guests from District I – Maureen Jackson, who is the National Americanism Officer and Carmen Simpson – both from #57.

District II President Rosemary Perdue stated the District is requesting a raise in the Dept. Chaplains budget to \$100. The District II guests are PDP Doreen Pierce and Marcella Schmidt. Rosemary also announced the candidates for offices: Pat Michalski, NEC; Sue Christe, Sgt-at-Arms; Linda Marshall, Chaplain; Peggy Liss, National Scholarship Officer.

District V President – Faye Richardson-Green introduced the guests from District V: Leora Williamson from #23 and Becky Kovach from #4250. Because Paws With A Cause is in District V, Faye reported Mike Sapp is retiring and Paws has hired a firm to select the new CEO. The AMVET Legislative Director is also from District V and he reported it is now legal in Michigan to go from one Veterans club to another as long as you are a member of one organization. There is also an Education Bill for those 100% disabled, and another bill to prevent a 3rd party from preying on Veterans.

District V 1st Vice President Gloria Hall announced Faye Richardson-Green is running for National 3rd Vice President.

****Motion Clarice Poisson/2nd Gloria Hall to support Faye Richardson-Green for National 3rd Vice President. CARRIED**

****Motion Cel Rose Solak/2nd Bert Lema to support Maureen Jackson for National Americanism Officer. CARRIED**

****Motion Carol Pickett/2nd Linda Marshall to support Peggy Liss for National Scholarship Officer. CARRIED**

Back to District V report: Faye Richardson-Green announced Gloria Hall is seeking re-election to the Office of Treasurer and Leora Williamson is seeking the office of Hospital Officer.

District VI – Christine Keenan will have her activity report available in the morning. District VI has voted to disband. The guest from VI is PDP Maribeth Westcott.

District VII President Betty Petitjean turned in her activity report. She introduced Barb Robare (Aux. #122) as the guest of District VII. Betty also announced Kathy Schultz is running for the office of Department President.

3rd Vice President Allison Aldrich arrived at the meeting. She announced she had been nominated as her employers Volunteer of the Year – and won! A check for \$500 will be donated to the charity of Allison’s choice. She chose Paws With A Cause.

Because there is no District III, Bert Lema announced Allison Aldrich is running for the office of NEC.

OLD BUSINESS

Sally Abshire, Scholarship Officer requested 2 volunteers to select the Scholarship winners for this year.

NEW BUSINESS

****Motion Gloria Hall/2nd Linda Marshall to pay the bills. CARRIED**

ANNOUNCEMENTS - n/a

The closing prayer was delivered by Chaplain Linda Marshall.

The Colors were retired by Sgt-at-Arms Sue Christe.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Middleton
Department Exec. Secretary.
7/7/18

Approved with corrections:

President Wendy Lynema – 7/8/18

Parliamentarian Kathy Keizer 7/7/18