

North Carolina Council of Chapters

4th Quarterly NC COC Meeting

20 October 2018

The Council of Chapters meeting on 20 October was called to order by President David Lee at 0830 at the Wilmington Convention Center, Wilmington, NC. David offered a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was rendered.

Attendance was taken by Secretary Carol Aljets. Three chapters did not have representation but David determined that we had a quorum and could conduct business.

Minutes were reviewed from the last NC COC meeting. Jeri Graham made motion that the minutes be approved as written, a second was made by Doug May, and the motion carried. The teleconference minutes from 9 October were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the teleconference by Doug May, seconded by Iggie Husar. The motion was approved.

Juan Chavez mentioned that his chapter was able to raise \$25,000 within 6 months and was able to build a Memorial for The Global War on Terrorism in Freedom & Memorial Park in Fayetteville, NC. David mentioned that there are several chapters that have reached out to their communities and had built different types of military memorials in them. This is an idea for new projects for chapters in areas that do not have many military memorials. And even if they do we all should support those efforts everywhere needed.

David announced that surviving spouses can now be leaders of chapters per National MOAA.

Treasurer's Report: Gary Marlar advised that we have \$12,666.15 in the bank.

- Dues were projected on 1,552 members but the actual membership was 1,473. Dues amount to \$1.50/member/chapter.
- National MOAA is now reimbursing NC COC Presidents for travel up to 1,000 miles per year.
- Reminded Chapters to apply for the USAA grant early. Also the grant cannot be used for scholarships.
- Jay Garbus moved to approve the treasurer's report as given, a second was made by Doug May, and the motion passed.

Discussion ensued to reimburse the NC COC President for travel expenses as National MOAA was encouraging them to visit chapters. After some discussion, Jay Garbus moved that the NC COC reimburse the Council's President up to \$300/quarter for expenses other than mileage in 2019. The motion was seconded by Jim Brumit and approved.

Even though the Council of Chapters meets quarterly, the Chapter Reports are only due twice per year. If anyone has trouble completing these reports, Ed Baisden has volunteered to help complete the form for submission to Doug Ehrhardt and the Council website. The formerly quarterly reports are now due 30 June and 31 December. When updating the Officer Roster, one copy goes to the Council of Chapters President and the other goes to National MOAA.

David asked for feedback on the Seminar held in Greenville, SC. Generally the comments were positive. Due to the size of the group it was easier and better to meet others from other state chapters. The reaction to the workbook MOAA put together was very good. The workbook is available on the National MOAA website for those wanting a copy. Concerns were that the legislative breakout was too short, excellent, but too short.

With the need for membership and healthy chapters, David handed out a Chapter Health Assessment. Recommended that all chapters complete the form to help them see where they are and need to go to get to where they want to be. Answer what do you want? What's in it for me? Especially for potential members.

Jeri Graham and Ron Wilsbach put together a handout that was given to all attendees. The handout included:

- A 2017 and 2018 Legislative Summary prepared by Ken Melton & Associates.
- A Candidate letter, drafted by Brian Coyle and edited by Sherry Melton, to send candidates for the NC Legislature outlining our position on equal tax treatment for all government retirees.
- The survey Chapter Presidents sent to their members asking them to sign up to support 4th Branch's legislative efforts. Options were given for those having issues with 4th Branch including the providing of email addresses.
- A copy of the MUSNAVC Advocacy Tool Kit as an example for our efforts.
- A list of USA4Military Families Defense – State Liaison Offices with contact information.

The Federal Retiree Task Force Group provides 50% of the funding for 4th Branch's efforts.

David asked for volunteers to discuss meeting options. Jeri Graham, Mark Sandvigen and Ken Klassen agreed to work with David.

Meetings in 2019:

2nd Quarter – Western Carolina hosting. Mountain Lodge and Conference Center, Flat Rock on 17-18 May.

3rd Quarter – Open

4th Quarter – Convention. Tentatively set for New Bern but may have to reconsider due to severe damage caused by Hurricane Florence.

Next Meeting: 18-19 January 2019, Sandhills Chapter hosting. Information will be forthcoming on the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 1430

Submitted by: David Lee
President

Carol Aljets
Secretary