

**AMVETS LADIES' AUXILIARY  
DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA  
MINUTES-FEBRUARY SEC 2024**

**Friday February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024-First Business Session**

**Call to Order** by Madam President Patty Piening at 8:15 p.m.

**Invocation** by Chaplain Faye Caldwell

**Presentation of Colors** by Sgt. at Arms Claudia Thompson

**Pledge of Allegiance** by Sgt. at Arms Claudia Thompson

**Preamble** by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chrissy Albright

**Aims & Purposes** by 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Sharon Sheldon

**Code of Ethics** by 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Wendy Luzader

**Definition of Americanism** by Americanism Officer Toni Plemmons

**Madam President**, Patty Piening welcomed everyone to OUR February 2024 SEC, we have a full Agenda for all this weekend so please attend school of instruction on Saturday. Thank you all for coming to the February SEC.

**Roll Call of Officers** by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau

**Approval of Agenda by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chrissy Albright moved to approve the agenda, second by Ramona Mourhess, no discussion, MOTION CARRIED.**

**Benediction** by Chaplain Faye Caldwell

**Respect the Colors** by Sgt. at Arms Claudia Thompson

**Recessed** until 8:30 a.m. Saturday February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Second Business Session**

President Patty Piening called the Second Business Session for the 2024 SEC to order at 8:40 a.m.

**Invocation** by Chaplain Faye Caldwell

**Pledge of Allegiance** by Sgt. at Arms Claudia Thompson

**Roll Call of Officers** by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau

**Minutes of the October 2023 SEC** read by Recording Secretary, Robin Trudeau. **Robin Trudeau moved to accept October 2023 SEC minutes read and published, seconded by Beverly Gardner Aux. #8, no discussion MOTION CARRIED.**

**Eboard Recommendations** read by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau

**PDP Sherry Marecek moved to be able to check out an accounting system which can be downloaded onto computers. Thinking along the lines of Peachtree. This would be more cost effective than paying for the on-line version, which is currently \$90.00 a month for each computer. Seconded by 1st Vice President Chrissy Albright. No discussion, MOTION CARRIED.**

**PDP Sherry Marecek moves to Sign a Maintenance Agreement with Genie versus Geek Squad. WE can sign an agreement as an add-on to Executive Secretary Donnajeanne Merritt's account for \$99.00 a year per computer. Geek Squad quoted almost \$400.00 a year per computer. Second by PDP MaryLou Maslo, no discussion MOTION CARRIED.**

**PDP Sherry Marecek moved to increase the On-site registration fee \$10.00 over the pre-registration fee. (i.e., Pre-registration equals \$15.00; On-site would be \$25.00). Also, members who are unable to attend but want a book will be \$15.00 plus shipping charges, this would not take effect until October 2024. Second by Ramona Mourhess, no discussion MOTION CARRIED.**

**PDP Sherry Marecek move to void check #5657 dated 2/19/2023 in the amount of \$106.51, seconded by 1st Vice President Chrissy Albright, no discussion, MOTION CARRIED**

**Finance Report** by Treasurer PDP Sherry Marecek that her report is on Pages 21-29. Reminder if you or your Auxiliary writes an NSF check, a reimbursement of the amount of check PLUS an additional \$30.00 (per our Bylaws) will be made via cashiers check or money order. So please check before you write a check. 990's are coming up again, your fiscal year should be April 1<sup>st</sup>- May 31<sup>st</sup>. Therefore, you can start filing your 2023 990's on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Finance Committee is working on the 2024-2025 budget. We will have it ready for approval at the June Convention, so it goes into effect July 1<sup>st</sup>. Wished Madam President a successful SEC.

**Audit Committee Report** by Committee Chair 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chrissy Albright that they met on Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup>, happy to report there were no discrepancies and the books are in good financial order. Thanked the audit Committee members, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Sharon Sheldon and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Wendy Luzader.

