

Minutes of SUVCW Brig. Gen. Joseph Bailey Camp No. 5

July 11, 2018

6 p.m. at Hamilton/South Caddo Branch, Shreve Memorial Library

Approved by acclamation at the August 8, 2018 meeting.

Meeting commenced just after 6 p.m. in Meeting Room A. with the reading of the Americans' Creed and the Pledge of Allegiance, both led by Brother Bo Vets.

In attendance at the meeting were Bo Vets, Gary D. Joiner, John Andrew Prime, Samuel R. Brasher, William Offer, Michael Heller, Bill Elliott, George F. Penfield and Tony Vets, father of Brother Bo Vets. Tom Welborn arrived after the meeting had started.

After brief discussion of the need for a U.S. flag, Brother Prime offered to bring one to the next meeting.

Members then introduced themselves to one another, noting their Civil War ancestors, both Union and in cases where there were such, Confederate. It was during these introductions that Brother Welborn arrived.

The first order of business after introductions was the election of provisional officers.

The two officers necessary for the formation of a camp being the commander and the secretary-treasurer, these were accomplished in short order.

Brother Prime nominated, and was seconded by Brother Joiner, Bo Vets for the post of provisional camp commander. It was Brother Bo Vets who organized the camp. [Brother Prime notes only for the record here there was a brief and unsuccessful attempt in the 1990s, by him and Brother Joiner, to charter a camp named for Col. Lewis Benedict.]

Upon election of Brother Bo Vets as camp commander, by acclamation, Brother Joiner suggested Brother Prime for the position of secretary-treasurer. This was seconded by Brother Bo Vets. After some jocular back-and-forth by Brother Prime and others whether a former reporter should be entrusted with the camp finances, he accepted the nomination and was elected.

Brother Michael Heller accepted the position as provisional chaplain, subject to approval at the next camp meeting.

There was brief discussion whether the camp should be named after BG Joseph Bailey or Col. Lewis Benedict. Col. Benedict, late commander of the 162nd New York Volunteer Infantry, the highest-ranking Union Army officer killed during the Red River Campaign. He died April 9, 1864, in the Battle of Sabine Crossroads/Pleasant Hill. His particulars can be found on Find-a-Grave at <https://old.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=5788020> The consensus was to leave the camp as provisionally named for BG Bailey, subject to further discussion and action pending official chartering.

Brother Bo Vets then introduced proposed by-laws for the camp, based upon existing and accepted by-laws in use by Camp 18 of the Department of Texas, under which Camp 5 will operate, and pertinent parts of said by-laws subject to change for our purposes were discussed.

The dates of meetings, under Article II, Section 1, were discussed. After discussion, it was agreed, subject to further action at future meetings, that meetings will be the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Hamilton/South Shreveport branch of Shreve Memorial Library, 2111 Bert Kouns Industrial Loop, in Shreveport.

The next item of discussion was camp dues, under Article III, Section 1, paragraph b. After some discussion, it was agreed the dues will be \$16 per annum for regular or associate members, with \$5 per additional family member or junior member, in addition to the \$5 per annum district dues and the \$23 national dues. Note was made of the \$5 application fee for members.

The final discussion of the meeting centered around goals and future activities of the camp. These included scheduling speakers for future meetings, support for local scouting, particularly with regard to Eagle Scouts, possible scholarships in the camp's behalf for deserving area scholars, research into the lives of Union veterans buried locally, support of Caddo and Bossier parish Junior ROTCs, the decoration and care of the graves of the Union soldiers buried locally and participation in patriotic events such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

The meeting concluded at 6:46 p.m. upon a motion by Brother Prime, seconded by Brother Joiner, followed by a closing benediction by Brother Heller.

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