

# NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA, Inc.

## MINUTES JOINT OPENING AND CONVENTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING Sheraton Stamford, CT. AUGUST 31, 2018

Commander John **HILLYER, III** RECONVENED the meeting at **9:07am**.

Auxiliary President Betty **NELSON** welcomed all to the Convention and introduced her Board.

Commander John **HILLYER, III** called for anyone wishing to pay their delegate fees see David J. **BUCHANAN** and the same for anyone wishing to be nominated for a National Office.

**Georgia** and **Indiana** came forward to pay their Delegate fees. Jim **SORENSEN** paid for the MCB 7 battalion at large delegate fees.

**Registered attendees** for this convention are **43**.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS;** See attachments

Discussion on deceased members being reported was discussed.

A **QUORUM** has been declared after the roll call.

**REPORTS;**

**RULES AND CREDENTIALS** reports are postponed until the break for tabulation.

**TIME AND PLACE COMMITTEE;**

A new **NATIONAL CONVENTION SITE COMMITTEE** has been established by the National Executive Committee in 2018 for the purpose of securing Convention sites for the next 3 year.

Doug **BOWER**

David J. **BUCHANAN**

Elaine **COFFIN**, Chairman

Charlie **COFFIN**

Jim **FUREY**

Ernie and Betty **NELSON**

Jerry **SCHMUCK**

The **2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION** will be held in the state of **Minnesota**.

If an Island wishes to place a bid to host a National Convention for 2020 the bid needs to be in **NO LATER THAN the Mid-year meeting of 2019**.

**COMMANDER'S REPORT**; John **HILLYER**, III gave a detailed report orally and submitted a hard copy attached to these Minutes.

**V. COMMANDER'S REPORT**; Jim **FUREY** gave an in-depth oral report and submitted his report for attachment to these Minutes.

**CAN DO REPORT** by Jack **TANGEN**;  
Some **SMSA** donations are coming in and will be noted in the publication. The issue of advertising in the **CAN DO** was discussed.

There was a new **CAN DO ADVERTISING COMMITTEE** formed with Ernie **NELSON** and Jack **TANGEN** and Norman **DUPUIS** will be on this committee to find advertisers for the magazine.

David J. **BUCHANAN** brought up the issue of getting \$50,000 in advertising and getting into an increased tax reporting category.

Jim **SORENSEN'S** daughter received a **SMSA** scholarship years ago.

Jerry **SCHMUCK** said we need to funnel **more donations through the NSVA to get to our named Scholarship**.

Jerry **SCHMUCK** reinforced the procedure for **making out the checks to SMSA** and mail to National Secretary.

**INTERNET COMMITTEE REPORT** by Jack **TANGEN**;  
The Internet continues to be a work in progress and improving every day.

Constitution and By-laws are downloadable, Membership Applications are on line.

Charlie **COFFIN** discussed the need for Islands to update their information.

**CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND RESOLUTION COMMITTEE reports**;

No Resolutions from NSVA, Resolutions from NSVAA to clean up their By-laws.

Ernie **NELSON** made a Motion on the NSVAA Resolution at this time Jerry **SCHMUCK** said this should be done at the Convention and Charlie Coffin answered this is the Convention meeting.

Jerry **SCHMUCK** advised we recessed the Pre-Convention meeting; therefore we were in the reconvened part of the Pre-Convention meeting.

**TO CORRECT THE OVERSIGHT**, Jim **SORENSEN** made a **Motion** and seconded by Ernie **NELSON** that as of **9:40am**, following the Joint Opening session, the Pre-Convention Meeting is adjourned and the National Convention was called to order at **9:41am**.

By a voice vote ALL ayes and no nays, this motion was **approved**.

Ernie **NELSON**, Chairman of the Constitution and By-laws Committee made a Motion that **on the recommendation of the Constitution and By-laws Committee**, that the NSVAA be approved to make the correction to their By-laws as needed on the resolution provided. There was a second by Doug **BOWER**.

