

**AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
SPRING S.E.C. MINUTES
February 26, 2022
#4064 Perry Post**

The meeting was called to order by President Cel Rose Solak at 1:00pm.

The Dept. Chaplain was not in attendance. President Rose asked approval for PDP Kathy Keizer to be appointed Chaplain for this meeting.

****Motion Bert Lema/2nd Linda Marshall to accept Kathy Keizer as acting Chaplain.
CARRIED**

The invocation was delivered by acting Chaplain Kathy Keizer.

President Rose announced the Sgt-at-Arms Becky Kovach resigned the position because of family health matters.

****Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Faye Richardson-Green to accept Becky Kovach's resignation with regret. CARRIED**

President Rose asked approval for Clarice Poisson as Sgt-at-Arms for the remainder of the year.

****Motion Bert Lema/2nd Linda Marshall to accept Clarice Poisson as the Sgt-at-Arms. CARRIED**

The Salute to the Colors was led by Sgt-at-Arms Clarice Poisson.

Roll Call of Officers by Secretary Nancy Middleton. The following Officers were present at the SEC meeting: President Rose Solak; 1st Vice Gloria Hall, 2nd Vice Linda Marshall; 3rd Vice Allison Aldrich; Treasurer Deb Davis; Parliamentarian Pat Michalski; Sgt-at-Arms Clarice Poisson; Americanism Officer Pam Lein; Hospital Officer Kay Kemp; Scholarship Officer Karen Harmon; NEC Woman Pat Michalski; Liaison/Honors & Awards Bert Lema; Personal Chairman Allison Aldrich; Fall Conference Chairman Bert Lema; Convention Chairman Carol Pickett; Higgins Lake Lodge Rep Roberta Robinson; Website Chairman Pat Michalski; Aleda E Lutz VAVS Linda Marshall; Battle Creek VAMC Rep Faye Richardson-Green; District I President Seletha Robertson; District II President Pat Michalski; District V President Nancy Middleton

The following Officers were excused: Chaplain Caroline Wisniewski; PRO-Historian Kathy Jo Johnson; Ways & Means Chairman Bonnie Rojeski, Ann Arbor VAVS Pat Krzesowik; Jacobetti Home Rep Judy Smith, John Dingell Rep Maureen Jackson.

The following Officer was absent from the meeting: District VII President Barb Robare

The Secretary asked if the VAVS/Home Reps only need to turn in activity reports but are not required to be at SEC meetings, do they need to be excused? No answer heard.

NOTE: The Secretary was present but is no longer a Dept. Officer so is not listed in Roll Call of Officers.

Past Presidents (voting members of the SEC but not Officers) PDP Doreen Pierce, PDP Kathy Biela, PDP Kathy Keizer, PDP Wendy Lynema, PDP Nancy Middleton.

Corrections/Approval of Fall SEC Minutes. District V Pres. Nancy Middleton requested the minutes be corrected to show her Official Visit to Auxiliary #1978 had been turned in at the Fall SEC Meeting. Because of several issues which were not read at the Fall SEC, Nancy read the report. There have been many problems at #1978. The previous Dist. V Pres. (Faye Richards-Green) had made several visits there. This year the Dist. V Pres. (Nancy) along with the District V Parliamentarian (Kathy Keizer) also made a visit . It was not successful. It is the opinion of District V, the Department should take over to see if they can resolve the differences.

****Motion Pat Michalski/2nd Bert Lema to accept the Fall SEC minutes as corrected. CARRIED**

There was no correspondence.

Treasurer's Report by Treasurer Deb Davis turned in her activity report. She gave a report on the Auxiliary new worth as of January 31, 2022:

General Fund (checking)	\$28,548.89
Hospital Fund (checking)	\$ 1,364.09
Texas Hold'em (checking)	\$ 4,176.72
Savings #1 (reserved)	\$15,016.00
Savings #2 (donations)	\$ 368.26
TOTAL	\$49,473.86

Certificates of Deposit (Huntington Bank)

CD#1	\$ 2,113.22
CD#2	\$13,110.20
CD#3	\$12,253.96
CD#4	\$ 6,027.62
CD#5	\$ 6,400.01
TOTAL CDs	\$39,905.01

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

President Cel Rose Solak turned in her activity report. She stressed the importance for all Officer's to read their instructions and keep them handy for reference. She also explained proper protocol for meetings, raising your hand and not speaking until recognized by the Chair, identifying yourself when making a motion or a second to the motion, etc.

1st Vice President Gloria Hall turned in her activity report. She stated she was having a rough year but hopefully things are looking up and she will get caught up on the membership. We have a total membership of about 1,337 so far this year.