**Introduction of 1<sup>st</sup> Timers** by Gavelier's President PNP/PDP Dee Baggett. **Aux. #0001** Kim Falana, **Aux. #2** Susan Kinser and Claudia Moreira, **Aux. #26** Kat Frisk and Mary Ellen Burns. **Aux. #32** Jennifer Browning and Janice Szanyi, **Aux. #33** Lynn Best, **Aux. #50** Julia Sims, **Aux. #292** Cindy Whaley and Mindy Stepp, **Aux. #550** Fola Betovrney, **Aux. #1992** Joann Underwood and Ann Provencher, **Aux. #2000** Maril Gage and Massachusetts AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Linda Davis.

Gaveliers's President PNP/PDP Dee Baggett at School of Instruction this afternoon, please bring your Dept Bylaws and the packet that is being passed out by Sgt. at Arms. Also being passed out is the Forecast to be signed out by your SEC only 1 hard copy for each auxiliary.

**Department Officers Reports:**

**President:** Patty Piening's report is on page 8, please take the time to read it. With that being said, you all should take the time to read all of the officer's reports. They have valuable information in there. Your department officers are here for you to be successful. She thanked Auxiliary 8 for doing an awesome job presenting the Chapel of Four Chaplains Memorial Service last night at the Joint Opening. \$705.00 was collected for the Chapel of Four Chaplains, Inc. in PA. Remember to make a difference by volunteering. You never know whose life you have touched. She is also selling tickets for a Wilson leather small pink purse at \$5.00 each ticket, all proceeds to her project, AMVETS Service Foundation, The Disaster Relief Fund.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Chrissy Albright report is on Page 9, please read at your leisure. Review your scorecard on Page 10-14. If you notice, our total membership is down this year! In speaking with the executive Secretary, renewals have been down! Our membership has been sustaining due to the new joins, but please remember the retention of our old members is just as important as recruiting new members. Reach out to your non-renewed ladies. That contact may be that personal touch needed to get them to rejoin.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Sharon Sheldon report is on Pages 15-17, thanked everyone for all the reports. Now is the time to start thinking about the awards you want to apply for. The Forecast comes out this weekend. In the Forecast is a form for a Love Gift for Madam President for appreciation for her hard work and accomplishments during the year, to be given to her at her reception at the June Convention. You can either give this Love Gift to her in person or mail your contribution to her Department 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Sharon Sheldon by May 25, 2024. Please make checks payable to Patty Piening. Reminders your reports are due in her hands by May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Also, to stay in good standing, every auxiliary must have at least one service report sent in. If you have any question to contact her. Wished Madam President a successful SEC.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:** Wendy Luzader's report is on pages 18-20. She thanked everyone for serving the veterans and the community, everyone has been very busy and taking the time to complete the reports. Reminders on reporting, please consecutively number your reports by doing so its easier to refer to, if questions arise, but if there's a missing report, it's a flag we can follow up on. File your reports at least monthly, this assists you in remembering all aspects of the project, which ensures accurate dates. Enter the total number of projects on the report. If you wait till the last minute to mail, you might miss the deadline. May 5<sup>th</sup> is the next "in hand" date reports are due. March is Paws with a Cause month, let's support this project. There is also a Patrons Page in your SEC & hotline envelope. Please take them home, encourage participation and return the page & monies to the Executive Secretary no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>. Wished Madam President a productive SEC.

**NEC:** PDP Debbie Beck's report is on Page 47, please read it when you can. Reminders, we all have deadlines, asked you all to please take a look at when things are due. We can not stress enough how important it is to turn in your reports in a timely manner. As she has stated before, please try to send in your reports monthly, as it gives each officer time to review and reach out if they have any questions as they have a deadline too. Year end reports are due to the Service Officers before or on their hand by May 5<sup>th</sup> to go in the Convention Book. Final reminder Article XVII #5 In order for an auxiliary to be in good standing, all revalidated auxiliaries shall submit a minimum of one (1) service report in any category to the Department per year. Wished Madam President a productive SEC.

