

CONVENED OCTOBER 11, 2006 AT 10:22 AM IN  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

### SUMMARY NOTES

**ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT:** www.kwva.org;  
*The Graybeards* July-August

**PLACE OF ANNOUNCED MEETING** The El Tropicano  
Hotel, 110 Lexington Ave., San Antonio, TX

- President Dechert called the meeting to order.
- John Sonley, Sergeant-at-Arms, led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Chaplain Stegman gave a rousing and memorable Invocation.
- President Dechert welcomed those members in attendance.
- An announcement was made regarding the changes to the agenda
  - the Board of Directors are in recess so some items have not been completed and the results will not be available for this meeting
  - the main items for any membership approval are available and will be reported
- President Dechert asked for a quorum count from the Sergeant-at Arms and received a count of 94, which exceeded the required 75 quorum count necessary to hold the business meeting.
- President Dechert asked Secretary William Hutton to call the roll of Officers and Directors. All Officers and Directors were present.
- President Dechert introduced the following Department Commanders/Presidents and other attendees:
  - Marvin Dunn, Department of Texas
  - Clyde Hooks, Department of South Carolina
  - Thomas McHugh, Department of New Jersey
  - Ms. Vickie Garza, Court Reporter
  - John Sonley, Sergeant-at-Arms
  - Tine Martin, Jack Cooper, Tom McHugh, and Grady Thomas, Assistant Sergeants-at-Arms
  - J. D. Randolph, VAVS Officer
  - Len Stegman Chaplain,
  - Leo Agnew, Acting Judge Advocate and Parliamentarian, assisted by Attorney Jimmy Faircloth of Louisiana
  - Steve Szelkely, Chairman of the Ethics and Grievance Committee
  - Jim Doplehammer, Web Master
  - Jake Feaster, Records Manager.
- President Dechert requested Director Wiedhahn to introduce the Guest Speaker, Colonel Bob Patrick (Ret), who Director Wiedhahn had signed up as our newest member.
- Col Patrick's presentation was on the National Project to memorialize and to show gratitude to our National's War Veterans. He:
  - noted that at this time over 45,000 individual oral history interviews, written memoirs, collections of photographs and

letters documenting material of veterans from WWI through the conflicts of today are housed in the Library of Congress.

- that there were only 5,500 war time stories from Korea and there should be many more
- challenged every member of KWVA to tell their story to their family and he invited each of us to participate in the Veterans History Project.
- President Dechert stated more information will be included in the next *The Graybeards*.
- President Dechert introduced our next guest speaker and Florida Chapter 110 Commander, Ainslee Ferdie, a former Commander of the Jewish War Veterans, which was the first Veterans Service Organization to support the Korean War Memorial Project after the KWVA undertook it support.
- Commander Ferdie gave a short history on the Jewish War Veterans organization, which was formed in 1896 and is the oldest active Veterans organization in the country. He:
  - explained that this organization supported the issuance of a Federal Charter for the KWVA
  - brought greetings on behalf of National Commander Norman Rosenshein of the Jewish War Veterans.
  - mentioned the National Museum of American Jewish Military History under the banner of Jewish War Veterans USA National Memorial, Inc, which is federally chartered
  - commented that it took almost 100 years to get that federal charter, but that has given this group many secrets and the ins and outs on how to obtain a charter, and they are willing to share this information with our people as we continue to seek a federal charter for the KWVA.
- President Dechert reminded the membership of the House Rules during the rest of the meeting, which were included in the packets passed out to each member as they arrived. (These rules have been in effect for several years. They are the rules the Sergeant-of-Arms and the Judge Advocate will apply in addition to the Bylaws and Roberts Rules of Order for the conduct of this business meeting.)
- Secretary Hutton presented the Minutes of the previous meeting conducted on October 5, 2005, which were provided for the membership in the November/December edition of *The Graybeards*.
- Secretary Hutton asked for any errors or omissions to those minutes.
- President Dechert stated that since there were no corrections, the minutes stand approved as presented.
- Treasurer Richard Hare presented the Treasurer's Report for the first nine months of 2006, from January 1 through September 30, 2006.
  - The Total Income was \$294,595.34
  - Total Expenditures during this time period was \$264,290.69 for a total Net Income of \$54,269.12. This included a gross income of \$116,247 for the Fund Raiser tickets and a total expense for printing, and handling of \$32,182.14 for a Net Income of \$84,064.87. This does not include any Convention

**ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Expenses or Directors Travel.

- All other income and expenses were broken down and explained as well, as each member present received a detailed Financial Report.

