

Connecticut Society Sons of the American Revolution
Board of Managers' Meeting
September 19, 2015
Luce's, Middletown, CT

President Ethan Stewart called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. and recognized the Vice President General Douglas M Wood as guest at today's meeting.

Following the invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Pledge to the SAR, Secretary Paul Selnau indicated that, with 19 members in attendance and 4 proxies, a quorum was present for the meeting. See last page.

Minutes from the previous meeting on February 21, 2015 and Special meeting July 18, 2015 were approved online.

The president requested that all reports be submitted to the Secretary and the Technology Manager a minimum of one week prior to the meeting. This will give the BOM time to review all reports.

The following reports are posted on the web site. The BOM had no questions on the reports submitted.

Board of Managers Reports:

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

Alternate Trustee's Report – (See full report posted on the web site) presented by David Perkins

President's Report – (See full report posted on the web site) presented by Ethan Stewart

2nd Vice-President's Report - (See full report posted on the web site) presented by William Robbins

Secretary's Report – (See full report posted on the web site) presented by Paul Selnau. Paul Selnau reported that he received three disks from National, two on France's Contribution to American Independence and one on Music in the Revolution. They are available for any member to review.

Treasurer's Report – Daniel Benoit presented the report and discussed the committees that are over budget. Over the past year he has reviewed expenses that have not been anticipated in individual committees. This will give us an accurate accounting of the actual expenditures and will help us in establishing the budget for next year.

Registrar Report – (See full report posted on the web site) presented by Gregory Thompson

Planning & Program Committee - (See full report posted on the web site) presented by William Robbins

Real Property Steward – (See full report posted on the web site) presented by David Packard. The climate control system for the New London School house has been installed. The Real Property Committee is rescheduling the promotional interview with ABC news, the new date will be provided. Several school groups are scheduled to visits the New London School House. He has been in contact with our insurance agent to make sure the properties are up to date on the required insurance.

Technology Manager's Report - (See full report posted on the web site) Dave Perkins

Color Guard– (See full report posted on the web site) presented by Todd Gerlander.

Historic Sites and Celebrations: (See full report posted on the web site) presented by Todd Gerlander.

By-laws Committee- William Fenn indicated that the bylaws committee will be meeting after the November meeting to review and discuss proposed bylaw revisions and clarifications for the BOM to review.

CAR/DAR – (See full report posted on the web site) presented by Ken Buckbee

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

Historic Sites and Celebrations Committee - (See full report attached) presented by Todd Gerlander

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

Branch Reports:

Branch 1: Gen David Humphreys – (See full report posted on the web site)

Putnam 4: Gen Israel Putman - (See full report posted on the web site)

Branch 6: Capt. Nathan Hale – (See full report posted on the web site)

Branch 11: Capt. Mathew Mead - (See full report posted on the web site)

Old Business

No Old business

New business:

The past Regent for the DAR contacted President Ethan Stewart and asked if we would host the Massing of the Colors next year. The members present were in favor of hosting the massing of the colors. It was suggested that the Planning and Program Committee begin coordinating the time and location of the event. Daniel Benoit made a motion that we host the 2016 Massing of the Colors and the Planning and Program Committee coordinate the event with the DAR; David Perkins seconded the motion; all members voted in favor of the motion.

Secretary Paul Selnau reported that at the special meeting the BOM, the member's present voted to terminate the 125th Campaign. They recommended that a motion to terminate 125th Campaign brought before the full board. Paul Selnau made a motion that the Real Property Committee suspends the 125th Campaign; Daniel Benoit seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

David Perkins passed out copies of the 2016 directory and reported that copies will be going out to the members with the dues notices. The directory going out to the members will not have the Constitution and the By-Laws included, those members interested in those articles can obtain that from the web site.

A motion was made by Bill Fenn to amend the by-laws to allow the BOM access the life membership fund for limited use. Bill Fenn reviewed this with the By-Laws Committee; Daniel Benoit has concerns about uses these funds for any other purpose other than for the Life Membership Dues. He noted that the current motion would allow the BOM access to this fund for purposes other than what the paying member had intended. Based on the current rate of return for the Life Membership Fund, we do not have sufficient funds to pay the dues and we draw on the general fund for the balance. We should not make this revision because we do not have excess funds at this time. We have passed a motion to give CTSSAR Emeritus status to members 90 years of age and older without having a way of paying for it. We currently have 15 Emeritus members. As of April the fund was approximately \$25,000.00. A CTSSAR Emeritus member automatically becomes a life member and the dues for that member is \$0.00. A recommendation was made to put the funds into a guaranteed income fund and drawn upon to pay the annual dues for the members. The membership committee should have the discretion to determine if the total amount of the annual dues for each member withdrawn. We should allow the fund to be used to offset the dues deficit by these members. The by-laws do not clearly state how to pay for the Emeritus members but the intention was that because they are life members the fund would pay the dues. At the end of the discussion Daniel Benoit made a motion to table the motion; the motion was seconded by John Emblidge; all members voted in favor of tabling the motion. The by-Laws committee will begin working on proposed draft revisions to the By-Laws that will be brought to the BOM for discussion prior to submitting proposed revisions.