2nd Vice President Linda Marshall turned in her activity report. The tour of Penrickton will be on Wednesday 4/13. President Rose asked Linda to call about any restrictions there may be. (social distancing, masks, etc.). Linda has a new email address. She can be contacted at linmar10@charter.net

3rd Vice President Allison Aldrich turned in her activity report. Allison stated March is Paws With A Cause month. While the Ways & Means Chairman Bonnie Rojas is in Florida, Allison took over arranging the lunch for the SEC meeting. This is a fundraiser for Ways & Means.

Parliamentarian Pat Michalski turned in her activity report. Officer's Instructions will be discussed during New Business. Pat needs District V revalidation form. Aux. #110 and #79 are now in good standing.

Chaplain Caroline Wisniewski – excused

Sgt-at-Arms Clarice Poisson had nothing to report at this time. Since she was just approved to finish out the term of Becky Kovach, Clarice has no activity report to be turned in.

Americanism Officer Pam Lein turned in her activity report. The joint Americanism committee continues to meet to finalize the convention program. The Americanism contest was not judged for 2019/20 and the winners for 2020/21 received certificates. (Note: not sure if this was Department or National judging). Although

National includes the AADA program, the Department does not include it with Americanism.

Pam discussed a new award program from West Michigan Armed Services.

Carol Pickett questioned if there were Americanism raffle tickets this year. Pat Michalski said "No". Several fundraising ideas were discussed, but none acted on. Financially there is money left from last year.

Hospital Officer Kay Kemp turned in her activity report. Clarice Poisson turned in hospital pins from her son and President Rose donated back all her pins to hospital.

Scholarship Officer Karen Harmon turned in her activity report. She received 10 Aux. midyear report. The new award program discussed under Americanism turns out to be a scholarship. Pam Lein turned the information over to Karen Harmon, our Scholarship Officer.

NEC WOMAN Pat Michalski turned in her activity report. She will be attending the NEC meeting next week.

PRO/Historian Kathy Jo Johnson – excused. Bert Lema reported for Kathy Jo on the Presidents Testimonia. It will be held on April 9th at Post #57 in Harper Woods. Cocktails at 6pm, dinner at 7pm. Cost of ticket is \$25. RSVP by March 31. Cards/invitations were passed out.

Fall Conference Chairman Bert Lema turned in her activity report. She thanked Faye Richardson-Green and Pat Michalski for the excellent classes.

Liaison – Bert Lema turned in activity report. She thanked the Secretary for giving her membership totals so she could complete the Liaison report to the AMVETS

Honors & Awards Chairman Bert Lema has completed the Donor's Rules for this year. She also asked for an extension to the application deadline for the Auxiliary Member of the Year award.

****Motion Bert Lema/2nd Seletha Robertson to extend the Auxiliary Member of the Year Award application to May 5. CARRIED**

Personnel Committee Chairman Allison Aldrich. The Secretary's handbook is continued to be worked on. The Secretary questioned when she will get the 1099 which is needed to file taxes and should have been received by 1/31/2022. (no answer)

Convention Chairman Carol Pickett stated there are many rumors flying around about the 2022 convention but nothing definite at this time. It will probably be June 23-24-35-26. The AMVETS are looking at the Grand Rapids Doubletree but is on hold until we have more information . The hotel originally wants \$4,000 in food and beverages. Faye Richardson-Green said the cost is being lowered to \$2,000 but Carol has not yet been informed about it. It looks like the hotel rooms will be \$105 -plus tax. Several people have ‘heard’ things and/or offered to contact the hotel or the Commander. Carol said “No”. This is her job and she will be the one to take care of it. A question was raised about the Convention Digest. The deadline for bulletins is quickly approaching March 1st) and the Secretary has only heard from a couple Officers. Also, without hotel information, the digest will be incomplete for mailing by the 15th of March.

****Motion Faye Richardson-Green/2nd Gloria Hall to change the deadline this year until March 30th. CARRIED – one “No’ Vote (PDP Nancy Middleton)**

Clarice Poisson was announced as the 50/50 winner - \$52.

Higgins Lake Lodge Rep Roberta Robinson turned in her activity report. She does not have much to report at this time. She is not being informed and has requested a meeting with the Commander. There are new lodging rates but contact the lodge. The Facebook and the website have different rates.

Website Committee. Chairman Pat Michalski has talked with Deb Davis about taking over the website. Right now, there are no guidelines about the webmaster.