By a voice vote ALL ayes and no nays, this Motion was **approved**.

**TREASURY REPORT** by Jerry **SCHMUCK**, See treasury report attached to these Minutes notes.

There was a **Motion** made by David J, **BUCHANAN** and seconded by Ernie **NELSON** to accept the treasurer's report as presented.

By a voice vote ALL ayes and no nays, this Motion was **approved**.

**BUDGET FOR 2018 AND THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2019** by Jerry **SCHMUCK**, See Budget reports attached to these Minutes Notes.

**New Budget line item expense for the National Conventions.**

TREASURER Jerry **SCHMUCK** will apply for a credit/debit card for Convention use only!

Ernie **NELSON** questioned the return from the Edward **JONES** account and Jerry **SCHMUCK** gave a synopsis of the past 5 years of the account.

There was a **Motion** made by Jim **PEDONE** and seconded by David J, **BUCHANAN** to accept the **BUDGET REPORT** and **PROPOSED BUDGET** as presented.

By a voice vote ALL ayes and no nays, this Motion was **approved**.

**SEABEE MONUMENT in every NATIONAL CEMETERY** program report by David J. **BUCHANAN**. See attachment to these Minutes notes.

**PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT** by Normand **DUPUIS**; Normand gave an oral report and will submit a copy for the Minutes.

Charlie **COFFIN** asked, does there need to be a new letter authorizing Normand **DUPUIS** to represent the NSVA as the Publicity Committee Chairman.

The discussion lead to the Newly Elected Commander be the one to extend the Publicity Committee Chairman's authority.

Jim **SORENSEN** asked if we have reached out to **RUBICON** and the Iraq and Afghan service members letting them know we exist.

## **NEW BUSINESS;**

David J. **BUCHANAN** asked for a short break to inspect the Delegate Credentials.

Jim **FUREY** received a letter from Vince **ORLANDO**, owner of **SEABEEPRIDE**, wanting to help us out.

This correspondence was **TABLED** to a future date with Charlie writing a letter of explanation.

Jim **FUREY** has been approached by Bill **HILDEBRAND** about **HISTORICAL FOUNDATION** and the **NSVA** merging.

The feelings of the **NSVA** are that right now it is not in our best interest.

Jerry **SCHMUCK** gave a summary of the thoughts of the **HISTORICAL FOUNDATION**, and that is a merger with **SMSA**, **NSVA** and the **RETIRED SEABEE DIRECTORY**. At this time it is just a "what if inquiry?"

A discussion went on for several minutes on a subject that is in its infancy right now.

## **NEW BUSINESS, cont.**

Jerry **SCHMUCK** explained the **PROPOSAL FOR THE NATIONAL TO HOST THE NATIONAL CONVENTION** at a site of the Boards choosing, the Board needs the approval of the general membership.

Islands in the vicinity of the convention site are welcome to participate and hopefully will choose to do the local leg work such as program books, Ads for the magazine and tours and they will keep the profit from such endeavors.

**If an Island places a bid for a National Convention and receives approval**, the National rotation will be set back one year.

There was a **Motion** made by David J. **BUCHANAN** and Seconded by Jim **PEDONE** to allow the **National Executive Board** and the newly formed **National Convention Committee** to take responsibility for hosting the National Conventions and selecting the sites 3 years in advance for such Conventions, however, if an Island places a bid for hosting a National Convention and receives approval, the National rotation will resume the following year.

There was a voice vote, **ALL** ayes and no nays, this Motion was **approved**.

