**DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, July 12, 2023, 1:00 PM**

**Jackpot Junction Casino**

**Tatanka Room III**

1:00 PM Meeting called to order

Prayer by Sharon Cross, Dept. 1st Vice Pres

Pledge by Judy Ackerman, Dept. 2nd Vice Pres

Preamble by Norma Tramm, Parliamentarian

Roll Call: Department Executive Secretary Christie Avant

2022-2023 Officers present: District Presidents: 1st Tonia Bettermann, 2nd Robin Olson, 3rd Kim Carlander, 4th Jenny Nelson, 5th Jill Davis, 6th Bev Grose, 7th Wanda Seidler, 8th – Sharon Voltz, 9th Cheryl Grover, 10th Lorinda Kies, 2nd Vice President Judy Ackerman, 1st Vice President Sharon Thiemecke, Parliamentarian – Norma , President Mary Kuperus, NEC – Jean Walker, Past Department Patti Coleman, Treasurer Cathy Radil, Executive Secretary Christie Avant and 33 visitors present.

Welcome President Mary. Mary thanked everyone for being part of her year as Department President. She welcomed the in-coming District Presidents.

Minutes from the Spring DEC Meeting March 25, 2023 were not approved. Notes were highlighted and the minutes will be approved at the Fall Workshop DEC Meeting.

Introductions:

All DEC introduced themselves to the guest attendees. The ten 2022-2023 District Presidents introduced the 2023-2024 incoming District Presidents from their District.

District 1 Michelle Weaver

District 2 Kollett Kaehlert

District 3 Deanna Meyer

District 4 Tamara Michaels

District 5 Cari Lamb

District 6 Patti Gunderson

District 7 Hope Wilson

District 8 Sharon Voltz

District 9 Becky Olson

District 10 Anne Steffen

NEC Report from last Meeting –

Jean Walker gave a short update on the National DEC.

Investment/Finance Report: Treasurer Cathy Radil

Cathy gave a financial update – see attached.

Risk and Compliance Report – Cari Lamb

Cari reported on the 2022 Audit – Over all everything looks good. We worked with CliftonLarsonAllen LLP. Cari’s report is attached.

Department Office Report: Department Executive Secretary Christie Avant

Christie gave a short update on everything the office staff has been working on. Still learning and as we all know this is the busy time of the year.

Proposed changes to Constitution, Bylaws & Standing Rules – Carol Kottom

Carol reviewed the first 7 proposed changes that were reviewed at the Spring DEC meeting. She then reviewed a new proposal, Proposal #8. See attached.

Proposal #1 Standing Rules ART II Finance Section 16 (k)

Proposal #2 Standing Rules Labels Article VIII Section 2

Proposal #3 Standing Rules Section 13 (a) Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (b) Gift Shop (6)

Proposal #4 National Standing Rules II National Convention sec 2 – page 28

Proposal #5 Standing Rules Art IV National Convention, Sec 1 (a)

Proposal #6 Unit Bylaws-New Section 1 under Article V Meetings-Electronic

Proposal #7 Unit Bylaws Article XI Amendment-new section 5

Proposal #8 District Constitution Art IV Section 3a

A motion to recommend Proposal #8 was made.

Motion by: Patti Coleman

2nd by: Bev Grose

Any discussion: No

Motion Passed

American Legion Auxiliary Minnesota Girls State

President Mary brought up a couple of questions she had received about Girls State.

First -

Out of State Eligibility

According to the brochure that is sent to all units and schools, it says for eligibility to attend-she must have completed her junior year of high school in a Minnesota public, charter, home school, parochial or private school or be a resident of Minnesota and have at least one more semester remaining prior to graduation.

There was discussion around this because The Department of Minnesota has several JR Members that this affects.

Judy Ackerman moved: A Junior member of a Minnesota Unit who lives in a town across the border or anywhere in the United States can attend the ALA Minnesota Girls State as long as she meets other criteria.

Motion by: Judy Ackerman

2nd by: Sharon Cross

Any discussion: No

Motion Passed

Second –

When did ALA Minnesota Girls State approve transgender eligibility?

There was a lengthy discussion on ALA Minnesota Girls State. Several individuals spoke. Patti Coleman, Education Director addressed the DEC and guests. She gave a good insight into the committee’s decision and what steps they had taken to understand Minnesota law and to ensure everyone’s safety. Bethany Dickert, Americanism Chairman Girls State Committee also spoke on teens of today are not the teens of yester year. There were some issues this year that the committee hasn’t seen before, a lot of mental health struggles. Overall, the program was very successful with 298 girls.

Unit Concerns:

District 1:

Kellogg Unit 546 Paperwork is in, remaining members should be transferred to Easton. Motion to disband Kellogg Unit 546 and move members Unit At-Large 1982.

Motion by: Tonia Bettermann 2nd by: Jenny Nelson Motion passed.

District 2: Nothing to report.

District 3:\_ Nothing to report.

District 4:\_ Nothing to report.

District 5: Nothing to report.

District 6: Boy River sent letter to members and had a meeting back on 4/21/2023. Waiting for paperwork.

District 7:

Russel Unit 460 Paperwork is in, remaining members should be transferred to Easton. Motion to disband Russel Unit 460 and move members Unit At-Large 1982.

Motion by: Wanda Seidler 2nd by: Jenny Nelson Motion passed.

Reville Unit 180 Paperwork is in, remaining members should be transferred to Easton. Motion to disband Reville Unit 180 and move members Unit At-Large 1982.

Motion by: Wanda Seidler 2nd by: Jenny Nelson Motion passed.

Hanley Falls Unit 127 Paperwork is in, remaining members should be transferred to Easton. Motion to disband Hanley Falls Unit 127 and move members Unit At-Large 1982.

Motion by: Wanda Seidler 2nd by: Jenny Nelson Motion passed.

District 8: Nothing new to report on

District 9: Nothing new to report on

District 10: Nothing new to report on

Department Convention Appointments:

President Mary reviewed the Convention Appointments.

A motion was made to approve the convention appointments. Copy attached.

Motion by: Judy Ackerman

2nd by: Jenny Nelson

Any Discussion: No

Motion Passed

National Convention Appointments

At 91.62 %, 3rd District President Kim Carlander will be the President’s Page and at 89.38%, 6th District President Bev Grose will be the Secretary’s Page at National Convention. Assignments for Pre-Convention committee meetings will go out after the convention. These meetings will be held virtually August 9th-22nd.

The Rules, Resolutions, Credentials, and the Constitution & Bylaws Pre-Convention Committee meetings will be held in person Saturday, August 26, 2023, from 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the Charlotte Convention Center.

Each department designates one official representative to attend the Pre-Convention Committee meetings. Only official representatives who are convention delegates/alternates will be allowed to vote in the virtual Pre-Convention Committee meetings. I will make these assignments by July 26th. All members can attend as many pre-convention meetings as you wish. More information will be sent out as soon as the links are posted.

Memorial Service

Donna Barbknecht explained the Auxiliary’s participation in the Memorial Service will be.

Announcements

First Vice President Sharon invited everyone to her installation and to the reception afterwards.

Announcements – Christie Avant, Department Executive Secretary made several announcements.

Closing prayer by Sharon Cross, 1st Vice President.

Recognized the Colors

Adjourned

Submitted by,

Christie Avant

Department of Minnesota

Executive Secretary