****Motion /Nancy Middleton/2nd Linda Marshall The Webmaster will be elected or appointed by the President for a 3-year term +starting at Convention 2022. This will be part of the Standing Rules. CARRIED**

The new contract rate for the website is \$230 a year. All Dept. Officers are reminded to do bulletins.

VAVS and Home Reps reports:

Aleda E Lutz VA – Linda Marshal VAVS turned in her activity report. She asked to be told if anyone is visiting Aleda E Lutz VA. She has \$98.48 in checking and \$1,099.17 in her savings account.

Battle Creek VAMC – Faye Richardson-Green, VAVS turned in her activity report. There is a balance in the BCVAMC checking account of \$172.93. There is not much volunteer activity yet. There is a program called “Compassionate Contact” in Battle Creek and Wyoming. Social workers refer patients who may be a suicide risk.

John Dingell VA – Maureen Jackson (excused) turned in her activity report. She has \$866.04 in her checking account.

Jacobetti Home – Judy Smith, Rep. Judy was excused from this meeting but did turn in her activity report. She has \$895.27 in her checking account and \$577.08 (???) in her savings account.

Grand Rapids Home for Veterans – Clarice Poisson turned in her activity report. She has \$5.33 in her checking account and \$250.07 in savings.

****Ann Arbor VA** – Pat Krzesowik turned in her activity report late.

District Presidents

District I – Seletha Robertson turned in her activity report. The guests of District I were Harriet Biela and PDP Kathy Biela.

District II - Pat Michalski turned in her activity report. Guests of District II – PDP Doreen Pierce.

District V – Nancy Middleton turned in her activity report. Guests of District II – PDP Kathy Keizer and PDP Wendy Lynema. President Rose has been invited to make her official visit to District V on May 15th.

District VII – Barb Robare – absent – no activity report received.

Another question. If PDP's are voting members of the SEC, why are they considered guests? No answer. The Secretary said she will list them under roll call (which was done in these minutes) and in the future not list them as guests in the District portion of the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Completion of the 2021/2022 budget. The following changes were made to the Dept. Convention expenses for June 2022. They are estimates because we still do not know where convention will be.

*#1 mileage - \$800; President's lodging \$365; Secretary's lodging \$365; W&M lodging \$365; Convention Chairman's lodging \$365; Treasurer's 1 night lodging \$121; Chairman's hotel site visit \$50; President's banquet ticket \$45; Conv. Chair's banquet ticket \$45; Hotel meeting room expense (estimate) ****\$1,700**. For a total of \$4,221.*

****Motion Deb Davis/2nd Kay Kemp to approve the balance of the budget. CARRIED**

**** The hotel meeting room expense of \$1,700 was a drastic increase to cover the 2020/2021 cost \$596.40 which was charged but not directed to the Auxiliary.**

Secretary's Handbook

The Secretary questioned when she would get a copy of the Secretary's Handbook.
(No specific answer)

NEW BUSINESS - Officer's Instructions

All Officer's Instructions – Article III – Bulletins & Newsletters

#1 Department Officers shall submit bulletins according to the schedule they received from Dept. Parliamentarian. A copy of your Bulletin is to be sent to Dept. Webmaster by the 15th of the month.

CHANGE TO READ: Department Officers shall submit bulletins according to the schedule they received from Dept. Ex. Secretary. A copy of your Bulletin is to be sent to Dept. Webmaster by the 15th of the month. Auto – changed at Spring SEC mtg. 2/20

#2 Newsletter articles are due to the Dept. Secretary by the 1st of each month. These articles should include info in particular to your office and reminder of due dates of reports, etc.

CHANGE TO READ: Newsletter articles are due to the Dept. Secretary by the 15th of each month. These articles should include info in particular to your office and reminder of due dates of reports, etc. Auto – Secretary changed date this year.

1st Vice President – Article I – General Information

**#3 You are a member of the Personnel Committee
Delete – changed at 2021 Convention.**

Article IV – Reports

Add #4 – You shall send a current Membership chart report to the Liaison Officer by February 1 and June 1 so she can report our Membership totals to Department AMVETS for their SEC meeting.

****Motion Pam Lein/2nd Kathy Keizer to accept the change. CARRIED**

2nd Vice President – Article I – General Information

#2 – You are a member of the Personnel Committee – Delete – changed at 2021 Convention.

3rd Vice President – Article 1 – General Information

#2 – You are a member of the Personnel Committee – Delete – changed at 2021 Convention.

Treasurer – Article 1 – General Information

#2 – You are a member of the Personnel Committee – Delete – changed at 2021 Convention.