At the Pre-Convention meeting it was approved by the Executive Committee to authorize the **TREASURER** to apply for a credit/debit card **to be used for convention purposes only.**

There was a Motion made by Ernie **NELSON** and seconded by Phil **JUSTIN** to authorize the National Treasurer to apply for a credit/debit card **to be used for convention purposes only.** By a voice vote **ALL** ayes and no nays, this Motion was **approved.**

**CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE** report by David J. **BUCHANAN.**

There are 102 votes paid, for a total of \$510.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT** by David J. **BUCHANAN**

**COMMANDER**-----Jim **FUREY**

**V. COMMANDER**-----Doug **BOWER**

**Department of New York nominated**-----John **CUBIT** who denied the nomination.

**SECRETARY**-----Charlie **COFFIN**, has agreed to remain

**TREASURER**-----Jerry **SCHMUCK** has agreed to remain

Teresa **DUNING** representing the North Central District has proposed the name of Robert **WOOTEN** to replace Danny **WEST** as the **NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT COMMANDER**, due to Danny's health issues.

Mel **RAMIGE** has volunteered to be the **REGISTERED AGENT** from Illinois.

**ELECTIONS** will be near the end of this meeting.

There is a proposal by Ernie **NELSON** of Island X-11 to **RAISE THE REGISTRATION FEES** for the National Convention.

There was a Motion by John **HILLYER, III** and seconded by Normand **DUPUIS** to **RAISE THE REGISTRATION FEES TO \$30.00 PER ATTENDEE.**

**DISCUSSION;**

Jerry **SCHMUCK** asked **WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THE REGISTRATION?** The answer; was **EVERY ATTENDEE!**

The State of Mississippi thinks things are too expensive right now and will have to vote NO for any increase

There was a voice vote that was mostly NAYS, and a few ayes, This Motion was **disapproved.**

There was a Motion by Jim **SORENSEN** and seconded by Fred **BOSSARD** to **RAISE THE REGISTRATION FEE TO \$20.00 FOR EACH NSVA AND NSVAA MEMBER.**

There was a voice vote that was inconclusive. A hand vote was called for and there was 16 vote for and 5 against, This Motion was **approved** and will take affect for the 2019 Convention.

### **ELECTIONS;**

John **HILLYER**, III started calling for Nominations from the floor, BUT it was pointed out that this was a function of the Nomination Committee and John relinquished the job to PNC David J. **BUCHANAN**.

There was a call 3 times for nominations from the floor for **NATIONAL COMMANDER**, hearing none Jerry **SCHMUCK** made a Motion to close nominations and it was duly seconded to close nominations.

By a voice vote ALL ayes and no nays, Jim **FUREY** is elected as National Commander.

There was a call 3 times for nominations from the floor for **NATIONAL V. COMMANDER**, hearing none Jerry **SCHMUCK** made a Motion to close nominations and it was duly seconded to close nominations. (The second's voice was not recognizable on the tape)

By a voice vote ALL ayes and no nays, Doug **BOWER** is elected as National V. Commander.

There was a call 3 times for nominations from the floor for **National TREASURER**, hearing none Ernie **NELSON** made a Motion to close nominations and it was seconded by Jim **PEDONE** to close nominations.

By a voice vote ALL ayes and no nays, Jerry **SCHMUCK** is elected as National Treasurer.

There was a call 3 times for nominations from the floor for **NATIONAL SECRETARY** hearing none Ernie **NELSON** made a Motion to close nominations and it was seconded by Jim **PEDONE** to close nominations.

By a voice vote ALL ayes and no nays, Charlie **COFFIN** is elected as National Secretary.

National Secretary, Charlie **COFFIN** to **cast 1 vote for the slate of Officers in acclamation.**

**APPOINTED POSITIONS** will be filled by the newly elected National Commander, Jim **FUREY** at the Post-Convention meeting.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER;**

George **SAVOLCIK**, Secretary/Treasurer of **Island X-1 Torrington, CT.** came in to talk to Charlie **COFFIN** about not getting membership cards. And related a story how someone bought shares in a corporation so he could face them for payment. Charlie has membership cards with him in the hospitality room.

Dave **BONAGUIDE**, Commander Island X-1, Torrington, CT asked about schedules for meetings at Conventions. Charlie explained the process as it has been done.

Normand **DUPUIS** talking about things that have been done during these meeting and a GOFUNDME accounts. This suggestion is taken under consideration for the next convention.

