



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA - PO Box 5227 – Lincoln, NE 68505

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Department Executive Committee Meeting Minutes Friday, January 13, 2012- Mid-Year Conference

The regular meeting of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Nebraska, was held Friday, January 13, 2012, Room A of the Divots Conference Center, Norfolk, Nebraska.

Department President Donna Hatfield called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Invocation was offered by Department Chaplain, Rita Wagner. In memory of our dead, President Hatfield called for a moment of silence. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by National Executive Committeewoman, Charleen Walters.

President Donna Hatfield announced that we would be having a formal opening at the afternoon session.

President Hatfield welcomed everyone to the 79th Annual Mid Year DEC meeting. She thanked all the District Presidents and other attendees that got together from 8 to 9 a.m. for an informal meeting. The meeting was well attended and much information was shared.

President Hatfield recognized our Nebraska members who hold National position. Those in attendance were Past National President and member of the National Advisory Committee, Carol Van Kirk; National Executive Committeewoman, Charleen Walters and National Girls State Committee member, Lynne Wild. *Absent from this session were National Legislative Committee member, Virginia Nelsen and Honorary Junior National Historian, Amanda Washburn.*

President Hatfield announced that Nebraska has five Past Department Presidents that hold Northwestern Division appointments. Those members in attendance were Northwestern Division Children & Youth Chairman, Charleen Walters; Northwestern Division Legislative Chairman, Carol Ulrich and Northwestern Division Veterans Affairs Chairman, Mary Ann Otte. Those ladies were asked to stand and be recognized. *Absent: Northwestern Division National Security Chairman, Roxanne Hiatt and Northwestern Division Poppy Chairman, Gayla Schmid.*

President Hatfield congratulated both groups of ladies for their continued hard work for this organization.

The Past Department Presidents present were asked to stand and be recognized. They would be introduced formally at the afternoon session. President Hatfield continued to announce those arriving throughout the day. A silent roll call was taken by Jacki O'Neill, Department Secretary-Treasurer.

Next the members of the Department Executive Committee were recognized. Courtesy waves were given by Department Officers; Cheryl Vap, Department Vice President; Setha Zimbelman, Historian; Rita Wagner, Chaplain and Jacki O'Neill, Secretary-Treasurer. Followed by District Presidents; District one, Connie Frandson; District two Vice President; Cie Kauth; District three, Sharon Heineman; District six, Mary Ann Boldt; District seven,

Elizabeth Paes; District eight, Sally Johnson; District nine, Karen Brown; District ten Sonja Budd; District eleven Vice President, Ann Wagner; District twelve, Jenice Bates and District thirteen, Bobbie Albers. *Absent: District four, Bonita Dickinson; District five, Twilla Dike and. District two, Pam Biernbaum arrived later.*

The Department Chairmen were asked to stand and be recognized. Thirteen Chairmen were in attendance for this meeting. Those present at this Conference will report on Saturday afternoon.

President Hatfield called for the reading of the minutes of the previous Department Executive meetings held on June 23, and June 26, 2011.

Department Vice President Vap moved to dispense with the reading of the 2011 Department Executive Committee meeting minutes. Motion seconded and carried.

Department Vice President Vap moved to accept the minutes as printed. Motion seconded and carried. The minutes will be placed on file.

Advisory Committee Chairman, Marva Kasl was called upon to read the minutes of the Monday, January 9, 2012, telephonic meeting of that Committee. Chairman Kasl recognized Past Department Presidents Carol Ulrich and Charleen Walters as her committee members. There were no recommendations for consideration from the Advisory Committee.

Following the Advisory report the Finance and Publication Chairman, Julie Totten read the minutes of the January 12, 2012, meetings of those committees. Chairman Totten also recognized her committee members; Lynne Wild and Luayne Weisgerber. There were no recommendations for consideration from the Finance/Publication Committee.

Copies of those Advisory and Finance/Publication minutes were on hand and will also be mailed to the Units.

President Hatfield asked for any new business to be brought before this Committee.

Jenice Bates, District 12 President moved to accept the cancellation of the charter of the Firth Unit 295, of Department of Nebraska. Motion seconded and carried.

Sonja Budd, District 10 President moved to accept the cancellation of the charter for the Republican City Unit 361, of the Department of Nebraska. Motion seconded and carried.

A discussion was held on how to handle a unit in stress or struggling. Contact all Department Officers, Department Membership Chairman, Department Unit Development and Revitalization Chairman and the District officers from the struggling Unit. It was pointed out that the American Legion Auxiliary Unit Handbook, revised January 2009, page 31 describes that a Unit voting to relinquish a charter for cancellation shall vote at a regular meeting, with advance notice to the membership.

President Hatfield called Carol Van Kirk, Nebraska's Past National President, to the podium for the unveiling of a picture of the beautiful bronze Eagle statue Carol had donated to the National American Legion Auxiliary. The actual Statue sits on a pedestal under a picture that was donated from Ruby Paul, another Past National President from Nebraska.

The Department Officers were called on to give brief reports.

Department Secretary-Treasurer, Jacki O'Neill asked members to send questions and or suggestions to her.

Department Chaplain, Rita Wagner requested prayers for the Department President's Prayer Book by June 1st. She reminded all to read the Chaplain's Corner in the Auxiliary STAR publication.

Department Historian, Setha Zimbelman asked for reports and autobiographies for the History Book.

Vice President Cheryl Vap assumed the chair so President Donna Hatfield could report on "Rolling Forward" the past 6 months.

The Candidates for the 2012-2013 Department Offices were asked to come forward at this time to announce their candidacy.

Donna Hatfield of Lexington announced she would be running for the office of National Executive Committeewoman.

Cheryl Vap of Red Cloud announced she would be running for the office of Department President.

Setha Zimbelman of Saint Paul announced she would be running for the office of Department Vice President.

Rita Wagner of Elgin announced she would be running for the office of Department Historian.

The office of Department Chaplain was not announced at this meeting.

There was time left for a few Northwestern Division Chairman reports. Charleen Walters spoke on behalf of the National Children and Youth Program followed by Carol Ulrich's Legislative report. The Northwestern Division Veterans Affairs Chairman, Mary Ann Otte spoke about the Creative Arts Festival that she was able to attend. She brought back a glass Bluebird for the Department of Nebraska as a thank you gift for the Units donations. President Hatfield presented Otte with a plaque that was awarded to her for her donation to Auxiliary Emergency Fund.

The Department President recessed the Department Executive meeting at noon.

President Hatfield reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Department Finance Committee Chairman, Julie Totten introduced a resolution in regards to Article VII - Department Executive Committee – Section 3 regarding District Presidents re: Alternate representation at Department DEC meeting.

I move that the District Presidents be authorized to appoint a representative with voting privileges for the DEC meeting if neither the District President nor District Vice President can attend. Notification of the designated representative will be submitted in advance of the meeting to the Department Secretary-Treasurer. The designee must be a member within the District, first preference will be given to District DEC (Executive Committee) members. Motion seconded and carried.

President Hatfield adjourned the Department Executive meeting at 1:05 p.m.

Department President, Donna Hatfield

Department Secretary, Jacki L. O'Neill