Parliamentarian – Article IV – By-Laws & Resolutions

4. The outgoing Parliamentarian shall be responsible to retype the Department By-Laws if any changes have been made at the Department Convention. They shall be submitted to the National Parliamentarian in duplicate, including a separate page indicating where changes are with the By-Laws. They shall be signed by the outgoing Parliamentarian **and outgoing President and sent within 30 days after adoption, for approval at which time they shall become effective. After approval, they shall be forwarded electronically to the Department Webmaster to be put on the Auxiliary website. By-laws that are updated to conform to National By-laws need not be submitted to the National Parliamentarian for approval.**

Delete outgoing President – Automatic changed at National.

2. Districts shall submit three (3) copies of their bylaws and locals shall submit four (4) copies of their By-Laws for approval every three (3) years. They shall be signed in black ink. You will mail all copies with your signature to the Department President for her signature, along with envelopes addressed to who they go to; with one copy being returned to the District, one copy kept by the President and one copy returned for your file.

Change to read: *Delete You will mail all copies with your signature to the Department President for her signature, along with envelopes addressed to who they go to.* You will mail one copy to the District/Local, one copy mailed to the Dept. President and keep one copy for your file. Automatic changed at National.

Ways and Means -Article III – Fundraisers

3 You shall apply to the State of Michigan Lottery Commission for a raffle license for the annual Convention drawing no later than **Dec. 15. You have to have SEC approval for the prizes you are offering, not to exceed a value of \$500. The prizes will need to be listed on the license application and you shall get a check from the Dept. Treasurer for the cost of the license.**

Change Date to Dec. 30.

Article IV – SEC meetings and Dept. Convention

2 Convention raffle tickets are to be sold for \$2.00 each or in a booklet of six (6) for \$10.00. When sold, the seller will return the ticket stubs and monies to the Ways & Means Chairman. The check is to be made payable to AMVETS Ladies Aux – Dept of MI. You shall forward the checks you receive to the Ex. Secretary at least

once monthly until seven (7) days prior to Convention. Bring any remaining checks received to the Convention with the ticket stubs you have received.

Change to Read: The Convention raffle tickets are to be sold for \$5.00 each or three (3) for \$10.00.

****Motion DID NOT GET WHO MADE THE MOTION OR WHO SECONDED IT.
12 approved the motion / 5 did not approved – CARRIED**

Personnel Chairman – Article I – General Information

1. The Personnel Committee shall be comprised of a Chairman who shall be a Past Dept. President. She shall be appointed by the President with SEC approval. The members of the Committee are the Chairman, the Dept . President, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Vice President and the Dept. Treasurer.

Change to read: The Personnel Committee shall be comprised of six (6) IPDPs. The Chairman shall be the earliest ranking IPDP. After serving as year, the IPDP Chairman will be removed and the earliest ranking IPDP will be added as Chairman to this Committee, along with adding the IPDP. Automatic – changed at Department Convention 2021.

6. In January, February & March of the odd year, place a notice in the Dept. Newsletter and on the Aux. website stating the position of Dept. Ex. Secretary is open for interested members, include with the notice the following criteria:

- a) The position is for a two (2) year term and applicants must have a minimum of three (3) years as an active, participating member of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary
- b) The deadline for applying for the position is May 1.

Delete #6 as it is not applicable since the Ex. Sec. now has a contract.

Also delete the following:

- Article II – Receipt of interest in position
- Article III – Convention Duties & Interview Process
- Article IV – Selection of Department Ex. Secretary

Not applicable

Allison Aldrich asked if the Department could make a donation to Post #29 to help with the funeral expenses for John Dowd, The Sons at Post #29 are trying to get donations because John did not have insurance. There is still \$2,800 due to the Funeral Home. A discussion was held as to where the donation would be sent.

****Motion Nancy Middleton/2nd Allison Aldrich to send \$1,000 from the Texas Hold'em fund to the Sons of AMVETS to help with PDC John Dowd's funeral expenses. CARRIED**

SOA Don Torre had heart surgery in February.

Carol Pickett asked for approval of Karen Harmon as Credentials Chairman and PDP Doreen Pierce as Attendance Prize Chairman at the June 2022 convention.

****Motion Carol Pickett/2nd Seletha Robertson to approve Karen Harmon as Credentials Chair and PDP Doreen Pierce as Attendance Prize Chair at the June 2022 convention. CARRIED**

The benediction was given by acting Chaplain Kathy Keizer.

The flag was retired by Clarice Poisson.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm

**Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Middleton, Exec. Secretary.
5/19/2022**

**Approved with corrections
President Cel Rose Solak –
5/19/2022
Parliamentarian PDP Pat Michalski –
5/19/2022**