CHAPLAIN Jim **PEDONE** gave the **CLOSING PRAYER**.

Commander John **HILLYER, III** called for a **SALUTE TO THE COLORS**.

There was a Motion made by Doug **BOWER** and seconded by George **SAVOLCIK** to **ADJOURN** this meeting at **1:15 pm** with the **POST CONVENTION** meeting to start at **1:45pm** in this room.

By a voice vote ALL ayes and no nays, this motion was **approved**.

# NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA, Inc.

## MINUTES

### PRE-CONVENTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Sheraton Stamford, CT.

**AUGUST 30, 2018**

Minutes of the Pre-Convention National Executive Committee Meeting held on Thursday, August 30, 2018 at the Sheraton, Stamford in Stamford CT.

Commander John **HILLYER, III CALLED THE MEETING** to order at 9:04 am, and welcomed all in attendance. He thanked Charlie and Elaine **COFFIN, National Convention Chairman;** for all that they have done to put on this great Convention.

A **SIGN-IN SHEET** was passed around for record of those in attendance.

Chaplain Pro Tempore Jim **FUREY** gave the **OPENING PRAYER.**

Commander John **HILLYER, III** led the reciting of the **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.**

Vice Commander Jim **FUREY** recited the **PREAMBLE** to the Navy SVA Articles of Incorporation and Constitution.

Vice Commander Jim **FUREY** gave an addition to his written report about a deceased member in New York Kroll (sp) family having trouble placing a monument in the cemetery with a SEABEE logo on it. The conflict is between a Rabbi and the Cemetery. Jim has asked Adam **MITTMAN** for advice and now it is up to the family to final it out.

**Roll Call** of officers was not called. Visual observation by National Secretary Charlie **COFFIN** proved a **QUORUM** was present 23 out of 50 positions are represented.

**Commander** John **HILLYER, III** indicated that a **quorum is present** and the body assembled is authorized to transact any business that may come before it in accordance with the Constitution, By-laws, and Standing Rules.

There were no guests in attendance.

Charlie **COFFIN** listed the **POSITIONS THAT NEED TO BE FILLED;**

**Registered Agent,** Lee **GUSTAFSON** of Illinois was discussed, and Lee will be asked. Dave Rudolph's health is deteriorating.

**Historian,** Will **PAINTER** was approached at the North Central Convention.

**North Central District Commander,** Danny **WEST** has cancer and will have to resign. We should e-mail or contact him with support.

**Credentials Committee,** David J. **BUCHANAN,** Ernie **NELSON,** Chairman

**Nomination Committee,** David J. **BUCHANAN,** Charlie has 2 letters for nomination committee



**Time and Place Committee;** Charlie **COFFIN**, Jerry **SCHMUCK**, Jim **FUREY**, Doug **BOWER**.

This Committee is to meet after this Pre-Con. meeting. Discussion ensued about making a decision about where to hold the next 3 National Conventions.

## **Reports**

**Commander** report

**Audit Committee;** David J. **BUCHANAN**, Doug **BOWER**

**Time and Place reports;**

**Monuments reports;** David J. **BUCHANAN**,

**Finalize annual Budget;**

**NSVAA BY-LAWS;** re-organization for clarity.

Ernie **NELSON**, change to registration structure. **By-laws change** that can happen with a majority vote from the floor.

**Nominations report** by David J. **BUCHANAN** Call from floor for Nominations.

**Elections;**

**New Business;**

**Good of the Order;**

**Adjournment.**

John **Cubit**; 3986 Life Members as of 8-30-18.

Ernie **NELSON** questioned advertising in the **CAN DO** and will check for corporate sponsorship.

Jerry **SCHMUCK** suggested forming a committee to explore sponsorships.

**CAN DO Advertising Committee.** Ernie **NELSON** volunteered to be the **Chairman** and select his committee members at the National Convention tomorrow, and requested a letter of introduction from the National Commander. Jack **TANGEN** will also be a member of this committee.

