

Attachment A

2022 – 94th PRE-CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES
FRA NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HYATT REGENCY WYNFREY HOTEL
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

National President (NP) James W. Campbell called the meeting to order at 1304 on Monday, October 17, 2022, citing Section 803(i), C&BL, FRA as the authority for the meeting. Following, was the National Chaplain's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

National Executive Director Christopher J. Slawinski proceeded with roll call and the following were present:

NP James W. Campbell, Chesapeake Branch 040; NVP James E. Robbins, Jr., West Jacksonville Branch 126; NED Christopher J. Slawinski, Navy Department Branch 181; JrPNP Michael "Mick" Fulton, Imperial Beach Branch 289; RPNE/NEng Neil I. Ross, Buffalo Branch 023; RPEC Christopher J. Murray, Chesapeake Branch 040; RPSE Jack M. Fogel, Crossville Tennessee Branch 294; RPNC Maria A. Behm, Lake of the Ozarks Branch 032; RPSC C. Ursula Gruetzner, Capitol Area Branch 201; RPSW Rogelio A. Bacud, Carson Branch 302; RPWC William L. Hanzel, Sunrise Branch 230 and RPNW Michelle Davis, Inland-Empire Branch 038.

The National President declares a quorum present in compliance with Section 802(l), C&BL, FRA.

The NP then introduced National Parliamentarian Past National President Robert G. Beese, Volusia County Branch 335; National Chaplain (Proxy) PNC Paul R. Gunther, Triangle Branch 182 and Finance Officer Phillip Reid, MAL.

National Executive Director Slawinski reads Section 802(m), C&BL, FRA and informed all present of the procedures for a National Board business meeting.

The National President indicated that the meeting was being electronically recorded for note taking purposes only, and future meetings will include approval of previous meeting minutes.

National President Campbell introduces the National Headquarters staff members present: Shipmate John R. Davis, Director Legislative Programs; Mr. William Stevenson, Director Communications and Marketing; Shipmate Christina Hitchcock, Director Membership Development; Shipmate Theo Lawson, Assistant Director Legislative Programs; Ms. Kimberly Afolabi, Conference, Facility & Business Development and Shipmate Teresa Wiener, Director Administration.

At this time, National President Campbell calls upon each of the National Board of Directors for Unfinished Business:

NBR 29-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved the 2022 Mid-Year NBOD Meeting minutes. Motioned and seconded.

NED Slawinski reported on the status of the Directors' voting on the National Board Resolutions (NBRs 1-22 through 28-22).

NVP Robbins: Proceed.

NED Slawinski: Proceed.

JrPNP Fulton: Proceed.

RPNE/NEng Ross: Proceed.

RPEC Murray: Washington DC Branch 004 – remains suspended, Article 12, Section 1222, two (2) shipmates Article 5'd, new branch officers requested suspension for reorganization and to put their records in order; however, did not turn over their books/papers for review, did not follow directions, and the president, Mike Sera, is deceased, etc. Requesting revocation of this branch.

NBR 30-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved of the revocation of the Washinton DC Branch 004's (Washington, DC) charter. Motioned and seconded.

RPSE Fogel: Southwest Florida Branch 118 had an incorrect branch officers report; it was corrected. Walter Hatch Branch 292 had an incorrect branch officers report; it too was corrected. Sarasota Branch 250 president in hospital, wife just got out of hospital, attempted to contact president, secretary, VP, BOD with mail, phone calls and e-mails, there was no installing officer for the branch, Article 12, Section 1216(a), etc. No branch officers' report received. No communications forthcoming from Ft. Lauderdale Branch 256, nor do they respond to mail, phone calls and e-mails from the RPSE. No branch officers' report received. Requesting the suspension of Ft. Lauderdale Branch 256. The Albany, GA Branch 339 charter has been turned in/given to the RPSE. They are requesting a voluntary surrender of their branch.

NBR 31-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approve of the suspension of the Sarasota Branch 250's (Sarasota, FL) charter. Motioned and seconded.

NBR 32-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approve of the suspension of the Ft. Lauderdale Branch 256's (Ft. Lauderdale, FL) charter. Motioned and seconded.

NBR 33-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved of the voluntary surrender of Albany, GA Branch 339's (Albany, GA) charter. Motioned, seconded and passed.

RPNC Behm: Proceed.

RPSC Gruetzner: Proceed.

RPSW Bacud: Proceed.

RPWC Hanzel: Proceed.

RPNW Davis: Proceed.

