

Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.
National Executive Board
Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
Meeting Date: 1/14/2013

Call to Order:

The 1/14/2013 regular board meeting of the BSMA was held by electronic means (Go to Meeting) telephone and computer. The meeting convened at 4:12pm (PST), President Pat Soler presiding and Charilyn Damigo, Recording Secretary. A quorum was present.

Attendees:

Members in attendance:

President Pat Soler	Dept of OH Pres Kris Dervin
1 st Vice President Judy Dorsey	Dept of MI Pres Kristine Wirgau
2 nd Vice President Cyndi Ventura	Dept of MN Mary Johnson (5:15pm)
3 rd Vice President Teresa Bullock	PNP Robin Barnes McCarthy
4 th Vice President Ginger Novak	PNP Karen Stevens
Recording Secretary Charilyn Damigo	
Financial Secretary Kathryn Venable	
Treasurer Anne Parker	

Absent: none

Roll Call of Officers -- (Recording Secretary)
Pledge of Allegiance -- (PNP Robin Barnes McCarthy)

Business

Approval of Minutes

- MOTION: Recommendation that the Minutes from the 11/19/2013 meeting be accepted and posted to the website.

Officer and Committee Reports

President's Report (NP Pat Soler)

- NP Pat Soler attended the White House Holiday Reception for military supporters on December 14. She was accompanied to the event by NT Anne Parker. BSMA was acknowledged and this was an excellent opportunity to network after the Presidential briefing.

Membership

- The deadline for membership renewal is January 15. The webmasters should be instructed to wait until Jan. 31 to archive lapsed members in order to allow officers to process renewals that came in on the deadline.

Mid-Year NEB Meeting

- Meeting is confirmed for 2/15 – 2/18 in Los Angeles. California NEB members will drive and others will fly in. We will be staying at the Embassy Suites (4 rooms) with breakfast provided

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at the hotel. Lunches – deli meats, cheeses, salads. Dinner – take a break from working and go out.

Financial Report

Financial Secretary (Kathryn Venable)

- Appreciation for the support and patience she received while dealing with family emergency.
- Financials up to date, but corrections need to be made before they are posted. Items to re-categorize, P & L to reflect YTD instead of quarterly. Ready for NEB probably tomorrow morning. They have been reviewed by NP Pat and PNP Karen. Minor changes suggested.
- Budget vs. Actuals will be sent to NEB and posted to website after review by Finance Committee. Postings will be monthly YTD.

Treasurer (Anne Parker)

- I have processed for payment all bills presented and attended the White House Christmas Reception and Executive Briefing in December with our National President.
- The week before Christmas checks were prepared and mailed to the National Financial Secretary covering chapter and department reimbursements for dues submitted in August, September, and October 2012.

First VP (Judy Dorsey, via email)

- Since our last meeting, there have been 109 new member applications online. I continue to update profiles and get Roster Dues Report updated before the Jan. 15TH deadline. New Officers Rosters are also coming in. Still working with membership to answer questions and help get rosters in order.
- Have sent our emails to new members with no chapters in either their area or state and waiting reply.
- Sending new chapter questions to Ginger for follow up.
- Installed Officers in KY 5
- Interviewed with our local paper, The Akron Beacon Journal.
- Anne Parker and I have been working on getting new members assigned that come in without a chapter listed, marked unknown, or from a state that has no chapters. I would like to suggest that we work on this at our NEB meeting next month. Anne and I have spent hours sending emails and getting no reply from these members.

Second VP (Cyndi Ventura)

- NEB entered **Closed Executive Session** (4:50pm – 4:58pm) to discuss the Dept. of OK investigation.

Third VP (Teresa Bullock, via email)

- November 19, 2012 – January 14, 2013 The Department of Defense announced 16 casualties. There are a total of 101 casualties since August 1, 2012.

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- Since November 18, 2012 forty-eight banners have been ordered from Service Flags to honor the families of 25 fallen heroes, bringing the total to 198 banners ordered and 116 families honored since August 1, 2012.

