

Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution

Minutes of the Board of Managers Meeting, 11 January 2001

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

11 January 2001

President Cheyney called the meeting to order promptly at 4:00 p.m. in the Grant Room of the Union League in Philadelphia. Chaplain Proctor led the Board in prayer.

PRESENT: Messrs. Burke, Cheyney, Clattenburg, Di Stefano, Gordon, Gresh, Johnson, Lewis, Lincoln, Loughran, Moore, Morris, Peltier, Proctor, Shirk, Van Gulick, and Walkup.

READING OF THE MINUTES: President Cheyney reported that the minutes had prior to this meeting been mailed to each member and that each member had an opportunity to read the minutes. Therefore, he asked if there were any questions, additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2000. Mr. Shirk asked that the December Minutes be amended to reflect the correct date, September 27th, of the flag and flagpole dedication in Lancaster and that the possible location of the Saratoga-Yorktown event in Harrisburg be referred to as a more "central" location. It might suggest more interest in Society members' participation from other parts of the state. Vice President Johnson requested that the installation of the General Society President be referred to as an "inaugural" meeting. Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes were unanimously approved, as amended.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Secretary Clattenburg reported that regrets had been received from the following: Messrs. Byrne, Coyne, Fenstermacher, Fitzgerald, Frick, Groff, Maiden, Moak, Morgan and Wood.

The membership of the Society, as of 31 December 2000, stands at 1,048 active members. The current roster includes 16 Life members and two (2) regular members for whom the Society has no current address as well as 27 Junior Life members for a total membership of 1,093. No resignations have been reported. John C. May (PA Soc ID# 4311), a Lancaster County member who resigned (1974) for purposes of attending medical school, requested reinstatement in the Society. John Moore submitted a letter of support/recommendation that Mr. May be reinstated. Upon motion made and seconded the Board unanimously voted to reinstate Mr. May. Notice of reinstatement will be sent by the Secretary.

Secretary Clattenburg announced that a large part of the Proceedings were now published on the Web and asked members to please review the site for editing purposes for later paper publication. President Cheyney stated that the Proceedings on the Website consist of approximately 120 pages. Chairman Gordon of the Technology Committee pointed out that the 1998/99 portions of the Proceedings (approx. 200 pages) were not yet on the website because the cost had not been provided for in his budget. Treasurer Van Gulick stated that the \$7,000 allotted for the Proceedings in 1999 and the \$7,000 allotted for 2000 had not been used, and that a portion of the needed amount could be used to fund the publication of the remainder of the Proceedings for 1999/2000 on the society's website. A

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motion was made that the Proceedings budget including \$14,000 and this year's budget line, may be allocated, if necessary, to pay for publication of the combined Proceedings on the website and publication in book form. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Van Gulick reported that the Society's finances remain in good order. He reviewed the current Profit and Loss to Budget Comparison Report for the period January through December 31, 2000 noting two transfers between Permanent Funds and the General Fund that have not yet been reflected but will be reflected in the final revised version. Committee Chairs were encouraged to review the final budget amounts reflected under their categories and report to him and the Executive Secretary at their earliest convenience. The Summary Mellon Account reflected a market value as of 12/31/2000 of \$3,035,811.69 and that market value decrease of \$55,893.85 has occurred since the beginning of the month and to-date. The Treasurer noted that it had not been a good year in the market for the equity assets and that there was an overall decline of equity values of \$453,000.00 for the year; the Treasurer invited questions. The report was accepted. The report was accepted by the Board

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: In the absence of Registrar Morgan, President Cheyney reported in his stead. At the request of Registrar Morgan, Jefferson Moak reviewed the status of historical membership applications, which need to be microfiched. Mr. Moak reports that numbers 1 through 5842, up to the year 1994, are fully microfiched. There remains 150 Pennsylvania applications that must be transferred to microfiche. Mr. Lewis stated that he had been communicating with the Registrar about newer methods available for documentation/storage of the Society's records.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT: In the absence of Historian Groff, President Cheyney reported that no report was presented by Historian Groff.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Cheyney reported that he had a profitable meeting with Kyle Lewis, the new Executive Director, of Sunoco Welcome America. They will cooperate again with the Society as co-partners for the 4 July 2001 Ceremony. Ira Rosen has been retained for his services of programming and arranging the events of that day. There were discussions of the publicity and the event planning concerning: 1) changes in the prominence of the identification of the Society's co-partnership participation, 2) a redesign of the Society's logo, 3) naming a representative of the Society to be a Board member of Sunoco Welcome America, 4) facilitate access to a wider scope of regional and national publicity, and 5) maintenance of the financial commitment from the Society. President Cheyney announced that the Mayor will participate at the event and the present Director is familiar with our planning because of her previous event experience and she has agreed to be our guest and to attend the Society's luncheon. In addition, the Director is open to reaching a wider Philadelphia audience and to target specific cities for their celebration to be parallel to the Philadelphia event. The possibility of the Society trying to expand participation in Let Freedom Ring to other cities was well received.

