

DRAFT 2013-05-23 -- Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the
National Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, Inc.
held at the Nassau Club in Princeton NJ on April 13, 2013

Members present (13): Janet Burnet, Sallie de Barcza, Veronica Eid, Serge Gabriel, Betty Jane Gerber, Alan Hoffman, Ralph Nelson, Carl Nittinger, Lanny Patten, James Raleigh, Ursula Reed, Robert Selig, and Wayne Strasbaugh
Others present (10) included Mark Anderson (attorney) and Joseph DiBello -- National Park Service (NPS) Superintendent for the W3R®-National Historic Trail
Proxies (5): Denise Dennis, Blanche Hunnewell, James Johnson, Ellen von Karajan, and Nicole Yancey

W3R®-US Chair Sallie de Barcza called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance. She then introduced Mark Anderson, serving as legal advisor.

Six proxies were reported (per Bylaw 4, section 5) and accepted without objection -- Veronica Eid held proxies for Ellen von Karajan and Nicole Yancey, Janet Burnet held a proxy for James Johnson, and Ursula Reed held proxies for Denise Dennis and Blanche Hunnewell. The 13 members plus 6 proxies (19 total) were more than the required 10% of the members required for a quorum (per Bylaw 4, section 4).

The minutes for the Annual Meeting of April 16, 2011, were accepted as circulated. The minutes for the Annual Meeting of April 14, 2012, were accepted as circulated. Treasurer Veronica Eid submitted a report that was accepted as read. She noted that Michael Arrington, Esq., has been registered with the state of Delaware as our agent and provides this service for \$100 per annum.

There was no old business.

At the request of Roseanna Gorham (not present) the members present discussed and adopted a motion to "recognize that Rhode Island has a complete survey by Dr. Selig" -- referring to the draft of "The Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route in the State of Rhode Island: an Historical and Architectural Survey", which Dr. Selig submitted to the state of Rhode Island and is similar to reports he has done for CT, NY, NJ, PA, and DE.

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of candidates proposed as Directors for three-year terms expiring in 2016. Motions to add Roseanna Gorham and Wayne Strasbaugh were adopted to form the following slate as Directors for 2013-2016:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Yolande Bosman - CT | Janet Burnet - NY |
| Hans dePold -CT | Betty Jane Gerber - VA |
| Roseanna Gorham - RI | Blanche Hunnewell - MA |
| Robert Reyes - MD | Wayne Strasbaugh - PA |
| Diane Bria-Wharton - MD | |

A motion was made and adopted to close the nominations and to have the Recording Secretary cast a single ballot for the amended slate.

Director Denise Dennis brought greetings from Paris as she joined the meeting by phone for about fifteen minutes. This is the first time that we have had a conference call during an Annual Meeting.

The Chair expressed thanks for the contributions of those Directors whose terms had expired this year: Nicholas Gorham, Carolyn Suffern, and Glenn Williams.

The Annual Meeting was suspended at 10:35 AM for the purpose of allowing the new Board of Directors to meet to elect officers. The officers were installed after dinner that evening.

The Annual Meeting was resumed at 11:05 AM. Written reports for activities in CT, FL, NY, and PA and for the Nominating, Finance, and Chesapeake committees were distributed. These reports are filed with the archival copy of these minutes. Several states reported orally on events now being planned and scheduled.

The Annual Meeting was suspended at 12:10 PM for lunch and resumed at 1:30 PM.

Former U.S. Representative Patrick J. Murphy (PA) arrived, was introduced by Chair-elect Ursula Reed. He acknowledged U.S. Representative Rush Holt (NJ)'s early introduction and continued support for the W3R®-NHT legislation, and he spoke about his experiences as a young member of the U.S. House of Representatives working with Congressman Jack Murtha, and bi-partisan supporters as the bill to designate the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route as a National Historic Trail was first blocked, then was incorporated into the Omnibus Public Lands bill that was adopted by Congress and signed into law by President Obama in March 2009. He was assigned to and was successful at keeping the W3R®-National Historic Trail designation section in the omnibus bill as the Members of Congress decided what ought to be included and excluded. He provided many practical suggestions and creative media strategies for bringing Congressional attention to our trail and for developing active public support. Ursula highlighted the April 11, 2009, *Philadelphia Inquirer* editorial "On the road with history" about Congressman Murphy's role in securing historic designation for the route as a tourist attraction (distributed in the Annual Meeting packets). As a newly appointed W3R®-US Honorary Chair, Patrick pledged his continued support going forward. Photo ops followed with presentation of a W3R®-US pin, a W3R®-US bag, and Sallie promised him an official W3R®-US tie. Patrick promised to wear the tie on TV.

Joseph DiBello (Superintendent for the W3R®-National Historic Trail) noted the broad distribution of the NPS' newsletter for our trail and the development of a fine NPS website for the trail. He displayed a banner with the NPS-designed logo for the W3R®-National Historic Trail. This can now be sold to groups that wish to use it for events and sites along the trail. He also discussed the implications of the recent reductions in funds for the NPS as a result of the "sequestering" legislation and the growing national debt. He suggested that we review the development blueprint developed during the workshops that we held in 2010 to refine and extend them for the next few years of developing the trail.

