

Connecticut Society Sons of the American Revolution
126th Annual Meeting
April 18, 2015
Wethersfield, CT

President Robert Rivard called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Following the invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Pledge to the SAR, Secretary Paul Selnau indicated that, with 33 members in attendance, a quorum was present for the meeting.

Minutes from the previous meeting on February 21, 2015 were approved online.

Board of Managers Reports:

Trustee's Report – (See full report on the web site) presented by Kenneth Roach

President's Report – (See full report on the web site) presented by Robert Rivard

Secretary's Report – Paul Selnau reported that additional new members certificates have arrived and will be presented to the Branch Presidents in attendance today. We have a gentleman requesting an expedited reinstatement after a 40 years absence from the SAR to vote at today's meeting. I have requested additional information on his membership from national. After I receive that clarification I will report back to the BOM.

Treasurer's Report – (See full report on the web site) presented by Daniel Benoit

Registrar Report – (See full report on the web site) presented by Tim Jacobs.

Real Property Steward – (See full report on the web site) presented by David Packard. David continues to manage the properties and the hours of operation working with the paid employees and volunteers. The members of the committee have been discussing the policy for background checks for employees and a youth protection program. The properties are fully stocked with merchandise; there are no current plans for restocking. They are evaluating the items that sell and those that do not and making merchandise recommendations at the close of the season.

Technology Manager's Report - (See full report on the web site) presented by Dave Perkins. Dave Perkins encouraged all members to use the web site to stay current and to obtain a copy of the reports. A patriot index is in process at the national level and a listing of our patriots has been added to our web site. David encouraged the Branches to submit additional information to be added to the Branch pages of the web site. An online application form is being developed by National and will be implemented in approximately one year. The details are being worked out; however this will allow prospective members to fill in pertinent information to assist us in completing the application and help us track applications.

Color Guard– (See full report on the web site) presented by Todd Gerlander. Our Color Guard is the largest in New England with 60 members and one of a few living history units in the country and the only one in New England. Todd is currently working on the updated insurance policy for the Color Guard. The upcoming events can be viewed on the web site.

Committee Reports:

Ad hoc Real Property Oversight Awards - Dave Perkins indicated that the committee made its recommendations to the BOM and completed its review. The recommendations of the committee need to be implemented by the BOM. The BOM and the Properties committee need to work together to work out how we want to proceed with managing the properties. President Robert Rivard determined that the committee was no longer needed, thanked Dave Perkins and the committee members for their work and recommendations.

Awards Committee Report - (See full report on the web site) presented by Dave Perkins.

Budget Committee – President Rivard had no additional items to report.

By-laws Committee- William Fenn indicated that the bylaws committee is reviewing and discuss proposed bylaw revisions and clarifications for the BOM to review

Capital Campaign - (See full report on the web site) presented by Dean Gaugler.

Compliance Officer- Robert Carrara noted that only 50% of the BOM members had submitted their conflict-of-interest and whistle blower policy in 2014. All BOM and committee members are required to submit their conflict-of-interest and whistle blower policy for the up coming year.

CAR/DAR – Ken Buckbee report that in 2014 the DAR had submitted 20 prospective members to the CTSSAR. The referral tracking started in 2009, since that time the DAR has submitted 124 prospective members to the CTSSAR and that has resulted in 87 new members. In March 27, 2015 Ken attended the DAR State Conference and presented certificates and medals to members who have referred three or more prospective members to the CTSSAR. At that meeting Ken was recognized by the DAR for referring 14 prospective members to the DAR. President Rivard encouraged all members to participate in DAR events and work with on increasing membership.

Elijah Manross Fund – Robert Carrara has prepared the budget for the properties and has submitted it to the Property Committee.

Flag Committee – (See full report on the web site) presented by Ken Buckbee

Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee - (See full report on the web site) presented by Todd Gerlander. The Let Freedom Ring ceremony is a NSSAR recognized event will be held this year in Litchfield on July 4th at 1:00 PM. This will be the first time the CTSSAR has participated in this event. It is the third NSSAR event held in Connecticut.