David Perkins presented several national awards to our society presented to him at Congress. The Partner and Patriotism Certificates; The Connecticut Society, The Gov. Oliver Wolcott Branch, The Gov. Samuel Huntington Branch. Streamers presented to CTSSAR by National; Eagle Scout Participation, ROTC Participation, Knight Essay Participation, CTSSAR Knight Essay Sponsoring the essay winner, Admiral Furlong Flag Award, Branch President General Initiative Streamer for assertors biography. Liberty medals for members processing new member applications; Ken Buckbee, Tim Jacobs, Russell Wirtalla each received an oak leaf.

David Packard suggested we hold an event to mark the 125th Anniversary of the CTSSAR purchasing the war office. The full scope of the event is still under discussion; they are pursuing a grant to assist in the planning and possible hiring an independent event planner. Members spoke in favor and opposition to hiring a professional. It was noted that time is short; the grant will be going in very soon. We should know if the we're awarded the grant in November. It was determined that we should coordinate this celebration with the 2016 Massing of the Colors. An all-day event for the SAR and was proposed, tying it into the Massing and get other organizations, schools, and our government leaders involved. The question was raised; are we doing something small and local or are we doing a larger event with a reenactment? The Wolcott Branch is participating in an event at the Hurd House tomorrow with a British unit. Paul Selnau will discuss our plans with them and see if they're available and interested in participating in a reenactment. It was determined that October is the best month to plan an event. Daniel Benoit made a motion that the BOM recommend to the Real Property Committee that they submit a grant for the purpose of funding and hiring a professional to assist us in the planning of the 125th anniversary of the CTSSAR purchasing the war office. William Lane seconded the motion, 22 members voted in favor, 1 member voted against. The motion passed. The Real Property committee will work with the two branches in the area to coordinate the event.

David Perkins passed out pamphlets on the new youth awards contests. The two versions identify the eight awards proposed by national. We have an opportunity to present three of the awards listed and get more involved with the CAR chapters. The awards have been listed on the web site and linked to the national web site. We should have cards placed at our properties identifying the youth award programs available when the schools have field trip. The costs for the awards are relatively low, approximately \$200.00; 10% of the dues increase. We could try this out this year and see the level of participation. We would use the existing youth committees and could present the awards at the CAR conference in the spring and possibly invite non CAR winners to their conference to receive their awards. Tim Wilkins made a motion was made to establish a \$200.00 budget line item to support the new youth awards, William Robbins seconded the motion; all members voted in favor of the motion.

President Ethan Stewart asked all members present if they had any ideas on how we could get the branches and our members more involved with the State Society. The president did reach out to all Branch Presidents and Secretaries and ask them to attend today meeting. Some attended and others had previous commitments. The meeting dates are sent out to the BOM and general members approximately one year in advance, today we have approximately half of the BOM are in attendance today. Holding an event may attract more participation than a business meeting and possible a fifth social event was proposed. Although emails are an excellent way of getting the information out, phone calls to our members may help. It was suggested that a survey card be sent out to the members asking our membership for recommendations on what they would like to see. It was notes that not all members have the resources to pay for dinners. It was also noted that we may want to consider adding a statement that if you are going to be a BOM member you need to attend a minimum of two meetings a year.

Lunch Break 12:05

The meeting was reconvened at 1:10

David Packard reported that during the lunch break the Real Property committee had a quorum at met to discuss the 125th Campaign. A motion was made by Robert Rivard to suspend the 125th Campaign, the members present voted in favor of suspending the 125th Campaign.

Following the SAR recessional and the benediction, we adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Roll of BOM members present: 19 present and 4 proxies for a total of 23 voting members

Bruce C Lyon (TG)	Damien M. Cregeau	Daniel E Benoit
David H Packard	David J Perkins	Dean H Gaugler (DB)
Douglas M Wood	Ethan A Stewart Sr	Gary S Pitcock
Gregory E Thompson	Howard E Wayland (DHP)	John B Towle
John M Emblidge	Lee A Gerlander	Paul H Selnau
Richard G Hubert	Robert W Rivard	Russell W Wirtalla
Todd L Gerlander	Tyler Smith (JE)	William H Robbins
William J Lane Jr	William P Fenn	

Total Attendance: 23

Respectfully submitted,
Paul H. Selnau, Secretary