Fourth VP (Ginger Novak, via email)

- MN5 is disbanding.
- Since November 19 I have responded to the following in regard to chartering a chapter:
 - MT2 Boulder Area Blue Star Mothers is ready to charter – NFS Kathryn Venable to charter via telephone.
 - AR2 Blue Star Mothers of Southwest Arkansas is in process of chartering!
 - OH21 Lake Erie Shores Blue Star Mothers is in the process of chartering!
 - IL5 Northwest Illinois Blue Star Mothers is only awaiting State Registration and then they will be chartering!
 - LA6 is keeping me informed of lots of activity, but they don't have officers for each position yet
- Other chapters interested in chartering:

<input type="checkbox"/> WA, Marysville	<input type="checkbox"/> DE, no specified area	<input type="checkbox"/> NC, Warrenton
<input type="checkbox"/> WY, Cody	<input type="checkbox"/> VA, Winchester	<input type="checkbox"/> IN, Indianapolis
<input type="checkbox"/> WY, Buffalo	<input type="checkbox"/> MO, Hannibal	<input type="checkbox"/> AL, Escambia County
<input type="checkbox"/> LA, New Orleans	<input type="checkbox"/> TN, Fayetteville	<input type="checkbox"/> FL, Volusia County
<input type="checkbox"/> SC, Myrtle Beach	<input type="checkbox"/> OH, Butler County	<input type="checkbox"/> NC, Charlotte
<input type="checkbox"/> WI, La Farge	<input type="checkbox"/> (north of Cincy)	<input type="checkbox"/> TX, Lake Dallas
- KY8 (my own chapter) has been informed by a chapter in Western KY of the process to get registered in KY—no response from KY yet, though paperwork has been received.

Department of Michigan (Kris Wirgau, via email)

- Due to physical and technical issues my activity has been at a minimum. Currently I am working on chapter compliance and getting reports up to date.
- MI DEB has a conference call scheduled 1/18 to finalize the plans for School of Instruction, plan the FunD Day, start plans for the Department Convention and to discuss the Mid-year NEB meeting.
- Chapter visits
 - MI 178 11/8
- Meetings attended
 - NEB conference call – 10/23, 11/19
 - Finance Committee conference call – 10/22
 - Website Team conference call – several
 - Michigan Convention – 10/5 - 7
 - Veterans Day events - Great Lakes Cemetery and Shelby Twp. Memorial

Department of Minnesota (Mary Johnson)

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- There are no past department presidents in MN for Mary to get advice from. Suggested that she use the other department presidents for support.
- Department has a strong board and is in good position budget-wise.

Department of Ohio (Kris Dervin, via email)

- The Dept officers have been contacting each chapter to see how their Compliance Reports are coming and offering help, if needed. We just had our first conference call with the Chapter Presidents and we went through each chapter discussing what reports were still missing. My Financial Secretary and I just met with Chapter 7 on Saturday and helped them with all their reports.
- We have reserved a hotel room for our North/South Conference on April 20th where we are going to have speakers regarding help for the veterans.
- We are currently working on a date and venue for our Department Convention.
- Pat Pell continues to work with a new chapter in Ohio. She will be installing the officers at their meeting on January 21st.

Closed Executive Session (5:24 – 5:30pm) to discuss a discipline issue regarding a chapter.

Closed Executive Session (5:32 – 5:47pm) to discuss a recommendation from Discipline Committee regarding resolution of a problem with a member.

New Business

National Convention

- Hoping to sign contract this week with Marines Memorial Club in San Francisco. Cannot confirm dates until contract is signed (tentatively 2nd week of August).

Service Flags Discount

- Link location has been moved on our website (no longer on front page – still in another location). There is still a discount for BSMA members. We will advertise this in our newsletter.

By-laws Chair

- NP Pat Soler needs recommendations for a by-laws committee chair.

Announcements

Next meeting – Mid-year NEB meeting in Los Angeles. Feb. 15 – 17.

Adjournment

The president adjourned the meeting at 6:00pm (PDT) following a closing prayer by PNP Robin Barnes McCarthy.