FO Reid: Proceed.

National President Campbell now calls upon any New Business to come before the Board from the Directors:

NVP Robbins: Proceed.

NED Slawinski: Letter from Shipmate Gerald Forstater/President, FRA Branch 162 (Gretna, LA) received at FRA NHQs, given to RPSC Gruetzner re: a medical chair, spinal issues, etc. RPSC will be talking to two shipmates in her region as to how to proceed with this request. Started working on the Veterans Service Foundation five (5) years ago, issues with moving forward, and development of a 1st Board for the Veterans Service Foundation: JrPNP Michael "Mick" Fulton, PNP Donna M. Jansky, PNP Robert Washington, Sr., PRPNC Marty J. Posekany and RPNC Maria A. Behm. Requests approval of this 1st Board of the VSF. Discussion of the FRA National Headquarters Building regarding space/residential, future headquarters, approached by several real estate firms, should establish a building committee for possible selling of the building (Committee?: NP Campbell, PNP F. Donald Mucheck and PRPSE John S. Handzuk) looking for an alternative way, small platform/footprint, etc.

NBR 34-22 by 11 affirmatives votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved of a Veterans Service Foundation Board (1st Board) consisting of five (5) shipmates; JrPNP Michael "Mick" Fulton, PNP Donna M. Jansky, PNP Robert Washington, Sr., PRPNC Marty J. Posekany and RPNC Maria A. Behm. Motioned and seconded.

NBR 35-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved of the establishment of a committee regarding the sale of the FRA National Headquarters building and future location for National Headquarters. Motioned and seconded.

JrPNP Fulton: Proceed.

RPNE/NEng Ross: Recently had regional convention, discussion and clarifying Article IV, Section 7, Standing Rule #4 and Standing Rule #5 of the Northeast/New England Bylaws, changing verbiage. Passed by the region. NParl has no objection, approves/recommends.

RPEC Murray: Discussion of Cape Fear Region Branch 259 (Fayetteville, NC). Branch wants to wait until the end of the national convention for voluntary surrender. Shipmate PRPEC Joseph Palmer has passed away. Discussion of suspension of Capital City Branch 067 (Suitland, MD). No branch officers' report received. Attempted contact via phone calls and mail with Branch President/Branch Secretary/Branch Past President/Branch Past Secretary, etc. Requesting suspension of branch charter.

NBR 36-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approve of the suspension of Capital City Branch 067's (Suitland, MD) charter. Motioned and seconded.

RPSE Fogel: Goose Creek Branch 269 requesting to use the FRA Triangle Emblem/Logo for sale items. Need a national form and/or branch standard form regarding the Disaster Relief and/or Hospitals, Welfare and Rehabilitation, disaster relief fund paperwork trail, credentials form needs to be corrected on the Officer's Resources area of the website, and Form 990 IRS annual basis revenue report 501(c)(19), etc.

NBR 37-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved of the usage of FRA's emblem/logo for the Goose Creek Branch 269's request to sale items. Motioned and seconded.

RPNC Behm: Discussion of a voluntary surrender of Indian Nations Branch 054's (McAlester, OK) charter. No branch officers' report received. Has been in contact with Shipmate President James Harvey. Offered numerous occasions to come and assist with membership improvement booths and functions. Ideas using zip codes, newsletters, post card mailers, etc., current health issues, no meetings attendance, etc. Requests to voluntary surrender.

NBR 38-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approve of the voluntary surrender of the Indian Nations Branch 054's (McAlester, OK) charter. Motioned and seconded.

RPSC Gruetzner: Discussion of Lonestar Branch 011 (Ft. Worth, TX), no branch officers' report received, made contact regarding flag/charter/ship's bell, etc.; mailing letters, meeting guidelines, etc.; Old Naval Home Branch 307 (Gulfport, MS) and Magnolia State Branch 311 (Gulfport, MS), easier to merge (death rate high) and (love to Zoom); Osage Heritage Branch 334 (Osage, AR), no branch officers' report received, requested BOR for a second time. Possible merger of Nola Branch 162 in July?, written a letter regarding requirements.

NBR 39-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved of the suspension of Lonestar Branch 011's (Ft. Worth, TX) charter. Motioned and seconded.

NBR 40-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved of the suspension of the Osage Heritage Branch 334's (Osage, AR) charter. Motioned and seconded.

RPSW Bacud: Proceed.

RPWC Hanzel: Proceed.