**PNP/PDP Charlene Kee move for the approval for PDP Sherry Marecek to run for the office of National Hospital Officer at the 2024 National Convention, Second by PNP/PDP Evelyn McElvin, no discussion, MOTION CARRIED.**

**Alt. NEC:** PDP Marylou Maslo reported to please review your deadlines and please do earlier than later. Wished Madam President a successful SEC.

**Chaplain:** Faye Caldwell's report is on page 45 read it at your leisure. She stressed the importance of submitting Deceased Members Forms in a timely manner to her and to be sure 2 copies go to the Department Executive Secretary. Her forms that she receives goes directly to National. Department Executive Secretary and Faye compare roster to ensure the roll call is accurate for June Memorial Service. Wished Madam President a productive SEC.

**HOSPITAL:** Patty Johnson's report is on page 33-35. Please review if the numbers in the book do not match theirs, they will need to get in contact with her. Reports need to be in her hands by May 5<sup>th</sup>.

**AMERICANISM:** Toni Plemmons report is on page 30 please read it at your leisure. When looking at various project's lists, there are different things that can and are being done for Veterans. Running errands for or with a Veteran, taking them to appointments, helping them clean their homes, picking up and delivering items for them, share a meal with a Veteran, ask permission to remove a retired flag and offer a new flag and run it up the pole for them.

She has had envelopes handed out with information for each of the auxiliaries to take back to their local members regarding the Freedoms Foundation, the Bill of Responsibilities from Freedom Foundation, as well as the National Americanism Coloring and Essay contest. Also take a moment to recognize the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Freedoms Foundation. The Freedoms Foundation is now to be known as Founding Forward. All reports must be in her hands by May 5<sup>th</sup>. Thanked Madam President for the honor to serve as Americanism Officer and wished her successful SEC.

**SPEAKER:** Department of Florida Jr. AMVETS President David Baca, introduced all of his officers and advised the Jr. AMVETS will be selling 50/50's on the floor for his project MISSION 22. He then presented Madam President Patty Piening with a \$750.00 check for her project. He then wished her a great SEC.

**Scholarship:** Karen Schooley report is on page 36; all applications have been updated and they are on our website. February is Scholarship month, if you have not had a chance to do a fundraiser for Scholarship yet, you can donate monies to the department program, your auxiliary will have a report and every bit helps. It is a win for everyone! Wished Madam President a successful SEC.

**Parliamentarian:** PNP/PDP Charlene Kee reported the Bylaws Committee met on Friday February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, with 8 guests. The Bylaws meetings are always open to all members. She will be reading the recommendations, and they are printed in the book. The next reading will be in June during the Convention for a vote to approve. Her report is on page 39 and Bylaws Recommendation are on 40-43. Please read them.

Added to page 41 of the February SEC meeting 2/17/2024 is:

#### **SECTION 6: Recording Secretary New (E)**

She shall bring a working copy of the Department Officers calendar to the February SEC and then prepare a finalized calendar to be emailed to the Department President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice and Parliamentarian.

#### **Section 18: The Credential Chair New (E)**

She shall set-up registration desk for all elected, and appointed officers including Past Department Presidents, Bushnell Cemetery Representative, and VAVS Representative that are pre-registered on Thursday from 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Please note the chart at the bottom with the auxiliaries that bylaws are due. Do not wait until the last minute to send them in. Auxiliary #88 bylaws were approved. She looks forward to sharing some important bylaws information during our training this afternoon. So please be present with your Department Bylaws. She then asked to turn to page 40 for the first reading of the bylaws recommendations that are in the book.

**Sgt at Arms:** Claudia Thompson report to read your manual on meetings and the dress code. Don't get mad when you are addressed. She advised that only Madam President may allow exceptions to the dress code for individuals.

