

Minutes of the February 13, 2019, meeting of the Brig. Gen. Joseph Bailey Camp No. 5, SUVCW held at the South Shreveport Branch Shreve Memorial Library.

Meeting opened shortly after 6 p.m. Members present were Brothers Elliott, Heller, Porter, Prime, Vets Sr. and Commander Bo Vets II.

The stations and colors were recited. The invocation was offered by Chaplain Heller, with the assembled members then reciting the Americans' Creed and the Pledge of Allegiance. The formal meeting then commenced.

Commander Vets then spelled out items on the agenda. Minutes had been emailed to members. A motion was made by Vets Sr. to accept, seconded by Heller and voted by all to accept.

The treasurer's report by Brother Prime noted the bank balance increased to \$696.13, due to deposits of dues. No checks had been written but Treasurer Prime noted that in April a check for \$277 must be mailed to the Department of Texas. Prime also noted the filing of the IRS form 990N was filed January 28, 2019.

Brother Elliott provided an update on the upcoming flag certificate presentation to the Tatum (Texas) Independent School District.

Brother Porter then provided an update on the graves project. Engraved granite markers 24 inches by 4 inches by 16 inches, with a base, cost \$650, his research revealed. Commander Vets said he hopes to have the flag project completed by summer, when he will take part in the Department Encampment. Commander Vets said he would research into whether National has grants to assist in such projects. Discussion followed that touched on the epoxy attachment of SUVCW markers to existing monuments.

Commander Vets noted the possibility of a new member transferring to the camp, Matthew Bowden of Fort Worth, Texas. Brother Bowden is transferring to Texarkana, Texas, for work reasons, and will have an easier trip to Shreveport than to Fort Worth. His transfer was accepted with full membership assent.

Commander Vets also noted a request from past Sons of Confederate Veterans National Commander Chuck McMichael for a member to appear in Civil War uniform at the upcoming (April) Reenactment of the Battle of Pleasant Hill. Commander Vets noted it would be good for the camp to provide such representation, though the camp had no obligation to do so.

The next item on the agenda was about a collegiate essay contest by Brother William Offer, a community college history instructor, who had two student submissions on presidents who were Civil War Union veterans. Both essays were read to members. Corben Johnston was the final essay winner. There was some discussion of the camp creating its own certificates for appreciation for efforts to promote the memory of Union soldiers, in light of the above essays.

There was discussion over ROTCs not allowing cadets to wear medals or ribbons for awards and certificates issued by groups such as the SUVCW.

For the Good of the Order, the pending session of the Texas legislature was noted. Special note was made of a bill to protect monuments honoring veterans of any and all American wars.

There being no further new business, a closing prayer was offered by Chaplain Heller. The meeting ended at 7:03 p.m.

The next camp meeting will be March 13, 2019, 6 p.m. at the Bert Kouns library location.