

VFN Meeting Notes

March 18, 2020

Final – Approved May 12, 2020 VFN Board Meeting

The VFN Board, AVPs and Conference Committee met at 3:00 PM, March 18, 2020 via GoTo Meeting.

Attendees:

Dr. Constance Bails, President	Bob Martin, State Legislative
Eddie Eitches, 2 nd Vice President	Linda Smallwood, Parliamentarian
Karen Cheatwood, Secretary	John Bails, Sergeant-at-Arms
William “Bill” Martin, Treasurer	Frances Boatman, Membership
Leslie Ravenell, Immed Past President	Gaston Gianni, National Legislative
Jeanne Garrison, Area I AVP	Doris McAdams, Public Relations
Julia Hobbs, Area II AVP	Marilyn Riddle, Chaplain
Wynn Hasty, Area III AVP	Donna Shackelford, Alzheimer
Raymond Orland, Area IV AVP	Bill Shackelford, Region X VP
Mark Fisher, Area VI AVP	Stan Palen, Co-webmaster
Luther Santiful, Area VII AVP	Arlene Arthur, Service
Mary Heck, Area VIII VP	
Patricia Jack, Area IX AVP	
Ted Pasek, Area X AVP	

President Bails called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

President’s Comments:

- Dr Bails discussed the 3 electronic meetings that were held the last couple of days with the executive board, the AVPs, the program chairs and others. She stated that we will handle one item at a time.
- Eddie Eitches made a motion that we cancel the conference at the hotel and do the meeting electronically at the times originally scheduled. Withdrawn as no 2nd.
- Bill Martin made a motion to cancel the conference, Donna Shackelford and Wynn Hasty 2nd the motion.
 - Discussions were held on this at the last meetings. We could cancel without cost and the dates available this year being in November and December don’t work.
 - Unanimous vote to cancel the conference.

VFN 2020 Conference is cancelled

- Reschedule next year at the same time. However, April 4th, 2021 is Easter.
- Bill Martin made a motion to move the 2020 Conference to 2021 and schedule it for April 11-14. Francis Boatman 2nd the motion.
 - Discussion:

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- included clarification that the conference will be rescheduled to 2021, not the annual meeting
- The motion is concerning the dates only, not the contract
- Connie will confirm with the hotel the availability of dates and costs for April 2021
- Unanimous vote to schedule the conference for April 11 – 14, 2021

VFN 2020/2021 Conference will be held April 11th to the 14th, 2021

Moving onto the Annual Meeting Connie suggested a 1 or 1 ½ day annual meeting which can be held 3 ways at the Doubletree in Midlothian. Some members wanted the meeting in person while some wanted it electronically. We can do both while still running the election by e-mail and postcard.

- Discussion:
 - Bill Martin agreed with in person and electronic but thought that the business could be accomplished in 1 day
 - Gaston Gianni felt that in response to the national emergency, we should postpone the annual meeting and revisit the topic later on
 - Donna Shackelford agrees with Gaston
 - Luther Santiful asked to set a date to revisit the annual meeting discussion
 - Ted Pasek suggested a tentative date in July
 - Bill Martin indicated that we need to have an electronic meeting before June 30th as that is the end of our Fiscal Year and term for current officers. Additionally, bylaws changes need to be considered. We also need to plan for a 2021 budget
 - Bill was given permission to work with Jim Little and Alex Adkins on budget and financial for the VFN.
 - Connie stated that we can hold the election no matter what else happens.
 - Wynn Hasty recommended that we pick dates for late summer or early fall and set it up with the hotel. He also suggested extending the terms of the existing officers until we have an annual meeting.
 - Luther asked if Connie is open to an electronic meeting in April. We need to follow One Member, One Vote (OMOV). Everyone can use GoTo Meeting.
 - Linda Smallwood indicated that we need a motion to with the annual meeting.
- Bill Martin made a motion to do a 1-day electronic meeting in April 2nd by Karen
- Linda had us restate the motion to be more specific.
 - Bill Martin clarified his motion to have an electronic meeting in April to handle some of the business. 2nd by Luther Santiful
 - Discussion:

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- This meeting will be open to all members to nominate people for VFN officers and put those running without opposition can be put into office by acclamation.
- Could have all members sign-in
- Could handle nominations from the floor
- Bill Shackelford suggested that Connie as President or Jim Little as Nomination committee chair send a message to all members letting them know that nominations are open, they can sign-in and make nominations from the floor
- Vote on motion for an electronic meeting in April to handle some of the business.
 - 1st vote taken appeared to be a tie vote. However, it was determined that the voting was not appropriate so the secretary took a 2nd vote.
 - 2nd vote taken was 13 No and 6 Yes

Will not have an electronic meeting in April

New discussion about changing the July Board of Directors meeting in July to an Annual Meeting

- Discussion:
 - Donna Shackelford suggested waiting to discuss this and call the meeting whenever we are know ore about the national emergency.
 - Bill Shackelford let us know that the purpose of the annual meeting is for the President to provide a state of the Federation report and to close out the Treasurers report.
 - Also, July 1, whoever is the winning candidate for federation office take over.
 - Linda indicated that due to the situation, Roberts Rules of Order says you can't follow the bylaws. You can do necessary votes before the next annual meeting or you can keep the current officers in place until the next annual meeting.
 - Ted asked if elections can't be held and current officers are unwilling to extend, can the President appoint someone else to the position. Answer was yes she can appoint.
 - Connie would like to proceed with elections based on the nomination that have been submitted.
- Francis Boatman made a motion to proceed with election of officers by e-mail. That the state of the VFN and the Treasurers report be completed by June 30th.
- Discussion was ongoing and moved to a latr date.

Closing – Meeting ended at 5:00 pm

Karen Cheatwood, VFN Secretary