

TELECONFERENCE CALL  
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN S.E.C. BOARD  
June 3, 2020

The teleconference meeting began at 7:03pm.

No roll call taken.

President Bert discussed the conversation she had with Commander Petch regarding the letter she (Bert) wrote in response to his communication with his officers. He (Cmdr. Petch) was not happy with the letter or the members who were sent copies of the letter. President Bert informed Cmdr. Petch she only sent copies of the letter to those who had received his original letter. The President felt the other members should hear the Auxiliary response.

Comdr. Petch said the entire AMVET Family will be doing monthly conference calls. The next one will be on Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>.

President Bert thanked those officers who helped with the wording of the letter with their thoughts and suggestions.

President Bert stated Kathy Keizer had previously suggested a committee for the Ways 'n Means officer. She (Bert) asked for recommendations for the committee from the District Presidents. Wendy Lynema asked if the President would be approving the whole committee or just the chairman. Comments by several thought a Chairman should request her own committee members.

**\*\*Motion Wendy Lynema/2<sup>nd</sup> Becky Kovach the President allow a Ways & Means Chairman to form a committee subject to SEC approval. A voice vote was taken.**

Kathy Keizer asked if we were supposed to do roll call votes. Pres. Bert then called for a vote by name: Kathy Keizer yes, Rose Solak yes, Wendy Lynema yes, Nancy Middleton yes, Gloria Hall no response, Linda Marshall yes, Caroline Wisniewski yes, Pat Michalski yes, Becky Kovach yes, Carol Pickett yes, Harriet Biela yes, Kathy Schultz no response, Kathy Biela yes, Kathy Jo Johnson yes, Maureen Jackson yes, Peggy Liss no response, Barb Robare no response, Harriet Altherr yes, Judy Smith no response, Faye Richards-Green yes, Clarice Poisson yes. MOTION CARRIED

Pres. Bert requested input for the appointment of a Chairman for Ways 'n Means.

Pres. Bert discussed the Dept. audit. According to the by-laws, the audit must take place within 15 days of the close of convention. Because there is no convention, we will be using the 15 days as of the date the convention would have ended. Pres Bert said she had talked with the Treasurer and our new year (financial) starts 7/1 so we need to have the audit no later than 6/29.

**\*\*Motion Maureen Jackson/2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy Biela we hold the audit on June 29. Voting yes on the roll call vote was: Kathy Keizer, Rose Solak, Wendy Lynema, Pat Michalski, Nancy Middleton, Harriet Biela, Linda Marshall, Caroline Wisniewski, Becky Kovach, Harriet Altherr, Kathy Jo Johnson, Maureen Jackson, Carol Pickett, Kathy Biela, Faye Richardson-Green, Clarice Poisson MOTION CARRIED**

President Bert discussed activity reports. Send them to the Secretary so they are on file for the future by 6/11. Someone mentioned the copies are normally given to the President and Parliamentarian at the SEC. *(NOTE: the final activity reports are actually distributed to the convention body either by inserting in the convention book or displaying on a table for the delegates to take.)* President Bert requested when sending the activity reports to the Secretary, CC the President and Parliamentarian.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Kathy Keizer reported on membership. She questioned whether we would have a Fall Conference this year. One of her contests from 2019-2020 was for lodging and per diem to a new member for the 2020 Fall Conference. Kathy would like to give \$50 to the winner if there is no conference.

President Bert stated she spoke with Carol Hebert who said yes, there will be a Fall Conference maybe in Grand Rapids. *(NOTE, if there was a vote on the \$ 50 suggestion, I did not have it written in my notes).*

Kathy Keizer requested approval for her 2020-2021 Membership contests. She wants to continue the prizes for Auxiliaries sending in all their life member hospital donations. It would be stated as:

#1 Auxiliaries with 21 and over life members, this contest is for D&R's submitted during the month of July only. The first 3 locals to send in their D&R with the correct amount for their total life members will win the following: 1<sup>st</sup> - \$50; 2<sup>nd</sup> \$40, 3<sup>rd</sup> \$30. The remaining D&R's received no later than July 31 will be put into a drawing with 5 winners to receive a consolation prize of \$15 each.

#2 Auxiliaries with a life member count of 20 and under, this contest is for the D&R's submitted during the month of July only. The locals who submit their D&R's with the correct amount for their total life members received no later than July 31, will be put into a drawing for 2 winners of \$15 each.

**\*\*Motion Kathy Keizer/2<sup>nd</sup> Wendy Lynema to accept the membership contests for life members (listed above). CARRIED (NOTE: for time limits, President Bert called for the question and asked only those voting "No" to cast their vote. There were no "No" votes) MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

President Bert went back to the discussion about the audit on 6/29. Wendy Lynema will take the place of Kathryn Schultz at the audit. Wendy asked if the audit would be at the Secretary's house. Pres. Bert stated the site was not determined yet.

President Bert stated Honors & Awards Chairman Kathryn Schultz was not able to get into the conference call.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Rose Solak reported a check from the Dept. Auxiliaries for Penrickton is \$6,079.90. She (Rose) will contact Kurt Sebaly for a time to deliver the check along with gift cards totaling \$1,355 (from #23, #52, #57, #93, #121, #122, #126, @910, #1957, Dist. I and Dist. V plus 4 individuals) to Penrickton.

The winners of the drawing for Rose's Chairman's Award are Aux. #121 and District I. She will present their prizes when we can all meet once again.