- Member Ainslee Ferdie asked a question: don't we have any fixed assets such as office equipment, etc?

- The answer was there is less than \$100 worth which is written off with depreciation.

- The KWVA has not purchased equipment and none was passed on from the prior administration.

- Member Mike Glazzy asked what our overhead expense is.

- CPA Boyle Henderson answered that his hurried and unquotable calculations based on the 2005 income and expenditures showed the two greatest costs were The Graybeards and the Membership Committee.

- Based on the Income of \$248,000 and publishing costs for The Graybeards, at \$158,000, and the Membership Office of \$34,000, that will leave approximately \$2.10 out of the \$20 membership dues coming in from annual dues payers to take care of all the other expenses.

- Member Mike Glazzy stated that is important information when you look at raising dues.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NOMINATION/ELECTION COMMITTEE**

- Chairman Bob Banker, gave a report on the procedure followed from placing the call in The Graybeards to checking all applicants' submittals by his committee members to see that the Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual were followed.

- Resumes of each candidate were placed in the March/April *The Graybeards*

- A CPA was placed under contract to accept the ballots and count them as specified in the Standard Procedure Manual

- Three problems occurred that should not have

- 1) The address for returning the Ballot had Tucson, IL rather than Tucson, AZ. However, the Postal Department assured Mr. Banker that the ZIP Code was right and all ballots should reach their destination with no undue delay.

- 2) Some ballots, eight (8) of approximately 17,000 in the US and seven (7) international of approximately 62, were lost during mailing since they were only attached with one staple. This information was corrected by issuing new ballots to those who did not receive one and notifying the CPA to check for duplicates. The Chairman recommended that the Nomination/Election Committee review all ballots before printing.

- 3) Information was released that said the Nomination/Election Committee released certain information recommending certain candidates and not recommending others. This was not true.

- Chairman Banker recommended that any information given out by a candidate or their supporter should be true and accurate. If the statements are not correct or accurate, the candidate should be required to correct the information.

- There were no questions on this report.

**CONVENTION REPORT**

- First Vice President Byron Dickerson, reported that the next Annual Membership Meeting in 2007 would be held in Reno, Nevada.

- Prices are reasonable in Reno, and other areas were hard to reach by flight or the cost for the hotel was not reasonable. So far, they have had Rapid City, SD; Nashville & Knoxville, TN; Kingsville, OH; Hilton Netherland in Cincinnati, OH and Mary, FL.

- The committee will continue to look at costs and time for the 2007, 2008 and 2009 Conventions.

- President Dechert asked for a motion to approve the Reno, Nevada site for the 2007 Annual Membership Meeting.

- Dean McClain made the motion to have Reno, Nevada site as the 2007 Annual Membership Meeting at a date to be determined by the Convention Committee.

- Ainslee Ferdie seconded and the motion carried.

**BYLAWS AND STANDARD PROCEDURE MANUAL**

- Bylaws Chairman William Mac Swain reported that some Bylaw changes to the Bylaws approved October 5, 2005 had been presented to the Board of Directors and the Board had approved those changes.

- The changes will appear in a later *The Graybeards*, because Bylaws changes may still be made up to forty-five (45) days before the next Board of Directors meeting.

- He cautioned that the next Board of Directors meeting date and place has not been determined, so if you have changes it will be best for them to be submitted as soon as possible.

- The Standard Procedure Manual is now part of the Bylaws Committee responsibility. He and Member Jake Feaster have revised the Standard Procedure Manual passed by the Executive Council in July of 2004, since changes to the Bylaws in 2005 required changes in portions of that manual.

- The revised Standard Procedure Manual was presented to the Board of Directors at its meeting yesterday (October 10, 2006), where it was approved and placed in effect immediately with the following time constraint.