RPNW Davis: Discussion of Silverdale Branch 310's (Silverdale, WA) regarding no branch officers' report received, and numerous attempts made to contact branch officers; and the status of WJ Bessey Branch 328 (Roseburg, OR) re: no branch officers' report received and branch charter has been turned in.

NBR 41-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved of the suspension of the Silverdale Branch 310's (Silverdale, WA) charter. Motioned and seconded.

NBR 42-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors approved of the voluntary surrender of the WJ Bessey Branch 328's (Roseburg, OR) charter. Motioned and seconded.

FO Reid: At FEF last meeting, assist treasurer for Foundation; Monday, October 17 @1630).

NP Campbell calls on National Parliamentarian PNP Robert Beese for any matters on the LA FRA and Regional Bylaws/Standing Rules.

NParl Beese: Northeast/New England to ratify bylaw change. Also, Southeast Region to ratify bylaw changes. Both had no objections from the National Parliamentarian.

NBR 43-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors ratify bylaw changes from the Northeast/New England Region regarding their Article IV, Section 7 (change); Standing Rule #4 (change 4) and Standing Rule #5 (addition). Motioned and seconded.

NBR 44-22 by 11 affirmative votes: *Resolved*, That the National Board of Directors ratify Southeast Region bylaw changes. Motioned and seconded.

National President Campbell then calls upon each Director in turn for the Good of the Order, as well as, the National Parliamentarian, National Chaplain and Finance Officer .

NED mentioned that the voting strength is 897.

NP Campbell calls upon any Past National Presidents, Past National Officers, Regional Vice Presidents, Standing Committee Chairmen, Shipmates and Guests for comments:

In attendance: LCDR USNSCC Cynthia R. Banks, Capitol Area Branch 201; RPWC-E Joe Nash, Silver Dollar Branch 192; PRPSE Laurie A. Bailey, Goose Creek Branch 269; PRPNE Paul Loveless, Pinetree Branch 156; S/M Ken Hutchison, Branch ?; PNP Donna M. Jansky, North Shore Branch 031; PNP Lawrence J. Boudreaux, Hangtown Branch 275; PRPSE/PRPSC Donald Gibson, Atlantic Beach 290; PRPSW Donald Kelley, Imperial Beach Branch 289; RPSE Jack M. Fogel, Crossville Tennessee Branch 294; PRPSW John Quesnel, Imperial Beach Branch 289; PRPNW Pete Lazzaretti, Seattle Branch 018; PRPSE John S. Handzuk, West Jacksonville Branch 126; RVPSE Carl G. Kirtley, Mark A. Kilgore Branch 022; PRPSE James J. Thomas, West Jacksonville Branch 126; PNP Gary C. Blackburn, Vallejo Branch 008; PRPWC Charles McIntyre, Santa Clara Valley Branch 101; RPSE-E Jerry Anger, Birmingham Branch 112; PRPEC Paul A. Phelps, Chesapeake Branch 040; RVPEC Robert Oliveira, Elizabeth City Branch 293; PRPNC Marty J. Posekany, Wolverine Branch 298; RPNW-E Rex Faubion, Mt. Rainier 104; RPSW-E Chris Chapman, Imperial Beach Branch 289; PRPNE/NEng James E. Brown, Staten Island Branch 226; PRPNC Jerome Lickteig, Mo-Kan Branch 161; S/M Richard A. Ruiz, Sr., Santa Clara Valley Branch 101; RPNC-E Marcia L. Cunningham, Milwaukee Branch 014; PRPNC Norm Combs, Mo-Kan Branch 161; PRPWC Rick Fetro, Santa Clara Valley Branch 101; PNP George P. Hyland, Groton Branch 020; RVPNC Edward M. Blind, Cleveland Branch 017; ADLP Theo Lawson, Navy Department Branch 181; DLP John R. Davis, Navy Department Branch 181; DMD Christina Hitchcock, MAL; S/M Kurt Baker, Br. Secy., Milwaukee 014; PNP Donald Larson, Corpus Christi Branch 094; PNP F. Donald Muecheck, Low Country Branch 269; and PRPEC Donald Hoover, Annapolis Branch 024,

National President Campbell proceeds with the adjournment. Motioned and seconded.

National Chaplain (Proxy) Paul R. Gunther offered the closing prayer and Bible closed.

The Salute of the Colors given.

The 2022 – 94th Pre-Convention National Board of Directors Meeting adjourned at 1527.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Teresa".

Teresa Wiener
Director, Administration