



SIGNERS CHAPTER NEVADA SOCIETY
MEETING MINUTES – June 1, 2019

Call to Order: The monthly meeting of the Signers Chapter of the Nevada Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NVSSAR) was held on **June 1, 2019**, at Giuseppe's Italian Grille, 2630 W. Horizon Ridge Pkwy., Henderson NV 89052. The meeting was called to order by President Charles B. Smith V at 9:09 AM.

Attendance: Our June meeting was attended by 15 people - 8 members, 1 candidate, and 6 special guests.

Blessing: Compatriot Larry Kesler provided us with an inspirational invocation and asked for a blessing on the meal we were about to share.

Pledge: President Smith led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the SAR pledge.

Introduction of Guests: Secretary Robert Till introduced our special guests at this meeting. The guests were Jan Thompson, Denise Selleck, Luiz Marzullo, Paul Bell, Virginia Requa, and John Crist.

Awards:

No awards were given at today's meeting.

Induction of New Members. No new members were inducted today.

Minutes Approval:

1. The minutes of the May meeting, as prepared by Secretary Till, had been distributed to the membership via the Internet.
2. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Compatriot Don Hotchkiss and seconded by Compatriot Larry Kesler.
3. The members unanimously approved the motion.

Officer Reports:

President, Registrar: President Charles Smith announced that his registrar report would be attached to today's minutes. (See Attachment 1.)

He also reported on communication with Compatriot Gary Parriott and stated:

"Several people advised me that the State Facebook Page could not be located during searches. I contacted State Facebook Administrator Gary Parriott and he told me that he had "archived" the page because he no longer had the time to maintain the page. State President Don Hotchkiss is looking into starting a new page under a new name with a new Administrator."

President Smith also reported that Compatriot Len Becker is doing better (based on communication from Compatriot Bill Jones about Becker's recuperation).

Vice President: VP Gutting was not present at today's meeting.

Secretary: Secretary Till reported on communication from Compatriot Joe DeBeauchamp, our Birthday Chair, indicating that 7 chapter members have birthdays in June and will receive a birthday greeting from the Chapter.

Treasurer: Compatriot Al Conant gave the Treasurer's Report, indicating that the chapter currently has \$5,547.54 in the operating budget, \$3,544.30 in the scholarship fund, and \$13,371.90 in the scholarship savings account. Our chapter recently awarded 3 scholarships. (See Attachment 2.)

The motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Compatriot Larry Kesler and seconded by Compatriot Don Hotchkiss. The motion was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports: In the interest of time, President Smith summarized activity within our chapter committees unless the committee chairs had something new or unique to be reported.

Facebook Chair: Pres. Smith reported that Compatriot Antonio Reyes is handling the page and it is doing fine.

Veteran Committee Chair: Pres. Smith indicated that he would talk with Compatriot Len Becker about the work of the committee. Compatriot Becker has been recuperating and has not been able to attend chapter meetings.

Awards Chair and Civic Awards Chair: Pres. Smith noted that Compatriot Jim Farmer has been doing fantastic work as chair of this committee.

Flag Certificate Chair: Compatriot Kesler reported that he had award two flag certificates this past month.

Master Calendar Chair: Secretary Till referred to the many upcoming events listed on the agenda and asked that anyone with questions or additional information should contact him. Compatriot Kesler noted that June 14 is Flag Day. Compatriot Hotchkiss offered a correction to the meeting date for the LVCW Round Table; the meeting will be on June 25.

Hat Fund Chair: The hat was passed around and members were encouraged to donate to our scholarship fund.

JROTC Awards Chair: Compatriot Hotchkiss noted that presentations have been made at all of the various ROTC/JROTC award ceremonies this spring. Compatriot Tommy Thompson mentioned that he had presented at several schools and had taken pamphlet copies of the U. S. Constitution to the events. Staff members at the schools were grateful for these.

Old Business:

1. Secretary Till made reference to discussion at our last chapter meeting in which we talked about issues related to the format and frequency of chapter meetings. Again, he pointed out the need for a bylaw change since current bylaws bind us to a chapter meeting on the first Saturday of every month (adjusting in case of holiday). And, the bylaws charge the secretary with recording and maintaining minutes of all chapter meetings. He referred to the written resolution, attached to today's meeting agenda, which offers a wording change for Section VI. A. of our current bylaws.

Current wording states...

Meetings of the chapter shall be held on the first Saturday of each month at a time and place designated by the Chapter President. Should a holiday fall on the first Saturday of any month, the chapter meeting shall be held on the second Saturday of that month.

Secretary Till then made a motion, seconded by Compatriot Kesler, to change the wording to...

Meetings of the chapter should be held about six times during the calendar year, generally every other month, at a time and place designated by the Chapter President.

During discussion on the motion, Compatriot Hotchkiss requested that the word “should” be changed to “may” so as to be consistent with wording commonly used in dealing with such matters. There was no objection (unanimous consent) to this word substitution. Accordingly, the motion scheduled for vote at the July 6 meeting will be:

Meetings of the chapter may be held about six times during the calendar year, generally every other month, at a time and place designated by the Chapter President.

Discussion also touched on the notion that some minimum number of meetings per year could be proscribed, e.g., a minimum of six per year. It was mentioned that the northern chapter has done well and increased its membership, in part, because of its use of informal meetings (e.g., Boys Night Out or BNO gatherings). The SAR state-level bylaws do require chapters to have a minimum of one meeting per year (typically, a January meeting that deals with elections, reports, etc.).

In discussions of the executive committee of our chapter, there has been strong support for the proposed change and a tentative meeting schedule has been sketched that would take us through January. For example, we might vote on the change at the July meeting then, if approved, we would have an informal gathering in August (BNO). In September, we would have a formal meeting, followed by a BNO in October. A formal meeting would occur in November, followed by a Christmas Party gathering in December, and then a formal meeting in January 2020.

Discussion was closed at this point and the vote on the motion is scheduled for the July meeting.

2. Compatriot Hotchkiss reported on a possible new location for our formal chapter meetings. He visited the O’ Aces Bar & Grill on Decatur and finds that it is a nice set up with a bigger, private room, better suited for speakers. The age 21 limitation would not be a problem if we plan for inductions of any under-21 candidates to occur when we meet at another location as we typically have for Constitution Day or George Washington’s Birthday dinners.

New Business:

A question arose regarding the location for meetings of the executive committee. While there has been some discussion about alternate locations, and even alternate days or times, Pres. Smith noted that the matter has not been settled. The matter will be taken up at an executive committee meeting.

A question arose regarding the date for our next Constitution Day Dinner. The date has not been finalized yet.

Announcements for Good of the Order:

Compatriot Hotchkiss noted that the bus for the summer tour to the Nuclear Site is full and there is a stand-by list. He is also continuing to seek volunteer time from members willing to staff the fireworks booth (July 1-4) – an important fundraiser for our chapter. Let him know if you can help.

Program Speaker: Compatriot Hotchkiss introduced Luiz Marzullo, today's speaker, and provided background information on Luiz' education, work, and move to the U.S. from Brazil. Luiz then gave an interesting and informative talk on Confederates in Brazil describing the motivations, the circumstances, and the consequences of many Southerners in the U.S. moving to Brazil during the U.S. Civil War.

Adjournment: The SAR closing was recited and the meeting was adjourned at 10:29 AM by Pres. Smith.

The next meeting of the Signers Chapter will be at 9:00 am on July 6, 2019, at Giuseppe's Italian Grille.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Till

Secretary, Signers Chapter

Attachment 1

Attachment 2