**Bushnell Cemetery:** Claudia Thompson reported Bushnell just put up a new wall please stop by and visit a Veteran and leave a penny.

**Grievance Chair:** PDP Sherry Marecek was happy to report that zero grievances have been filed. Before you start the process, be sure to read the National Constitution Article XII. Read it entirely and understand it. Keep your Code of Ethics and Aims and Purposes close at hand. Any step which is skipped is caused to file an appeal. So please read the instructions slowly and carefully. Grievances are a very serious matter. Personality conflicts don't count as a reason to file a grievance. We are all big girls, so we need to put our girl pants on.

**Appeals Chair:** PDP Marylou Maslo report is on page 50 please read it. Had 1 appeal and it went smoothly, but don't let things fester, call, discuss, decide then to talk it out.

**Executive Secretary:** PDP Donnajeanne Merritt report is on page 51 please read it. In your packets you will find the Rosters for your Auxiliary, one that renewed for 2024, those did not renew and expired 2024 and your life members. Also, in the packets you will find Revalidation form, a Bylaw Cover Sheet and a Donation Sheet. Ladies you are all doing a great job with sending in your Dues forms but please check your math and make sure that the forms can be read and include your zip codes. Always remember that 2 signatures are required on your checks. If only 1 signature the paperwork will be returned to you, and this may delay your member getting her card. National has not only raised the dues to Honorary members ( so you need to send Dept. \$20.00 for Honorary members) they are no longer doing the card for new Honorary Members as they have done in the past. So, if you have turned in a new honorary membership since September 2023, please let her know so she can make those cards for you. If you receive your renewal card and the name is spelled wrong, chances are it was not legible and National sends our renewal cards so you will have to send in a Name and Address change form and if member wants a new card send in the Annual Replacement Form with \$10.00. She now has a laptop with her, so she can check any membership in the database. Important dates you need to pay attention to 1) Floor reports from the locals due to her by May13th. 2) Donations due to her by May 14<sup>th</sup>. 3) Final membership is due to her by May 14<sup>th</sup>. 4) Patron's page is due to her by May 15<sup>th</sup> and 5) Local Revalidation are due to her by May 20<sup>th</sup>. to remain in good standing. Wished Madam President a successful SEC.

**Recording Secretary:** Robin Trudeau's report is on page 52 please read it at your leisure. Everyday something is changing in this world, whether it is personal, work or any organization you belong to. At SEC and Convention, what you bring to the floor is important to you and all Auxiliary members. It may help us as an organization for the better or for something that needs to be acknowledged to fulfill our responsibilities. Your reports, correspondence and or acknowledgements that you have read on the floor please forward them to me as this helps

when I am doing the minutes for all meetings to record respectfully. What you bring to the floor is important. Thanked Madam President for the appointment and wished her a productive SEC.

**Honors & Awards:** PNP/PDP Evelyn McElvin report is on Page 56. The forecast has been delivered on the floor. Please bring them with you to the school of instruction. Thanked PNP/PDP Dee Baggett for her help. Please read all the criteria for all the awards as a lot of them have changed. This year theme for Honors and Award is Making a Difference that will involve "hands" Wished Madam President a successful SEC.

**SEC/Presidents:** Reported Events by SEC or the Local President for the Auxiliaries #1,2,4,8,9,23,26,30,35,44,50,60,81,86,88,292,422,444,447,777,893,1992,2298,2415,2000,2006

**District Presidents:** Reported of Events by District III Faye Caldwell and District VI Kathie Mannix

**Announcements:** PNP/PDP Charlene Kee if you are a Department Elected or Appointed Officer for the upcoming year, you are required to attend Department Training in Wildwood/Villages on July 12-14<sup>th</sup>.

Kim Clarke Convention Chair still has raffle tickets, baskets and Madam President purse tickets to sell.