David J. **BUCHANAN** asked if this would be a function of the Publicity Committee. **The Publicity Chairman will work with Ernie Nelson.**

Vice Commander Jim **FUREY** presented a letter from Vince **ORLANDO** of **SEABEEPRIDE**, wanting to partner with the NSVA to sell his SEABEE merchandise.

**CAFÉ’PRESS** was discussed and the decision was made to eliminate them from the NSVA.org website.

Secretary **COFFIN** stated we need trustees to do the audit.

John **CUBIT** is having problems getting Life Membership cards printed in small quantities.

Jerry **SCHMUCK** suggested leaving the Southern Printing Company in Mississippi do the work and Jerry will pick them up.

**Commander** John **HILLYER, III** **RECESSED** this meeting at 10:54 am. to reconvene at 9am Friday morning.

MINUTES  
POST CONVENTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Sheraton Stamford, CT.  
AUGUST 31, 2018

Commander Jim FUREY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER at 1:45pm.

Commander Jim FUREY led the PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE.

**APPOINTED POSITIONS** to be filled;

These positions are caucused for in their respective Districts with a recommendation given to the National Convention Nomination Committee.

NE District Commander-----John CUBIT  
SE District Commander-----John HILLYER, III  
NC District Commander-----Robert WOOTEN  
SC District Commander-----Troy BRANCH  
NW District Commander-----Ralph BEAN  
SW District Commander-----Ken WARD

TRUSTEES;

1 year-----Burt MULLHOLLAND  
1 year-----Joe MILLETTE  
2 year-----John CUBIT  
2 year-----David J. BUCHANAN  
2 year-----Teresa DUNING

Chaplain-----**OPEN**

Historian-----Teddy MONTUORI  
Parliamentarian-----Dwight HAMBORSKY  
Counselors-----David J. BUCHANAN  
Jim SORENSEN

Master at Arms-----Joe DEZELAR  
Service Officer-----Dave PHILLIPS  
Convention Chairman for 2019-----Jerry SCHMUCK

**STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN;**

Budget Committee-----Jerry SCHMUCK  
CAN DO Ad Committee-----Ernie NELSON / Jack TANGEN **New for 2018**

Constitution and By-laws Committee-----Ernie NELSON  
Convention Site Committee-----Doug BOWER **New for 2018**

David J. BUCHANAN  
Elaine COFFIN, Chairman  
Charlie COFFIN  
Jim FUREY  
Ernie and Betty NELSON  
Jerry SCHMUCK

Internet Committee-----Jack TANGEN  
Life Membership Committee-----John CUBIT  
Membership Committee-----Teresa DUNING  
Publications Committee-----Jack TANGEN  
Publicity Committee-----Normand DUPUIS  
Resolutions Committee-----Ernie NELSON  
Registered Agent-----Melvin D. RAMIGE

**Department Executive Committee Chairman**

Florida-----David J. BUCHANAN  
Illinois-----Ted BRODT  
Indiana-----**OPEN**  
Massachusetts-----Jim PEDONE  
New York-----John CUBIT  
North Carolina-----J.C. HAMPTON  
Ohio-----Patrick LEIHER  
Washington-----**OPEN (at the Memorial Service in 2018 it was discovered that George DODGE was deceased so the position will be open.)**

Jerry SCHMUCK, Budget Chairman, recommends taking \$15,000 dollars from the NSVA checking account and investing it in the Edward Jones Investment account to gain interest.

There was a **Motion** made by David J. BUCHANAN and seconded by Jack TANGEN to direct the National Treasurer to withdraw \$15,000 dollars from the NSVA checking account and invest it in the NSVA Edward Jones Investment account.

By a voice vote **ALL** ayes and no nays, this Motion was **approved**.

There was a Motion made by John HILLYER, III and **duly seconded** to adjourn this post-convention meeting at **2:34pm**.

**CLOSING PRAYER** by Jim PEDONE, **SALUTE THE FLAG**

**9:00AM tomorrow for Memorial Service practice, MEMORIAL SERVICE AT 10:00AM.**