

**Blue Star Mothers of America, Inc.
National Executive Board
Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
Meeting Date: June 11, 2013**

Call to Order:

The June 11, 2013 regular board meeting of the BSMA was held by electronic means (Go to Meeting) telephone and computer. The meeting convened at 5:38pm (PDT) President Pat Soler presiding and Charilyn Damigo, Recording Secretary. A quorum was present.

Attendees:

Members in attendance:

President Pat Soler	Treasurer Anne Parker
1 st Vice President Judy Dorsey	Dept of MI Pres Kristine Wirgau
2 nd Vice President Cyndi Ventura	Dept of MN Mary Johnson
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	

Absent: none

Excused: Dept of OH Pres Kris Dervin

Roll Call of Officers -- (NRS Charilyn Damigo)
Pledge of Allegiance -- (PNP Robin Barnes McCarthy)

Business

Approval of Minutes

- MOTION: Recommendation that the Minutes from the 5/20/2013 meeting be accepted and posted to the website. Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

Officer and Committee Reports

President's Report (NP Pat Soler)

- Bylaws Committee
 - Proposed changes have been submitted to the NEB and are prepared to be sent out
- Convention Committee
 - A Proposed Agenda has been prepared by NP Pat Soler
 - The education portion of the Convention will be recorded and made available on YouTube. Links for the videos and PowerPoint presentations will be available on the website and/or Facebook pages
- Website Committee
 - June 24 deadline to submit pages to REI.
 - Website will probably not be finished by Convention

Financial Report

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- (PNP/NFC Karen Stevens)
 - MOTION: Recommendation from Committee that the Financial Reports from April 30, 2013 be accepted and approved for audit. Motion passes on vote.
 - NFC met with the Big Dipper officers to explain the financial records that are required. NFC has requested that they revise the financial reports that they had previously submitted. The information was well received. Questions about expenses for the Big Dipper Fun Night were answered satisfactorily.
 - Insurance update – the agent does not believe that the letter we received is anything to worry about for our renewal policy.
- CFC Update
 - NP Pat Soler has received a letter approving our application for the State of California. We will have to submit the application for the National level by January 15. A recommendation has been made that the Finance Committee should be charged with working on this.
- Treasurer (Anne Parker, via email)
 - My time since our last meeting has been devoted to working with Judy Dorsey on a list of eligible members to be convention delegates. We met when she was in Myrtle Beach and we formulated a plan, using the best of the ideas I had seen tried in the last two years. Kathryn has worked with us on this and we have come up with a plan to split the alphabet at registration not by last name but by chapters, so A-L chapters would be with one registrar and M-Z would be with the other.
 - I continue to work on chapter reimbursements, having completed about ½ of them and all department reimbursements. By the time of our meeting I hope to have this completed.
 - All VAVS checks have been sent. Two were returned to date and updated addresses were obtained. Checks were resent.
 - I presented (with PNP Karen Stevens) to the Big Dipper officers regarding what a Balance Sheet is, what a Reconciliation is, and what an Income and Expense Statement is. They expressed gratitude and I offered for any of their officers to call me at any time. To date I have not heard from anyone.
 - I discussed with Pat the need for training videos to be placed on YouTube. This is how more and more people are getting their information. I would like to discuss this at our meeting on 6/11.

First VP (Judy Dorsey, via email)

- I continue to work on new member applications, Roster Dues Reports, Membership Cards and Officer Roster Updates.
- Since the email asking for chapters to update their rosters, I am getting a lot of clean up done on the data base.
- With Convention getting closer, I have worked with Anne Parker to get a delegate form for use when checking voting delegates and non-voting attendees in at the Convention. At this time all chapter delegate counts have gone to Anne. Anything that comes in after the cut-off date should be easy to handle.

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Second VP (Cyndi Ventura, via email)

- Yearbook – Cyndi is still looking for pictures and information from departments and Gold Star mothers.

Third VP (Teresa Bullock, via email)

- May 1, 2013 – May 31, 2013 The Department of Defense announced 19 casualties. There are a total of 151 casualties since August 1, 2012.
- Since May 1, 2013, 49 banners have been ordered from Service Flags to honor the families of 31 fallen heroes. This brings the total to 336 banners ordered and 214 families honored since August 1, 2012.

Fourth VP (Ginger Novak)

- Compliance Committee: 14 chapters were referred to CPA Helen Franz for free help with their 990/1023 issues. Only a couple of chapters have followed up with her. MOTION: Committee recommends that chapters who have ignored the offer of help and have not filed a 1023 should have their charters revoked (15 chapters). Motion is seconded, but was tabled until next month for further clarification and more information about the chapters involved.
 - KS2 and NC2 have received their re-instatement from the IRS.
 - OK22 has never chartered and is no longer responding to Ginger; media and IRS should be notified that their EIN is not under our umbrella.

Department of Michigan (Kris Wirgau, DP, via email)

- Meetings attended
 - NEB 5/20
 - NFC
 - Website Committee 5/31
 - Big Dipper 6/4
- Memorial Day events attended
 - Great Lakes Cemetery 5/26
 - Heart of America Memorial 5/27
- Upcoming dates to remember
 - Jun 22 FunD Day
 - Sep 27 – 29 Department Convention

Department of Minnesota (Mary Johnson, DP, via email)

- It's been a quiet month in Minnesota!
- A Blue Star Mother table was at a "Beyond the Yellow Ribbon" Military Mother's/ Grandmother's luncheon.
- Many chapters participated in Memorial Day events.

Department of Ohio (Kris Dervin, DP, via email)

- Nothing new to report

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Closed Executive Session (7:04pm – 7:55pm PDT) to discuss a grievance committee recommendation and an email from a past department officer.

Announcements

- The “Tilted Kilts” challenge will be postponed until Veterans Day (instead of July 4).
- There is a mediation meeting this Friday (6/14/2013) on the pending lawsuit. MOTION is reaffirm that the NEB has previously given NP Pat Soler authorization to act on behalf of our organization in litigation decisions. Motion is seconded and passes on vote.
 - MOTION: that we approve reimbursement PNP Robin Barnes McCarthy for transportation (not to exceed \$100) for the duration of her required presence at the mediation hearing. Motion is seconded and passes on vote.

Closed Executive Session (8:15pm – 8:17pm PDT) to address an item of information from the attorney regarding the upcoming mediation.

- There is a new P.O. Box for the NFS. She will be sending it out via email to the NEB. There will be a forwarding order in place for the old P.O. Box.
- Next meeting – Tuesday, July 9, 2013 at 5:30pm (PDT).

Adjournment

The president adjourned the meeting after a moment of silence and closing prayer (led by PNP Robin Barnes McCarthy in her role as Chaplain) at 8:29pm (PDT).