



Sons of the Revolution in the State of Illinois
Minutes of the October 27, 2012 Meeting
Naperville, Illinois

Meeting was called to order at 10:04 by President Gradeless. Pledge of Allegiance by Vice President Siegel. Opening prayer by Chaplain Archer. Present were Father Scott Archer, Donald Gradeless, Thomas Siegel, Rex Gradeless, James Barr, and Robert Johnson. Quorum present. Late arrival Robert Rati and guest Margaret Rati.

James Barr brought up the fact that he had not mailed his ballot and wanted his ballot counted with those that had meet the deadline. On motion of James Barr second by Robert Johnson: that for this meeting all ballots would be counted including those presented today.” Discussion was held. Motion passed to accept all late ballots for this meeting. Mr. Barr brought up corrections to the minutes but was asked to bring that up at the proper time.

Meeting Appointments. Father Scott Archer was appointed acting Secretary. Robert Rati was appointed Head Teller, he asked Past President Thomas Siegel to also serve as a Teller.

Minutes of prior meeting. Names of Robert Johnson, James Barr and Marty Kasper were added as they had failed to sign the register for that meeting. Mr. Barr objected to his name placement, it was moved. Mr. Barr objected to “previous administrations and accepted change to “prior years”. Amended Minutes were approved.

President Gradeless reported on comments received from members, all in the positive that there will now be ballots on all major issues so all the members can have input. Members liked the idea of being able to participate in decision making. He noted that several of those same members had failed to return ballots. Progress on rebuilding our mailing list has been made, only one letter undeliverable. That member is lost to us and the General Society.

Robert Johnson reported that he had the secretary records. Mr. Johnson complained about previous changes to the bylaws, that he had not received notice of the meeting yet had returned his ballot that was mailed with that notice. Mr. Johnson then claimed the time was not shown on the website. Mr. Barr showed him the time on the meeting announcement on the same sheet as the minutes. Mr. Johnson complained that neither of his grandsons had received a meeting notice. Mr. Johnson complained on the change in the meeting dates from past years. The tentative dates for next years meetings were again discussed, all dates are tentative until facilities can be confirmed.

Vice President Siegel reported that the business entity report must be filed by May 2013. A copy of our corporate registration was required to make reservations at the Naperville City offices. Everyone was satisfied with the meeting room for this meeting and we will attempt to make reservations here for the 2013 meetings.

Treasurer Rex Gradeless passed out statements for fiscal year 2011 and partial year to September 30, 2012. Losses incurred in 2011 were due to drop in market prices before he was able to obtain all accounts. He had been elected in December of 2009 but it was not until December 2011 that he was able to gain control of the accounts the former treasurer. Former Treasurer Andy Ill has not turned over financial records of the society. James Barr was unable to deliver those records. President Gradeless reported that only Gale Hedrick and Rex Gradeless have ever been appointed to handle investments for the society. Treasurer Gradeless reported that Life Funds were not in an insured account as required and asked approval for funds to be transferred from at risk investments to insured accounts as soon as the new treasurer was able to open savings and checking accounts. The treasurer’s report was accepted for audit.

Jim Barr reported that he had recovered what he believed was our Flag collection and it is now in the possession of Robert Johnson. The older flags are over 200 years old and the silk material was in need of repair more than 30 years ago when they were last displayed. The general consensus was that the historic flags need to be preserved and since we lacked the funds for that purpose they should be either donated or sold to preserve them. President Gradeless would inquire as to possible organizations that would want these rare items. Members are asked for suggestions. The newer reproduction flags will be kept by the society

Registrar Gradeless reported on recent inquires into membership and that several applications were possibly being worked on. Registrar Gradeless also requested that we again approve the purchase of Adobe Acrobat so that a newer friendlier application can be developed. Thought previously approved several times It has been brought up and tabled at last years annual meeting again. Registrar Gradeless said it would likely take several months to master the software to get an acceptable application developed. Motion by Jim Barr second by Father Archer: The registrar will determine what the latest edition is and the best source to make the purchase and the treasurer will arrange to make the payment so the software can be purchased. Motion passed.

Our delegate James Barr attended the triennial meeting of the General society and reported it was a great success.

GSSR Vice President General Robert Rati reported on events of the triennial and the General Society. The GSSR has decided to hire an executive director. A new SR-Alabama Society was chartered. Arizona and Missouri Societies are unaffiliated with the GSSR. The 2015 Triennial will be in Williamsburg. VPG Rati passed out photos and details on the new GSSR headquarters in Williamsburg (the William Byrd II Stable) and a list of new GSSR officers. A copy of the SR-Illinois Winter Encampment Luncheons that will appear in the upcoming issue of the Flintlock and Powder Horn was also shown.

A 30 minute recess was called for the tellers. The meeting was called back into order at 12:30 p.m. Under new business James Barr brought up the need to spend more funds on delegates to get more people to attend General Society Events. No second was made on the motion.

Report of the Tellers. The three amendments to the bylaws passed: "Any member convicted of a felony shall forfeit their membership." And changing "present" to "voting". Members who are convicted felons will be asked to resign and others will be removed from our membership roles. Applications will be modified to clearly cover "convicted felons". The term of office was tied. All officer candidates were elected: President Donald E. Gradeless, First Vice President Thomas Siegel, Treasurer Robert D. Johnson, Registrar Donald E. Gradeless, and Chaplain Father Scott Archer. Board of Managers (the above officers plus) Robert E. Allen, Paul Fay Christian, Rex L. Gradeless, Rex L. Gradeless II, Robert D. Johnson, Honorable Lewis V. Morgan. The term of office was presented to the members present to break the tie and a 2 year term of office was approved. James Barr asked for member's opinions on the recent change barring felons from SR-Illinois membership. Discussion on grandfathering members for felony convictions was held. James Barr offered to resign if we would accept his resignation effective October 26, 2012. Mr. Barr's resignation was accepted.

Naperville City Hall was announced as potential site for the meetings of 2013. Vice President Siegel will make arrangements. Tentative dates are June 1st 2012 Flag Day, and October 19, 2013 for our annual meeting both being contingent on securing a location. The dates and location will appear on the website as confirmations are received.

Meeting adjourned at 1:24 pm. Closing prayer was given by Chaplain Father Scott Archer. Members went to eat at nearby restaurants.

Respectfully submitted

Father Scott Archer
Acting Secretary