PNP/PDP Dee Baggett, school of instruction to bring your packets, Forecast, bylaws and SEC book.

Donna Shapiro, Ways & Means grab bags, baskets tickets to sell.

Madam President reported on January 4<sup>th</sup> she had the opportunity to escort a 15year old ROTC Sarasota Academy, Kenneth Swanson her Grandson to chaperon him to the Arlington Cemetery to lay a wreath to the Unknown Soldier in Washington D.C.

**Benediction:** by Chaplain Faye Caldwell

**Respect to the Colors:** by Sgt-at-Arms Claudia Thompson

**Recessed** Until Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m.

## **Sunday, February 18th, 2024, Last Business Session**

### **Raffle Drawings**

Convention Chair baskets were drawn, Ways and Means baskets and grab bags were drawn,

Friday 50/50 174.00 to Pat Lansing Aux. #9, Saturday 50/50 \$203.00 to Becky Wilson Aux. #4, Sunday 50/50 264.50 to Deb Carvel Aux. #60

Madam President Purse drawing Winner Nancy Meier Aux.#67

### **Call to order by Madam President Patty Piening by 8:45 a.m.**

**Innovation** by Chaplain Faye Caldwell

**Pledge of Allegiance** by Sgt at Arms Claudia Thompson

**Roll Call** by Recording Secretary Robin Trudeau

### **Continued Department Officers Reports**

**Convention Chair** by Kim Clarke, her report is on page 55. She thanked the following for the selling of 50/50 tickets and basket raffles, Susan Leverone, Carol Della Ventura, Luisa Wile and Michele from Aux. #81, Towanda Peoples and Diana Kennedy of Aux. #4. Also thanked Aux.#8, #44, #81 & #88 for the basket donations. We need the basket donations to assist with keeping the costs of the Convention Banquet and thank you all who donated. We are seeking donations for raffles for the June Convention, baskets and for members to sign out for 25 of the 50/50 raffle ticket books. Please see her after the meeting. \$300.00 in basket raffles and \$644.00 in 50/50 was raised this weekend. In regard to the June Convention Banquet, Banquet tickets are \$35.00 a person. The cost of AMVETS is \$65.00 per person, plus a room charge for the total cost of \$26,500.00. AMVETS has asked the Sons and Auxiliary to donate \$3,000.00 each and Riders \$2,000.00. The Joint Committee is selling tickets for a laptop raffle to raise \$3,000.00 and only 300 tickets will be sold. It has been said that the Sons are Donating \$2,500.00 and Riders \$2,000.00. She pointed out that PDP Marylou Maslo stated this banquet is to celebrate our AMVET, Auxiliary and Son of the Year recipients.

**Kim Clarke move to give \$3,000.00 to the AMVETS, for the June Convention Banquet. Seconded by PNP/PDP Evelyn McElvin, discussion open, PNP/PDP Dee Baggett stated it used to be the Hospitality room, the horse racing was a joint event to raise monies together, we need to get back to Joint fundraising big items. Dee Baggett move to lower the cost to \$2,500.00. Marci Oliviera asked if we have a budget for this, PDP Sherry Marecek advised we do not have a budget for this. With Much discussion, there was a VOTE on the floor for \$2,500.00 be donated to the AMVETS. THIS MOTION DID NOT PASS FOR THE \$3,000.00, it was voted on and the Motion on the flood was PNP/PDP Dee Baggett move to amend the \$3,000.00 to \$2,500.00 to the AMVETS for the June Convention Banquet, seconded by Timber Barber, no discussion, MOTION CARRIED**



**Credential Chair:** Kathie Mannix's report is on page 63 please read it at your leisure. We had 156 pre-registered, 16 On-site registrations, 7, 1<sup>st</sup> timers for a total of \$237.00 collected this weekend. Please Print on registration so they can make your badges correctly. Also, if you mail her anything the address name in book is wrong, corrected address is Brigantine Blvd.