- The Board of Directors decided to use the manual for six (6) months and make necessary changes on any of the areas that did not make for efficient operation. Once these areas are worked out, the Standard Procedure Manual will be placed on the KWVA Website where free downloading can be made by Departments, Chapters and individual members.

- Those without computer access will be supplied with a coupon in *The Graybeards* to order a manual at a small cost for printing and postage. The coupon will give the price and where to order.

- The manual is over 52 pages. Thus, we cannot place it in *The Graybeards*.

- Member Dean McClain made a motion to accept the committee report on the Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual.

- Member Sam Bass seconded and the motion carried.

**FUND RAISER REPORT**

■ Fund Raiser Committee Member William Mac Swain reported that the Treasurer's report had covered the income and expenses from the Fund Raiser. However, there were other consequences from having this fund raiser.

- Ten individuals called saying they wanted to join the Association as full members before they received any tickets. Applications were sent and they all joined.

- There were five hundred and fifty-five (555) individuals who were eligible for Associate Membership. Each was sent a letter with two application forms: one for free Associate Membership and one to join or to renew their membership after having dropped out of KWVA from 1995 through 2003. The Application Form had to be filled out since the Bylaws state all who become members must fill out an Official Application Form. Of the 555 sent out only 112 returned an Application Form.

- Seventy-four KWVA Life Members who were deceased. were found on the KWVA database This also saved mailing out of *The Graybeards*.

■ Member Mac Swain noted that this is the Fund Raiser report and moved for approval.

■ Dean McClain seconded.

■ Mike Glazzy asked this question. Do we have a policy of more than one Fund Raiser or Annual Fund Raiser to help finance the organization?

■ President Dechert answered yes, and the Board has approved one for next year, which may turn into an annual one.

■ President Dechert called for all in favor of accepting the Fund Raiser Report.

■ The motion carried.

**LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR**

■ Director Robert Banker reported on the Federal Charter Bill placed in the House of Representatives in 2005 by Member Charley Price that was strengthened in that it was for a 501(c)19 Veterans Organization Charter, not as a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization as before.

■ Director Banker explained:

- The difficulty encountered was still within the Judiciary Committee.

- The committee has had a moratorium placed on issuing Federal Charters; However, it has done it several times.

■ Director Banker will again put in the request by Representative Steny Hoyer and will have someone selected from the Senate to help also. He:

- will be requesting help again from all Chapters and Departments or anyone who knows a Senator or House of Representative member.

- is planning on success and will use KWVA Chapters in the Washington D. C. area to walk the halls of Congress.

- stated that many Congressmen or their aides do not know why we need a Charter and that will be a major task undertaken.

- Bill Mac Swain made a motion to accept the Legislative Report

- Ed Wuermsler seconded

- The motion carried.

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The Annual Membership Meeting recessed for lunch  
at 12:04 PM and reconvened at 1:32 PM.  
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- President Dechert asked for a quorum count and received a count of 83 present, with more expected to come in later.

- President Dechert reported that we had the 40th Reconnaissance Group with us of approximately 38 people. Twelve are now members of KWVA.

**NEW BUSINESS****WASHINGTON LIAISON OFFICE**

- Secretary Hutton reported that the Board of Directors had approved an eventual move of our National Office to the office building of Military Historic Tours in Alexandria, Virginia.

- A contract at \$1/year for 800 square feet will give us an Official Office in the Washington D. C. area. This is subject to final contract approval with security of our membership included by the Board of Directors.

- The move will hopefully be done before the end of this year.

- During questions and answers Ed Wuermsler asked if this would meet the criteria for when we get a Federal Charter

- Mike Glazzy asked if the name would be Korean War Veterans Association.

- President Dechert answered it would. In fact, he disclosed that it has already been listed as Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. in the Veterans Administration Directory. This is how Vice-President Cheney became a speaker at the 27th of July 2006 at the Memorial.

- This report was for information only and requires no approval from the membership body.

- The Board will have final contract approval and the cost of the operation should be no more than what is already allotted for Membership Expenses in the present Budget.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS****Tell America Committee**

- Chairman Christ Yanacos introduced Larry Kinard, who discussed the very successful "Tell America Program."