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President Cheyney announced that the Society will be participating in a lecture series (April) at Widener University on a topic related to the Revolution, and he will be one of several guest lecturers participating and representing the Society.

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE: Mr. Di Stefano, Chairman, reported that the Admissions Committee has not met since 11 December 2000 but he hoped that the next meeting could be attended by the past and present Executive Secretaries (Ms. Sadak and Taylor). The Chairman received faxed correspondence concerning an interested applicant (Joseph Stokes, Jr.) who had no sponsor and stated that he would look into the matter. It was asked if members could receive a copy of their files; Chairman Di Stefano responded that they could and requests should go to the Executive Secretary.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: In the absence of Chairman Frick there was no report.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Vice President Johnson, Chairman, reported that the Society's portfolio lost value due to the general reaction of the broader markets but in comparison with others were out performing the averages. As of 11 January 2001 in the p.m., the portfolio was at \$3,119,000.00. Discussion followed concerning interest rates, energy costs, tax cut possibility, etc. and their possible effects on the economy. The Board expressed its confidence and appreciation to the Committee.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE: Counselor Di Stefano, Chairman, had no report.

AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMITTEE: Chairman Walkup stated that he had no report.

INDEPENDENCE DAY COMMITTEE: In the absence of Chairman Fenstermacher, President Cheyney reported on the committee meeting to be scheduled to discuss planning for both the luncheon and Let Freedom Ring programming early February, and a report will follow.

NEW CITIZENS' RECEPTION: In the absence of Chairman Hoyt there was no report.

SARATOGA-YORKTOWN ANNIVERSARIES COMMITTEE: Chairman Morgan was not in attendance and President Cheyney announced 3 November 2001 as the date of the Muskett Ball to be held at Duffy's in Berwyn.

President Cheyney stated that The Rotunda at the State Capital in Harrisburg is one possibility for next year's event and thanks to Win Carroll who is pursuing the site with no rental cost involved. Caterers, hotel facilities and arranged transportation are also being explored. Amtrak could provide special conference cars, club cars (porter to serve beverages) attached to a train leaving at 5:30 p.m. at 30th Street Station with stops in Paoli and Parkesburg. In addition, Amtrak would provide an engine for the three cars for the return trip. The fee stated by Amtrak (including porter, alcohol-\$1/person) is \$12,000.00. Holding the event in Harrisburg will expand opportunities for members in the western part of the state to participate. This option will be looked into for the planning of the event for 2002.

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SPECIAL PROJECTS: In the absence of Historian Groff, President Cheyney reported that the Sons are planning to make a contribution to support the CARS project. The amount is subject to a proposal for Board review to be submitted by Historian Groff. President Cheyney added that more information is being pursued about the projector system at Valley Forge (approximate cost of \$2,300), and that repairs to the General Anthony Wayne statue at the Art Museum are scheduled to be started before the summer.

VALLEY FORGE COMMEMORATION: Chairman Wood stated he had no report at this time. President Cheyney added that a committee meeting was scheduled and that information would follow at the next Board meeting. The service will be held at St. George's Church in Ardmore, followed by the reception at the Merion Golf Club.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY PARTY COMMITTEE: Chairman Morris reported that a committee meeting was held and confirmed the following: "Martha Washington" (Bonnie L. Bachman) will be the guest speaker (confirmation and honorarium check will be sent out), Jack Keller as well as a Chamber Music group will perform, the First City Troop will be participating as Honor Guard in uniform, and The Union League has agreed to provide more space at no additional cost. A floor plan was distributed as well as a preview of the table centerpieces. President Cheyney explained the parking arrangements, which are confirmed with Liberty Place, and stated that the invitation will reflect the appropriate revisions for parking.

