

Sons of AMVETS

Department of Massachusetts

Minutes of Convention May 25-26, 2002

The Convention was called to order at 1:05 pm. Squadron 208 1st Vice Commander Paul Chaves was appointed to act as Provost Marshal. VAVS Coordinator Clifford Kaizer was appointed to act as Chaplain and read the benediction. Acting Provost Marshal Chaves led the Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the Sons Preamble.

Roll Call of Officers

Commander William Barry-PRESENT
1st Vice Commander David Spencer-PRESENT
2nd Vice Commander Henry Shilo -PRESENT
3rd Vice Commander Philip Ingleby-PRESENT
Finance Officer James Flanigan PDC-PRESENT
Judge Advocate David Helmuth PDC-PRESENT
Provost Marshal Michael Veator-EXCUSED
Immediate Past Commander David Helmuth PDC-PRESENT
Chaplain Floyd Corliss, Jr.-EXCUSED
VAVS Coordinator Clifford Kaizer PDC-PRESENT
NEC Clifford Kaizer PDC-PRESENT

1st Credentials Report

Squadron 1-2 Delegates, 1 Officer
Squadron 12-1 Delegate
Squadron 74-1 Delegate
Squadron 79-2 Delegates, 2 Officers (1 of whom is the Commander)
Squadron 208-2 Delegates, 2 Officers
Squadron 1980-1 Delegate, 1 Officer

Total 15 Registered, 14 Votes, 8 is the majority, 10 is two-thirds

Convention Rules were read by Judge Advocate Helmuth. VAVS Coordinator asked that voting for elections be by secret ballot.

MOTION: to adopt the Convention Rules. Motion was made by Judge Advocate Helmuth and seconded by 1st Vice Spencer. **MOTION PASSES**

MOTION: to amend the Convention Rules to have election voting be by secret ballot. Motion was made by VAVS Coordinator Kaizer and seconded by 3rd Vice Ingleby. **MOTION PASSES**

Officer's Reports

Commander's Report-See Attached

1st Vice Commander' Report-See Attached

2nd Vice Commander's Report-Lost due to recorder malfunction

3rd Vice Commander's Report-Lost due to recorder malfunction

Finance Officer's Report-See Attached

Judge Advocate's Report-See Attached

Provost Marshal's Report-See Attached

Chaplain's Report-See Attached

VAVS Coordinator's Report-See Attached

NEC Report-See Attached

Webmaster's Report-See Attached

Unfinished Business

MOTION: To allocate up to \$400 for the purchase of the remaining items needed to complete our flag set and to authorize 1st Vice Commander Spencer to purchase the needed items. Motion was made by Judge Advocate Helmuth and seconded by 1st Vice Commander Spencer. **MOTION PASSES**

New Business

The National Sons of AMVETS is trying to raise money for Madame President's project this year, Homeless Veterans. 1st Vice Commander Spencer recommended running a 25% match against whatever is donated by Squadrons in Massachusetts. The deadline would be the July SEC.

MOTION: To adopt the 25% match for the Homeless Veterans Fund. Motion was made by 1st Vice Commander Spencer and seconded by Paul Chaves. **MOTION PASSES**

National is asking for a dues increase this year. National 1st Vice Helmuth addresses the 2 dues increases being asked for. The first is for \$2.00 and is going to expand the National Budget which has not had a dues increase in more than 7 years. It is being proposed by the National Executive Committee. The second dues increase is being proposed by the Survivors Benefit Fund Committee. It is for a further \$3.00 and will be used to fund a Grant Committee. Mr. Helmuth also announced that he was running for National Commander in Louisville, KY this year.

It was brought up to distribute membership cards to Squadrons so that they may be given to members as soon as possible after they pay their dues. National does not allow new blank cards to be distributed to Squadrons, but doesn't mind renewal cards. All cards

need to be returned to National before National Convention or else no delegates from Mass can vote. However it is done, the appropriate controls must be created and applied.

MOTION: to distribute membership cards to the Squadrons based on criteria established by next years 1st Vice Commander, made by Judge Advocate Helmuth, seconded by James Flanigan. **MOTION PASSES**

1st Nomination of Officers

Commander
William Barry
1st Vice Commander
David Spencer
Henry Shilo
2nd Vice Commander
Michael Bruno
3rd Vice Commander
Philip Ingleby
Finance Officer
James Flanigan, PDC
Judge Advocate
Clifford Kaizer, PDC
Provost Marshal
Leo Manning

The Convention was recessed until 9:00am the next morning

Please let any Sons you see know that the final registration will be from 8:30am to 9am tomorrow morning.

The Convention reconvened at 9:05am

Roll Call of Officers

Commander William Barry-PRESENT
1st Vice Commander David Spencer-PRESENT
2nd Vice Commander Henry Shilo -PRESENT
3rd Vice Commander Philip Ingleby-PRESENT
Finance Officer James Flanigan PDC-PRESENT
Judge Advocate David Helmuth PDC-PRESENT
Provost Marshal Michael Veator-EXCUSED
Immediate Past Commander David Helmuth PDC-PRESENT
Chaplain Floyd Corliss, Jr.-EXCUSED

VAVS Coordinator Clifford Kaizer PDC-PRESENT
NEC Clifford Kaizer PDC-PRESENT

2nd Credential Report

Squadron 1-4 Delegates, 1 Officer
Squadron 12-1 Delegate
Squadron 51-2 Delegates
Squadron 74-1 Delegate
Squadron 79-2 Delegates, 2 Officers (1 of whom is the Commander)
Squadron 208-2 Delegates, 2 Officers
Squadron 495-1 Delegate
Squadron 1980-1 Delegate, 1 Officer

Total 20 Registered, 19 Votes, 10 is the majority, 14 is two-thirds

Constitution & By-Laws Amendments

Judge Advocate Helmuth addressed the four proposed amendments to the Constitution & By-Laws.

1st Vice Commander Spencer withdrew his proposed constitutional amendments 1 and 2 due to the fact that the National Sons of AMVETS has proposed a Uniform Department Constitution & By-Laws at the National Convention this year.

Proposed Amendment #3-Standing Rules Article III, Section 2

See attached for text

MOTION: to approve proposed amendment 3, made by Judge Advocate Helmuth, seconded by James Flanigan. **MOTION PASSES**

Proposed Amendment #4-Standing Rules Article III, Section 3

See attached for text

MOTION: to approve proposed amendment 4, made by Judge Advocate Helmuth, seconded by James Flanigan. **MOTION PASSES**

2nd Nomination of Officers

There were no further nominations.

Elections

Judge Advocate Helmuth cast one vote for all uncontested officers.

All Delegates except the Commander and the Judge Advocate were seated with their Squadrons for the purpose of elections.

Ballots were passed out for the election of the 1st Vice Commander. Ballots were picked up and counted by the Commander and Judge Advocate.

David Spencer was reelected 1st Vice Commander

National 1st Vice Commander Helmuth installed the

Officers were reseated at their respective stations

The Benediction was read by acting Chaplain Clifford Kaizer

The Convention Adjourned at 11:00am