- Larry Kinard noted that:

- there is a need for more "Official" publications about the Korean War and brochures to be passed out to students. The Board had already approved some funds for this committee, but he hoped more funds would be available in 2007

- he is looking for information on who did the printing of the 50th Commemorative Committee and more copies of their pictorial and poster materials

- he is also looking to increase the number of chapters that use this program to inform schools and the public.

**ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

- a brochure titled, The Korean War and its Historical Impact has already been approved for printing by the Board and approval of the use of this Nassau County Chapter Number. One designed by Erwin Braun has given permission for its use. It will be made reproduced and made available for those Chapters that wish to use this pamphlet by including their Chapter Name and Information on the back page.
- this report has not been presented to the Board thus it is not subject to approval by the membership at this time.

**FINANCIAL/BUDGET COMMITTEE**

- Chairman Marvin Dunn presented the 2007 Budget, which was approved by the Board of Directors earlier, for presentation to the membership for their approval.
- Total Budget is for \$370,000, and is based on receiving \$112,000 from a Fund Raiser and dues increase.
- The Fund Raiser will be for an automobile from KIA and a second prize of a HD/TV from Samsung. We will be trying to arrange this as an Annual Fund Raiser.
- During the preparation of the budget it was decided to cut the per diem for the Officers and Directors when they attend meetings. Payment for hotel and travel is all that will be accepted on their expense reports.
- The cost of receiving a Charter is not included in the 2007 Budget. The Board will decide how the cost of training of Service Officers and for Reports necessary, to maintain our Charter requirements the first year, will be and use the money we now have in investments if necessary.
- A dues increase has been approved by the Board from \$20 to \$25 for annual dues and Life Membership dues has been increased in increments as follows: \$600 age 35 and younger, \$450 age 36 to 50, \$300 age 51 to 65 and \$150 66 and over. You may pay Life Membership in six (6) payments in a year. This increase is necessary since the cost of everything has risen and it has been over seven years since we have had a dues increase.

■ Director Dunn answered questions from the membership with help from Treasurer Hare.

■ Lee Dauster made a motion that the dues increase and sliding Life Membership Scale approved by the Board of Directors be approved by the membership.

■ Clyde Hooks seconded and the discussion continued.

■ Warren Weidhahn called for the question.

■ The motion carried.

■ Christ Yanacos moved that the Budget be accepted.

■ Clyde Hooks seconded

■ The motion carried.

**RESOLUTION/INSURANCE**

■ Resolution Chairman Lee Dauster reported that he had received three (3) Resolutions. All three were submitted after the 45-day period before the Board of Directors meeting per the 2005 approved Bylaws.

• He reported that they will be held and presented at the next called Board of Directors meeting.

• He then reported on the Insurance coverage asked about during the Budget discussion. There are three policies in force continuously.

1) a Crime Policy that protects us from fraud, misuse of our funds.

2) the Officer's and Directors Legal Liability Policy that protects these individuals from lawsuits or claims of slander, libel as a results of KWVA activities.

3) Publishers Liability for *The Graybeards* Editor and Publisher for libel, slander, etc.

• The cost for all three is approximately divided equal or around \$5,333 each.

• We do not have a General Liability Policy because it is way too expensive in relation to the liability we are exposed to with volunteer people. They usually have their own liability at their own cost.

**KOREA REVIST COMMITTEE**

■ Chairman Warren Wiedhahn reported that 350 people are going to Korea this year after President Dechert got an increase of the quota for this year and also next year.

• He encourages any veteran to go since it was a good opportunity and supported by the Korean Government and the Korean people welcome you with open arms.

■ One question arose about who was eligible to go.

• Only those veterans who served in the area of Korea were eligible.

• This was a decision of the Korean government and not the KWVA.

**KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM & LIBRARY LIAISON**

■ Liaison Bill Mac Swain introduced four members of the KWVNM&L to the membership. Ed Valley, Bob Fitz, Bob Benson and Bob Mitchell, who are also members of KWVA Chapters located in Illinois, Minnesota and Texas.

■ He then asked Bob Mitchell, who is a Director of the Museum, to give an update on the condition of the Museum.

■ Bob reported the status of the museum move to Springfield, IL and why the move was necessary. He related that:

• They have brought drawings of the proposed museum and have a table located in the Hospitality Room to pass out brochures and answer questions.