Eagle Scout Committee - (See full report on the web site) presented by Tim Wilkins. Jackson Gelinas, the winner of the State Eagle Scout Award attended the meeting today. He presented his essay to all in attendance and was recognized by the CTSSAR.

Knight Essay – John Morgan reported that the winner Knight Essay is in attendance for today’s meeting. Matthew Penza, the State winner of the Knights Essay presented his essay to all in attendance and was recognized by the CTSSAR.

Life Membership Committee - (See full report on the web site) presented by Daniel Benoit. The distribution of funds was made. Daniel Benoit and Dean Gaugler will be reviewing the account to insure the fund is invested correctly. Currently the dividends paid do not cover the yearly disbursement which is not a problem at this time. However, moving forward we need to insure the funds are available to cover the distribution.

Membership Committee – Ken Buckbee reported that the membership committee is developing nicely but that they have a ways to go before they can submit good quality applications to National. In 2014, 61 new members and 7 supplemental applications were processed. This year 22 new applications and 2 supplementals have been processed. We are on target to meet or exceed the new member applications processed last year.

New member Scott W Muryasz was inducted in the CTSSAR at today's meeting.

Nominating Committee – Ken Buckbee, The Chairman of the Membership Committee presented the following list of nominees for the 2015 -2016 term.

National Trustee:	Kenneth D. Roach
Alternate Trustee:	David J. Perkins
President:	Ethan A. Stewart, Sr.
1st Vice President:	Damien M. Cregeau
2nd Vice President:	William H. Robbins
Secretary:	Paul H. Selnau
Assistant Secretary:	John M. Emblidge
Treasurer:	Daniel E. Benoit
Assistant Treasurer:	Richard W. Kendall
Registrar:	Timothy L. Jacobs
Chaplain:	William J. Lane, Jr.
Historian:	Gary S. Pitcock
Chancellor:	William P. Fenn
Auditors:	Ian T. King and Eric F. King

Planning & Program Committee- Ethan Stewart reported that our next BOM meeting has been scheduled for September 19, 2015 at Luce’s Restaurant in Middletown.

Public Relations and Marketing- Daniel Benoit noted that he and Dave Perkins continue to update the website. Daniel is looking to the Branches to continue submitting updated information to be posted.

ROTC/JROTC Committee - (See full report on the web site) presented by Dave Perkins. Dave added that he presented an award to a Sea Cadets in New Haven and may be presenting an additional award

before the end of the year. The Sea Cadets program run out to the ROTC organization and starts in middle school and goes through high school. Kevin Pimpenelli, the State winner of the ROTC award presented his essay to all in attendance and was recognized by the CTSSAR.

Veterans Recognition – Kenneth Roach noted that the committee has just started and will be modeled after the NSSAR Veterans Committee of which he is a member. Veterans will be added to the Roll of Honor in National, they will receive a State Certificate of Military service, and a certificate of Patriotism from National. Ken has a list of all veterans that he's aware of and is looking to the branches to assist him in compiling a complete list. Ken will be reaching out to the Branch Presidents and Secretaries and will be sending them a copy of the National Newsletter; NSSAR Veterans Bugle.

New business:

Daniel Benoit outlined the steps taken for updating our insurance and made a motion to except that policy: first, to increase our liability insurance, secondly to add a bonding insurance policy, and thirdly due to the amount of data on the web site we are required to have data transfer insurance. Todd Gerlander made a motion to accept the policies, Bill Lane seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Daniel Benoit discussed the documents required to change the signature form for the Manross Fund were reviewed. A discussion as to if two signatures should be required was discussed. The motion was made by Tim Wilkins and seconded by Ethan Stewart. All members voted in favor of the motion.

President Rivard reported that Patricia Hubert will be awarded the outstanding citizenship award for her efforts in publishing a book on the revolutionary war.

Dave Perkins made a motion to use \$100.00 of the budget to purchase streamers to be presented to Branches and State members participating in the Let Freedom Ring event. The motion was second by Damien Cregeau. All members voted in favor of the motion.

President Rivard was commended for taking over the position in this difficult time. He has done an outstanding job under difficult circumstances.

