



USS Lafayette Association Business Meeting Minutes San Diego, CA - June 16, 2017

Call to Order: by President Gary Christopher at 1600

Pledge of allegiance: by Dennis Lauze

Invocation: by Chaplin John Fornicola

Reading of Minutes from last meeting in 2015 held in Jacksonville, Florida: read by Tim Cole, motion made to approve the Minutes, seconded and voted to approve.

Financial Report: The financial report by Treasurer Mike Skivington

Description	Debits	Credits	Balance
Checking Balance			\$15,455.15
Reunion Payment	\$2055.00		\$13,215.00
Expected remaining	\$7500		\$5900.15
Hospitality costs	TBD		
Expected remaining balance			\$5000

The financial report is informational and does not require a vote.

Revision of By-laws: The Board of Trustees proposed changes to members through an email and now calls for a motion to approve the proposed changes:

1. Board of Directors to have 9 members instead of 7 consisting of 4 elected members, 1 Chairman, and 4 Trustees. The Outgoing President is to become Chairman, and Outgoing Chairman to become a Trustee. The term of the Trustee being on the Board the longest expires. Eventually all Trustees will be past presidents.
2. Rotation of the reunion from eastern, western and central US may be broken when warranted by a majority vote for the Board of Directors.
3. The Association will no longer have a Ships Store, as articles are available from online retailers. The Storekeeper will be responsible for selling specialty items required for resale.
4. Only persons who served on the Lafayette are eligible for membership in the Association. There are no longer auxiliary members. Membership is required prior to registering for and attending reunions with the exception of immediate family members accompanying members and immediate family members of deceased Lafayette veterans.
5. Dues are paid for the reunion period and not for the calendar year.
6. Liability and dissolution were added, as well as a change the tax status from Non-Profit to Not-for-profit for IRS tax reporting requirements.

A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Before a vote on the above motion, a member called for discussion around individual personal liability if the Association incurred debt exceeding its available resources. With a not-for-profit status, the Association is not a legal entity and members could be individual sued and held liable for the debts incurred by the Association.

The vote for the seconded motion to approve the Revision of By-laws made above was approved.

An additional second motion was made by Mike Skivington to lead an investigation to protect the organization and the membership in the event of insolvency. The second motion for Mike Skivington to lead an investigation on insolvency was seconded, and with no further discussion, was approved.

Election Discussion:

Current President Gary Christopher summarized the by-laws language that a president could not serve consecutive terms as President and the provision that the current VP would become the new President. Gary also explained the current Vice-President, Mike Bellantoni, is not able to serve as President due to his current personal and family situation.

Call for Nominations:

New President: Wayne Phillips volunteered, no other nominations.

New Vice President: Hal Williams volunteered, no other nominations.

New Secretary: Joe Wisecaver volunteered, no other nominations.

Election of Officers:

There was no discussion or opposition for any of the above nominees. All were elected by unanimous vote.

Appointments:

Membership Chair: Tim Cole volunteered. There was no discussion or opposition. Tim was elected unanimously.

Chaplin: John Fornicola agreed to continue as Association Chaplain for the next two years.

Storekeeper: Jim Jadul could not attend the reunion, but agreed to continue as Storekeeper if necessary.

Historian: Bob Porter could not attend the reunion, but agreed to continue as Association Historian for the next two years.

Webmaster: Dave Seeschaaf was appointed to fill the position of webmaster at the 2015 reunion, but has not taken over for Bill Fraser. Bill Fraser announced his intention to resign as webmaster. The board needs to conduct a search for a replacement for the Webmaster appointment.

Committee Chairs appointed:

Membership - Tim Cole (as noted above)

Newsletter – Tim Cole

Bylaws – John Sherman

Location for the next Reunion:

Newly elected Wayne Phillips led the discussion for the 2019 reunion city and asked for recommendations. San Antonio TX was proposed based upon being the runner-up city for the San Diego Reunion site. Branson MO was suggested by a member via the Facebook page. Corpus Christi TX was suggested by a member from the floor. Further discussion eliminated Branson.

Corpus Christi – 9 votes

San Antonio – 10 votes

New Orleans – 0 votes

Third week of June was suggested time frame.

It was suggested from the floor that Wayne Phillips and Herb Wise coordinate viable San Antonio options.

Summarizing the consensus reached, Wayne stated that the reunion would be held in the 3rd week of June in San Antonio TX with a notice to the membership via the Newsletter asking for additional inputs.

Payment of Dues:

Payment at the reunion for most members covers 2016 and 2017. Members can pay dues in advance for future years. Participation in the raffle is for members that are current on their dues.

Tour of the USS Midway:

Hal Williams offered his insights on the upcoming tour. He is a docent on the Midway and could gain admission for all interested reunion attendees. Parking at the Navy Pier is \$10 all day.

Raffle:

Two books in the hospitality suite being raffled for the benefit of the Association.

Meeting Adjourned: The business meeting was adjourned at 17:16.