B.J. Gerber (for the Public Education Committee) led a discussion of options and opportunities for bringing the extensive historical base that we have developed to the general public.

Ursula Reed, chair of the W3R®-US Program Committee, shared information about the meeting with NPS' Jeff Collins of the Independence Park Institute plans for a Teacher Training Workshop with Dr. Selig to develop a curriculum-based accredited program on W3R® history for elementary and high school teachers. Ursula also shared information about the May 30 – June 1, 2013, conference: "The American Revolution Reborn: New Perspectives for the Twenty-First Century" at the Univ. of Pennsylvania McNeil Center for Early American Studies (MCEAS) and American Philosophical Society. The detailed agenda was distributed in the Annual Meeting packets. The MCEAS program is free and open to the public, designed to encourage participation by all historians of the American Revolution (academic and non-academic). The project for Public School Education -- which was outlined in the Work Plan approved for shared funding by the NPS and the W3R®-US -- is on hold as the leader of that effort has had significant family issues to deal with.

Guest Jean Hultgren spoke about the ongoing controversy about building homes on land that may have been part of the 1777 Princeton battlefield. Robert Selig outlined his schedule of talks during the coming months and noted opportunities for involvement of the W3R®-US in activities in France (visit of L'Hermione in 2015) and in the United States (exploration of the Revolutionary War cemetery in Fishkill NY).

A motion to confer upon Sallie de Barcza the title of Chairman Emeritus was adopted with unanimous applause. Sallie was presented with an engraved plaque and a Baccarat (French) crystal vase to acknowledge her leadership and support of the W3R®.

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 3:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Ralph D. Nelson, Jr., Recording Secretary

Summary of W3R®-US Financial Report – January 1 to December 31, 2012

INITIAL BALANCE as of January 1, 2012 (corrected for \$59.50 check not cashed) **\$5,221.37**

INCOME:

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------|---|
| Dues | \$2,100.00 | (36 members \$50.00 each; 2 sustaining member \$100.00 each, \$200 for previous years dues) |
| | 2,000.00 | (2 new life members at \$1,000.00 each) |
| Donations | 275.00 | |
| April Annual Meeting | 1,410.00 | (21 lunches @ \$30.00 = \$630.00 + 13 dinners @ \$60.00 = \$780.00) |
| October Board Meeting | 1,620.00 | (20 lunches @ \$30.00 = \$600.00 + 17 dinners @ \$60.00 = \$1,020.00) |

TOTAL INCOME **\$7,555.00**

EXPENSES:

| | | |
|--|----------|---|
| 2012 Delaware State Franchise Tax and fees | \$ | 71.00 |
| April 2012 Annual Meeting site and meals | 1,635.63 | |
| April 2012 speaker honorarium | 200.00 | |
| April 2012 speaker Room at Nassau Club | 120.75 | (Nassau Club, Princeton NJ) |
| Membership in PNTS | 100.00 | (Partnership for the National Trail System) |
| October Board Meeting site and meals | 1,800.33 | (Two Rivers Country Club, Virginia) |
| Flowers for Yorktown Monument (Oct.) | 136.25 | |

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$4,063.96**

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Balance Jan 1 | \$5,221.37 |
| Income (Jan-Dec) | 7,555.00 |
| <u>Expenses (Jan-Dec)</u> | <u>-4,063.96</u> |
| Balance Dec 31 | \$8,712.41 |

A SECOND CHECKING ACCOUNT was established on Nov. 2, 2012, for the donations received in 2012 for the Damon Rodnac Historical Essay Contest Fund -- \$5,000 from Damon's brother. There were no expenditures from this fund in 2012.

Balance Dec 31 **\$5,000.00**

===== 2013 report was updated on April 29 =====

January 1 to April 28, 2013 (includes income and costs of the Annual Meeting)

INITIAL BALANCE as of January 1, 2013 **\$8,622.41**

INCOME:

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------|---|
| Dues | \$1,400.00 | (28 members \$50.00 each) |
| Donations | 1,010.00 | |
| April Annual Meeting* | 1,460.00 | (20 lunches @ \$30.00 + 14 dinners @ \$60.00 + \$140 bar) |

TOTAL INCOME **\$3,870.00**

EXPENSES:

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------|---|
| Website Hosting fee | 107.40 | |
| Annual Meeting print costs | 164.48 | |
| Delaware corporation costs | 175.00 | (\$100 annual fee + \$25 tax + \$50 to change to new agent) |

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$446.88**

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Balance Jan 1 | \$8,712.41 |
| Income (Jan-Apr) | 3,870.00 |
| <u>Expenses (Jan-Apr)</u> | <u>-446.88</u> |

FIRST CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance Apr 30 **\$12,135.53**

SECOND CHECKING ACCOUNT (no activity in 2013)

Balance Apr 30 **\$5,000.00**