Ethan Stewart made a motion that we increase our 2016 dues from \$20.00 to \$25.00. The motion was seconded Bill Lane, all members voted in favor of the motion.

Ethan Stewart made a motion to create a State new member application fee of \$10.00 to cover the cost of processing the application and the rosettes. The motion was seconded by Richard Kendal, all members voted in favor of the motion.

David Perkins made a motion that \$30.00 be taken form the Roger Sherman account to cover the youth award guest dinners at the annual meeting, the motion was seconded by Pete ?. All members voted in favor of the motion

Election of Officers:

President Robert Rivard noted the list of nominations submitted to the members by Ken Buckbee and asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

Damien Cregeau nominated Gregory E. Thompson for the CTSSAR Register position. President Robert Rivard once again asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. Hearing no additional nominations President Robert Rivard requested a motion to close the nominations. The motion was made by Kenneth Roach and second by Tim Wilkins. All members approved to close the nominations.

Kenneth Roach made a motion that President Robert Rivard request the Secretary to cast one vote for the uncontested members nominated. The motion was second by Ethan Stewart, all members voted in favor of the motion. One vote was cast for the uncontested nominees.

President Robert Rivard appointed the following to the Tellers Committee; Kenneth Roach, Tim Wilkins, and William Fenn. Timothy L. Jacobs and Gregory E. Thompson were each allowed three minutes to make a statement to the membership. A one minute time limit was given to any member who wishes to speak on the nominations.

Kenneth Roach made a motion that a paper ballot be taken, the motion was second. 31 members voted in favor of the motion, 2 members voted against the motion. The motion was carried.

At the conclusion of the time allotted by the nominees and members speaking in favor of Timothy L. Jacobs or Gregory E. Thompson, the paper voting ballot were counted and yielded a tie. A second count of the members present concluded that there were 33 members present and the President had not voted. It was determined that the President needed to vote and a second paper voting ballot would be taken. Prior to second vote Timothy L. Jacobs removed his name from the list of nominations.

Kenneth Roach made a motion that we vote on the uncontested position of Registrar, the motion was second by Michel Paterson. All members voted in favor of the motion

Gregory E. Thompson name was added to the list of nominations as CTSSAR Register. President Robert Rivard asked for a motion to approve the nominations as amended. All members voted in favor of the motion.

President Robert Rivard requested that the ballots be destroyed. The Tellers Committee indicated that the ballots had been destroyed.

Branch Reports:

Humphreys Branch #1 – (See full report on the web site)

Putnam Branch #2 – (See full report on the web site)

Hale Branch #6 – (See full report on the web site)

Baldwin Branch #9 - (See full report on the web site)

Mead Branch #11– (See full report on the web site)

Awards

President Robert Rivard presented Incoming State President, Ethan Stewart, along with Dan Benoit and Ken Buckbee the Silver Roger Sherman medal for their work as state officers and committee chairmen.

President Robert Rivard presented David Packard with the Silver Roger Sherman medal for his work on the Real Property Committee over the past two years and as the new Real Property Steward since last October.

President Robert Rivard presented Tim Wilkins with the Meritorious Service medal for his continued work as Chairmen of the Eagle Scout Committee.

President Robert Rivard presented Dave Perkins with an NSSAR 125th Anniversary pilsner glass in recognition of the help he gave him during his term.

Ethan Stewart and David Perkins presented Outgoing State President Robert Rivard the Patriot medal for his work as interim State President, 1st Vice-President, and State Secretary during the past 10 years.

The 2016 officers were installed by President Robert Rivard

Closing remarks by President Ethan Stewart:

I'd like to thank you for installing me as State President.

I am humbled that you would place your faith and trust in me. This is a responsibility that I do not take lightly, and I will endeavor to represent you with the utmost transparency and boldness. Again thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Some of the things I would like to accomplish while being President.

1. Increase membership
2. To get all members more involved in the Society so that we can become a closer knit group that can work together with more satisfaction.
3. We should have more BOM meeting in order to get things accomplished in a timelier manner. This could be an informal meeting at a library.

Following the SAR recessional and the benediction, the meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Paul H. Selnau, Secretary