The Chairman of the Younger Members, Mr. Fenstermacher, asked to include an announcement about the younger member subsidy in the same envelope as the invitation. The Executive Secretary will explore that possibility with the printer and determine the added cost for handling and separating the mailing list for a younger member insert.

YOUNGER MEMBERS: In Chairman Fenstermacher's absence, President Cheyney reported that he had been in communication with the chairman concerning the "Gravemarker" program to begin this Memorial Day. The younger members will visit the graves of ancestors on which markers and flags will be placed for this upcoming Memorial Day.

THE COLOR GUARD: Captain Salisbury reported that the nominating committee met on 4 January 2001 in preparation for the Color Guard Annual Meeting. The Color Guard looks forward to parading the colors at the George Washington Birthday Party on 24 February 2001. A preparation drill will be held on 18 February 2001. In addition, he reiterated the Color Guard's intent to further the goals of the Society.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: In the absence of Chairman FitzGerald, President Cheyney presented his report. Complimentary invitations to the dinner at the Society's Annual Meeting will be sent to the 22 new members elected in 2000 and any other members elected between now and April 2001. The committee will meet to discuss proposals for other membership activities.

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Mr. Fitzgerald further reports that a total of 12 members have not paid their 2000 dues. Ten of these members will receive notice from Secretary Clattenburg that they have been dropped from the rolls effective December 31, 2000. Two members on the list do not have current addresses and, with the Board's approval, their status will be reclassified to inactive. The General Society will be notified of these changes.

President Cheyney presented the list of delinquent accounts: James Moore Alter (Newtown Square), Charles Alvarez, Robert Henry Crook, Jr., John Christian Freeland, Lawrence Herbert Hale, Robert William Jordan Katzman, William Justice Lee, Jr., Daniel B. Mitchy, Jr., Thomas Patrick Shorwin, Frederick William Shorwin, Blane W. Scott III, and William R. Shaw. A motion was presented to drop these members as of 31 December 2000 with the opportunity for reinstatement upon their payment of dues. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. A letter will be sent to those listed.

Mr. Fitzgerald has also provided a list of websites that are excellent resources for ancestral research. He asks the Board to consider including links to these sites on the Society's webpage.

NEWSLETTER: Reverend Proctor requested that proposed articles be submitted for the newsletter. He also noted that it was unlikely that the finished release would occur before February.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: Vice President Burke reported that the Society had purchased a digital camera with high resolution/imaging features, adding more capability for the webpage. Included also are the following: software, battery pack, instruction booklet, and carrying case. He suggested that each committee choose a member to be responsible to learn to use the camera during events. The camera is to be signed out from the Society's office and the designee identify the photographs for future use.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS & TECHNOLOGIES: Chairman Gordon reported that the 2000 Proceedings were on the webpage and the 1998/99 proceedings will follow. In addition, the Newsletter will follow in approximately ten days. The Calendar of Events (2000/2001) is operating and current, information is being sought from the Lancaster Chapter to create a site with the help of Mark Lloyd, and there will be a link forthcoming regarding a Valley Forge site. A suggestion was made that guests' list from Lockheed Martin be created and that they be invited to a future Society function. The web hosting site is also going to be transferred from Liberty Net because of complications with the current posting company. The December minutes will also appear on the site. A joint meeting of the Technology and Operations committees will be scheduled in the near future.

REPORT OF LANCASTER COUNTY CHAPTER: Regent Moore reported the objectives of a year ago [1) communications, 2) meaningful meetings, and 3) chapter growth] were progressing and the Chapter was meeting the goals set. He thanked the Society for its support. He announced that the flagpole (paid for by the Society) would be installed

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(maintained by the City of Lancaster) with a bronze plaque before the meeting on 27 September 2001. In addition, an Army band and the Mayor will attend and a canon salute will be included in the event. There will be press coverage and a reception at the Hamilton Club will follow. He offered the Lancaster Chapter's appreciation by its full membership.

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GENERAL SOCIETY: Vice President Johnson stated that he had received a roster list containing the names of everyone connected with the General Society and he will make copies to anyone interested. The General Society President's inaugural meeting will be held on 27 January 2001.

Under **OLD BUSINESS** President Cheyney asked that a Triennial and its report be added to the agenda of the Board of Managers.

There was no **NEW BUSINESS** to come before the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Cheyney invited all in attendance to gather for Christmas cheer in the Pub immediately following the meeting. Chaplain Proctor led the Board in prayer and President Cheyney adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theodore Clattenburg, Jr.
Secretary

Attachments