**Gaveliers Report:** PNP/PD Dee Baggett reported that had 8 PDP's and 16 first timers and thanked everyone who attended yesterday School of Instruction, They all worked very hard hoping all your questions were answered and if you have any further question please don't hesitate to ask an Officer, that is why we are here. Thank you for purchasing the tickets from the gaveliers. This is how they purchased the Projection screen and stand, apologize for the confusion will work that out. Also, the gaveliers recommend that their contact be put back on the website as they are all not officers. Would like to congratulate all the locals on all their accomplishments they heard over the weekend, would like to see all of you have a Floor report in the June Convention book.

**PNP/PDP Dee Baggett move those pre-registered members at an SEC or Convention, their books be set aside, allowing their books to be picked up by her local auxiliary members is she cannot attend, seconded by PDP Sherry Mareck, no discussion MOTION CARRIED**

**Jr. AMVETS Coordinator** Sarah Baca's report is on page 53 please read at your leisure. Our Juniors had a fulfilled weekend learning and growing together. We had 8 Juniors in attendance, and we hope to have more at the June Convention. At the conclusion of our business meeting, we had a fun team building event at the Escape Effect. Watching Junior ages 6-16 work together to solve the clues to escape was interesting to say the least. Thank you to all who purchased 50/50 tickets for the Junior President's project Mission 22. They raised \$916.00; the winner Doc Post #44 won the \$458.00 and he donate it all back. Thanked Madam President for the appointment as Junior's Coordinator. She believes in the Patriotism we are teaching our future, and we are excited for the June Convention. If anyone would like to start a Juniors at their Post, please reach out to her.

**President Council:** Arlene Spencer called the meeting with attendance was 1 PDP, 1 District President, 16 Local Presidents and 4 guests. Everyone in attendance was able to discuss events hosted by the ladies aux. All Auxiliaries have agreed how to get more ladies to help volunteer. Thanked Madam President for the opportunity to lead this meeting.

**SEC Council:** attendance was 20 SEC, 4 Alt and 6 guests. Went over upcoming dates and reminders that the June SEC meeting will be on that FRIDAY at 5 p.m. please tell your local SEC. When sending in reports please make sure they are legible, and the original signed copy turned in. Discussed different reports like flag folding= 1 project per month, list all the ladies who have flag flying 1 hour per month. This was also confirmed by our NEC PDP Debbie Beck, PNP/PDP Dee Baggett stated she cannot believe this is even a report as we are all American and should just honored to do so.

Also noted anytime you use the word 'FAMILY" this will go under community Service. Reminder of dates listed and reports that are due in hands please allow extra time for mailing. Thanked Madam President for this opportunity.

**VAVS Representative:** Jan Northcutt apologized that she did not get her report in the book. She has been to Bay Pines 5 times to get her badge as she has computer access, but still has no badge, they have a new program and need a new badge. Veterans are in need of Toiletries, t-shirts, socks, \$10.00 gas card, food cards, anything you can do is appreciated from our Veterans. She plans on going to the next meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup> hopefully they will have her badge then.

**Quartermaster:** Toni Fox's report is on page 57 please read it as soon as you can as she is looking for volunteers. Friday's sales brought in \$1,978.00 and Saturday sales \$1,027, for a total of \$3,005.00. Special thank you to those that volunteered to help me this weekend. An Audit was done on Saturday afternoon, and all is in order. Also thanked Marci Oliveria Aux. #44 for her help on Saturday with Sales and Inventory. Thanked Madam President for appointing her as Quartermaster and all the ladies Auxiliary for their continued support.