• Bob said plans are to start the construction of the first phase of the new museum in January of 2007.

• They have a group now performing fund raising by letters, which is bringing in money each month, and have contracted with the Compass Group that does capital fund raising and have targeted people who can donate in the millions of dollars.

• They also have contacted the Korean Government and asked for a 5 million dollar donation.

• The museum was an 8 million dollar budget, but has now increased it to 15 million to insure that it is unique and has a drawing power for expected tourists in the Springfield area.

## MEETING MINUTES (Continued)

• He and his group will be happy to answer any further questions during the remainder of the convention.

### MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITING COMMITTEE

■ Chairman Jeff Brodeur introduced his committee members and stated they were a diverse group from throughout the country.

• The committee sponsored two events in Korea for the military stationed in Yongsan Garrison and Camp Red Cloud. They also placed posters and advertisement about the KWVA.

• The KWVA received an award and a "Thank You" letter from these soldiers.

• All of the membership expenses have been from the sale of their decal sales program. No funds from the KWVA have been spent to accomplish any of their recruitment programs.

• Membership has increased by 325 members.

• They are also placing apparel for the membership on the website, with 25% of everything bought coming back to the KWVA. There are over 1,000 items.

■ Chairman Brodeur emphasized that to the membership that if each member could recruit just one person the KWVA would double in size.

■ President Dechert called the following individuals to the podium and presented awards to them, as well as some members not present at the meeting. They included:

• Larry Kinard and James Yancey for the Tell America Program

• Bill Mac Swain, Charley Price, Richard Hare, Boyle Henderson and Jim Ferris for the Weapons Fund Raiser

• Jeff Brodeur for Recruiting.

■ President Dechert apologized for the small truncation of the program because of other matters that still had to be accomplished by the Board of Directors.

■ Bill Mac Swain made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

■ George Bruzgis seconded.

■ President Dechert asked Chaplain Stegman to give the Benediction and Sergeant-at-Arms Sonley to conduct the honors and farewell to the colors.

■ President Dechert then declared the meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

## Membership Report

According to the latest KWVA Membership Secretary stats, we have:

- 40 new members for the month of November
- 1,357 new members for 2006, up from 1,096 at this time in 2005—an increase of 261 new members.
- 17,013 total members for 2006, up from 16,915 at this time in 2005—an increase of 98 total members.

Jeff Brodeur  
KWVA Membership Chairman

## CALL FOR ELECTION (2007-2010 Term)

As required by the KWVA By-Laws, this notice is presented as a Call for Election for Four (4) Directors for the years 2007-2010. These will replace the Directors whose terms will expire at midnight on June 24, 2007.

No later than February 15, 2007, any regular members in good standing of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., seeking to run for Director shall make their intentions known to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, in writing, using the following format:

1: Requirements:

a. Must present proof of service by submitting a separate signed Official KWVA Membership Application Form (found on the KWVA Website, or in *The Graybeards*) showing eligible service years and a statement releasing the Application Form for verification by the Nominating Committee.

b. Must present a current photograph suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*.

c. Must submit a letter with the following:

1) Their intent to run for an office and the office sought.

2) A resume of their qualifications for this office stating any experience that will be of benefit to the Association.

3) Their current mailing address, telephone number and KWVA membership number.

4) This letter will be limited to approximately one typed page.

5) A statement that they will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that they understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for their removal from office.

d. They must sign a statement that their dues are current through the whole of the term of office they are seeking (2007-2010). Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for the purpose of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.

e. Send the above items by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the Nominating/Election Chairman to arrive not later than February 15, 2007.

Nominees are requested to contact the Nominating Committee Chairman if they have any questions.

Application and Questions are to be addressed to:

Nominating Committee  
Robert S Banker, Chairman  
516 Millwood Dr.  
Fallston, MD, 21047  
Phone (410) 877-1935  
Email RobertBanker@Comcast.net

It is highly recommended—although not mandatory—that the candidates have an email address. This address should be included so that any problem with a submission may be rapidly noted to the candidate. A phone call may also be made by any Nominating Committee member to inform the candidate of any problem with the submission.