For the 2020-2021 year, Rose has requested approval of her Chairman's award. She would like to do something similar to last year but instead of gift cards she would like Auxiliaries to purchase items from the wish list. When we have the Penrickton visit/tour, All the items can be brought. If there is no one coming from an Auxiliary for the tour, checks can be made out to Penrickton (memo - wish items) and send to Rose who will deliver them. Rose will have a drawing from all the Auxiliaries who donate to the wish list project.

**\*\*Motion Cel Rose Solak/2<sup>nd</sup> Harriet Altherr to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman's Award (as listed above). MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

3<sup>RD</sup> Vice President Wendy Lynema had nothing to report and does not have a Chairman's Award at this time.

Americanism Officer Pat Michalski would like her Chairman's Award to be a drawing from all the Auxiliaries who sponsor the Americanism Flag Coloring-Poster-Essay Contest.

**\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Marshall to approve the Americanism Chairman's Award (listed above). MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

Pat would like her SOS project for 2020-2021 to be the Great Lakes USO.

**\*\*Motion Pat Michalski/2<sup>nd</sup> Nancy Middleton to approve the SOS project be the Great Lakes USO for this coming year. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

Hospital Officer Harriet Biela has no report and does not have a Chairman's Award.

Scholarship Officer Linda Marshall would like to continue the Book Worm program.

**\*\*Motion Linda Marshall/2<sup>nd</sup> Harriet Altherr to approve the Scholarship Book Worm project for 2020-2021. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

There was a long discussion about the newsletter. The June issue was sent out stating this was the last newsletter. For years this has been brought to the Convention for a decision on continuing it each year. Because there will not be a convention, the SEC could have made the decision. Unfortunately, the June edition could not call for new subscriptions (\$10 a year) so funding is not available.

The Secretary stated she did not like the direction the newsletter has taken and it was not what she envisioned it should be. She always enjoyed it but this year has been a challenge. She was no longer an editor - just someone who did 'cut & paste'.

**\*\*Motion Wendy Lynema/2<sup>nd</sup> Linda Marshall to continue the newsletter and Nancy (Secretary) would be the Editor and edit articles and add graphics. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED**

Maureen Jackson suggested 'WE' could contact local Auxiliaries and tell them the newsletter will continue for another year and subscription fees needs to be sent in if they want to receive it. (it was not stated who "WE" refers to).

There was a question on the Department Officers Instructions. When will they be on the website? Pat Michalski (webmaster) stated she has the new instructions but held them because it could be confusing putting them on in the middle of the

year. Normally they are dispersed to the new Officers at convention. She (Pat) will get them on the website.

Faye Richardson-Green asked about a meeting to discuss common protocol for opening Posts. The President will check with Carol Hebert and the Commander.

Pat Michalski stated Carol Hebert told her they would follow the CDC guidelines. The AMVETS will not be sending out anything.

Maureen Jackson commented information can be received from [Michigan.gov/](http://Michigan.gov/)

Faye Richardson-Green felt the AMVETS should send out guidelines to every Post. She will not travel to other Posts if there is no plan on how we would be safe.

There was a discussion on Honors & Awards Donors Rules. The rules were not updated the past year and the rules are still listed from Wendy's year as Honors & Awards Chairman. The local Auxiliaries need to know about changes to the rules. There are several awards which will no longer be in place. Nancy Blok, donor of the Outstanding Auxiliary, will not continue her award. Clarice Poisson stated Judy Smith's award is also done this year. President Bert said she will work with the Chairman to get the donor's rules updated.

Nancy Middleton stated the new Officer's Instructions will show the Secretary will be responsible for the newsletter/bulletin guidelines for officers articles. As of right now, this is the duty of the Parliamentarian. Nancy stated since the Parliamentarian has not done it yet, she (Nancy) would like to be responsible starting now. If she (Nancy) goes back to doing the guidelines (which was the Secretary's responsibility until about 8-9 years ago) she would like to go back to preparing Officer's Calendars as was done in the past. This is a big job, but because there will be no convention book, she will have a little extra time.

**\*\*Motion Wendy Lynema/2<sup>nd</sup> ????** (to much noise) to approve the calendars.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

There will be a teleconference on Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for the Finance Committee to go over the proposed budget. Members are Chairman Gloria Hall, Secretary Nancy Middleton and District Presidents: Cel Rose Solak, Peggy Liss, Faye Richardson-Green and Barb Robare.

Pat Michalski announced with Posts opening, the date for judging the Americanism entries will be set soon.

Maureen Jackson will be having surgery on August 3 to relieve pressure off her spinal cord. She is hopeful this will correct several of the health problems she has been having.

President Bert announced we will have a teleconference every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 7pm. The next one will be June 10<sup>th</sup>. Carol Pickett asked to be excused because with the Posts opening, she will be working every Wednesday and Friday. Nancy Middleton is not sure if she can be on the call. Her son is having knee surgery that day.

President Bert asked for prayers for Aux. #57. There have been many deaths and/or injuries. Please send thoughts and prayers for them.

Harriet Altherr reminded everyone the drawing for the Department raffle will be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza. She will put the winners names on the website.

The meeting was concluded about ??? (NOTE: Secretary forgot to check the time!)

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Middleton  
Dept. Secretary  
6/9/2020

Errors/typos noted by webmaster Pat Michalski  
6/9/20

Approved by: The Parliamentarian 6/11/2020

Approved by: The President 6/11/2020 with one typo

All typos/errors corrected.