**Ways and Means:** Donna Shapiro's report is on page 62. Grab bags raised \$150.00, American Sign raised \$75.00, and Baskets raised \$542.00 total of \$767.00 given to Executive Secretary. Thanked PDP Karen Powers Aux. #78, Judy Cottrell and Dawn Stewart from Aux. #4 for assisting her with the sales of raffles tickets for the grab bags and baskets. To Madam President, PNP/PDP Charlene Kee, Sharon Sheldon, Toni Plemmons, Ann Provencher, Ginger Downs, Aux. #4 and Aux. #1992 for your donations. Thanked all who brought the grab bags. Thank you all who purchased tickets and congratulations to all that have one. June Convention is coming up and we need help with Donations from all our sisters. We do have a Grill package being raffled off in June. WE also have pre-check tickets in groups of 10 or 25 to be signed for you to take back to your auxiliary and return to Donna Shapiro in June. Thanked Madam President for the opportunity to serve as your Ways and Means chairman, it's been an honor.

**P.R.O.:** Nikki Anderson's report is on page 61 please read it when you get a chance as she has put in all the changes from National. Scrapbooks need to be here by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, asked if she will have a room to put them in or do we put in back of this room, Madam President advised she will have a room.

PNP/PDP Charlene Kee reported she just got off the phone with the National Parliamentarian and she has confirmed that the "Flag Flying" is NOT REPORTABLE, she also had PNP/PDP Dee Baggett confirm the conversation with National Parliamentarian.

Ramona Mourhess has informed Madam President that this will be her last SEC due to decline in her health. Ramona thanked all her sisters, learned a lot throughout the years and loves all of us and her incredibly special friend Doe Seals. Madam President thanked her for many years of service for the Dept of Florida and excused her from the meeting as she has a long drive ahead of her.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Equipment Committee Recommendation

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chrissy Albright move that the Executive Secretary be allowed to research the cost effectiveness of a postage meter vs. stamps.com and purchase, second by PNP/PDP Evelyn McElvin, no discussion MOTION CARRIED.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Chrissy Albright move that the Sgt at Arms be allowed to dispose of the broken suitcases and get quote for a replacement and purchase, second by Karen Schooley, no discussion, MOTION CARRIED**

Thank you to 3rd Vice President Wendy Luzader and Treasure PDP Sherry Marecek

3rd Vice President Wendy Luzader advised when applying for the awards please contact your Department Officers to make sure your numbers are the same, otherwise you will be disqualified for the award if they don't match up.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**PNP/PDP Dee Baggett move that the Department compose a letter insisting that Joint Fundraising of Convention Chair resume to offset the banquet cost including horse races, raffles on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, outside registration and possibly hospitality room, second by PNP/PDP Evelyn McElvin, discussion open** , aux #893 do we have enough volunteers and do we have to have a banquet, PDP/PNP Charlene Kee said we need to have a banquet to support our Commander and President, it's your choice if you go or not. PDP Marylou Maslo was upset about taking the horses away from the Sons as they use that money for a lot of good things. PNP/PDP Dee Baggett we are here as a Department to teach/train we need to take care of ourselves first, should be a joint committee for an offset of the banquet. Marci Oliveira Aux. #44 we need to get more money from outside and bring it back to the Department. Chaplain Faye Caldwell agrees it should be shared monies on these events. Susan Leverone Aux. #81 agreed it should be shared money but insisting with the men is very strong wording. An auxiliary woman asked why this hasn't been brought up at the Convention Joint meetings, Kim Clarke answered she did ask why the Sons have the hospitality room and not a joint venture, they responded to her it's the Sons and it will stay with the Sons. No further discussion, **MOTION CARRIED**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS OF INTENTIONS**

Patty Piening Madam President

Chrissy Albright 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Sharon Sheldon 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Wendy Luzader 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President

Faye Caldwell Chaplain

Karen Schooley Hospital Chairman

Toni Plemmons Americanism

Kim Clarke Scholarship

Sgt at Arms Claudia Thompson

**Benedictions** by Faye Caldwell

**Retirement of Colors** by Sgt at Arms Claudia Thompson

**Adjournment at 10:31 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted

Robin Trudeau

Recording Secretary