

**AMVETS LADIES AUXILIARY
PRE-CONVENTION S.E.C. MEETING
June 21, 2024**

The Pre-convention SEC meeting was called to order at 9am by President Pat Michalski.

Invocation was delivered by Chaplain Patsy Watkins.

Presentation of the flag was conducted by Jennifer Zelony.

Roll Call of Officers by Secretary Nancy Middleton showed all Officers present with the exception of Deb Davis, Treasurer; Jacobetti Rep Judy Smith, John Dingell VAVS Cel Rose Solak; District VII President Barb Robare - all excused. Grand Rapids Home Rep Leora Williamson was a few minutes late and PRO Caroline Wisniewski was left off the Officer's list (again!), but both were present.

Spring SEC minutes.

**Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Wendy Lynema to approve as written. CARRIED

Parliamentarian Faye Richardson-Green reported on 3 Poll Votes.

#1 by law committee was approved.

**Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Linda Marshall move to ratify the poll vote. CARRIED.

#2 Gloria Hall was approved to replace Deb Davis as Treasurer for the finance meeting and convention. 21 emails sent – 16 aye votes – no nay votes. One 'aye' vote expressed concern about the short notice given to Gloria to conduct the Finance meeting. Receive proposed budget yesterday.

**Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Bert Lema to ratify the poll vote . CARRIED

#3 Seletha Robertson was approved to replace Barbara Hall as Deputy to John Dingell VA. 16 responses from 21 requests.

*Wendy Lynema/2nd Gloria Hall to ratify the John Dingell Deputy replacement. CARRIED

**Bert Lema/2nd Patsy Watkins move to have Officer reports at the 1st Convention session. CARRIED

President Pat reported the Treasurer called her to be excused due to unforeseen circumstances. It was not an emergency – just something else came up. She also pointed out the Auxiliary progression: Local, District, Department, National. There was also a discussion on an AMVET barring an Auxiliary member. A committee can do this, but one person cannot. And, the removal is for the club room, not the Auxiliary organization. If there is a hearing and the accused doesn't show up, she cannot object to the outcome.

Parliamentarian Faye Richardson-Green stated our Scholarship Officer (Roberta Robinson) is very diligent but the instructions which are now on the website may need to be clearer. Should scholarships be limited to Michigan residents only? Roberta suggesting wording to update application and address first year applicants opposed to 2nd or 3rd year applications. Maybe different applications for Scholarships, Career Start applicants and Trade School applicants.

A very long discussion followed.

**Motion Faye Richardson-Green/ 2nd ?? moved College Scholarships prioritize undergraduates if money is available. CARRIED

**Motion Roberta Robinson/2nd Linda Marshall move the Department fund the scholarship program and add in donations from the locals. DEFEATED

**Motion Roberta Robinson/2nd Kathy Keizer to make a scholarship a minimum of \$1,000. CARRIED

There was also another discussion regarding the Scholarship program being joint with the AMVETS and Sons of AMVETS. The Dept. Parliamentarian discussed this with the National Parliamentarian Heidi Dineen Serpris. (reminder to inform the NEC Woman of contact with National Officers.)

** Faye Richardson-Green/2nd ?? to add to Scholarship Officer's instructions that she can ask the AMVETS and Sons to participate in a joint program. CARRIED

Long Range Planning Committee – Bert Lema thanked the President for the appointment. Members of the committee are Wendy Lynema, Roberta Robinson and Gloria Hall. A survey was sent out regarding this new committee. Bert asked how many saw the survey and how many responded. She will send a completed copy of the responses if you email her at lema81@wowway.com

The committee sent recommendations to the Finance Committee and the Bylaw committee. The next step is future surveys. Some were sent to emails listed on the revalidation forms but were returned as nonworking addresses. Bert stated she received about a 35% response on surveys.

Another suggestion was to have mentors to help locals with problems – new people/not PDPs

Another suggestion was to change instructions to update when necessary – not just annually.

A discussion was also held on using current forms for Service reports and membership forms. Some forms used are so old no one has seen them before. The Secretary has made new service report forms and project evaluation sheets. Each has the revision date of 5/2024 on them. There are packets available for each local Auxiliary but they need to be signed for.

**Motion Kathy Keizer/2nd Gloria Hall move current forms for Service Reports must be used or the reports will be disqualified and membership forms from National must be current. CARRIED

Current Membership forms from National are on the National website: amvetsaux.org

PDP Carol Pickett has a pair of large green slacks that she will give to someone who wants them.

It was pointed out we have a National Officer here. Our own Alison Aldrich who is the National Scholarship Officer.

**Motion Allison Aldrich/2nd Bert Lema to adjourn. CARRIED

Benediction read by Chaplain Patsy Watkins.

Retirement of Colors by Sgt-at-Arms Jennifer Zelony.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45am

Nancy Middleton, Executive Secretary.

Approved with corrections Pres. Pat Michalski

Approved with corrections Parliamentarian Faye Ricardson-Green