



Berlin US Military Veterans Association

Minutes to BUSMVA Conference Call

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Attendees:

Jerry Bryson, President

Rose Miller, Vice President

Allen Lawless, Secretary

Rich Dietrich, Treasurer

Berry Williams, Reunion Director

Doug Brockway, Membership Director

Chris Tureau, Sales Director

Conference call began at 1503 hrs Eastern, 1403 hrs Central.

Conference Call Vast Conference Login, coordinated by Jerry:

- 404.902.5066, toll free 800.201.6394, conference code 175704

Documentation provided by Attendees prior to the call:

- Agenda (Allen) – Attachment 1
- Bylaws Revision Summary (Rose) – Attachment 2
- Bylaws Revision Before Board Discussion (Rose) – Attachment 3
- 7 Bylaws for Board Discussion (Rose) – Attachment 4
- Reunion Planning Update (Berry) – Attachment 5

Discussion and Decision Summary:

After welcoming remarks by Jerry, Allen suggested following the agenda as shown below.

- Bylaws review and final draft discussion. Facilitated by Rose, who clarified the following points:
 - Bylaws Revision timeline, per Attachment 2.
 - Broke down the number of administrative changes, administrative and substantive changes, and substantive changes, again per Attachment 2.
 - Reviewed each of the listed changes. All changes were approved by the Board, after discussion and questions, which Rose answered.
 - Suggested that the membership be presented either a list of 20 changes, which consists of only those changes that are substantive, or the entire list of changes. This point was discussed at length and the Board concluded that in the name of transparency, the membership should be presented a copy of the current Bylaws and the proposed Bylaws



draft (rather than a detailed listing as shown in Attachment 3) as part of the upcoming Bylaws approval process, which is detailed as follows:

- An announcement will be prepared and written and included in the December 2019 *Observer* regarding the Bylaws draft. This announcement (prepared by Rose) will be in a summary format and include general information on what is to come.
- February 2020 – Allen will prepare Absentee ballots for the current membership and serve as proctor. This ballot will have the current Bylaws and proposed Bylaws attached. The proposed Bylaws, in finished form, to be prepared by Rose or one of the Bylaws Committee members and provided to Allen before February 2020.
- Those members who plan not to attend the September 2020 reunion may vote on the proposed Bylaws, either yea or nay in toto. There will be no line item votes.
- September 2020 Reunion – the attending membership will vote on the proposed Bylaws in accordance with Article XI of the current Bylaws.
- 2020 and 2021 Reunion Update. Facilitated by Berry, who reviewed the details indicated on Attachment 5.
 - Web site registration form to be prepared and put on the web site by Allen, per the details shown in Attachment 5. Allen to have contents reviewed and placed on the web site by 15 December, or as coordinated with Berry.
 - Berry has already provided the hotel’s registration information, as modified by Allen. That info will also be placed on the web site and on the registration form, both paper and online.
 - Berry clarified the “flexible room rate” comment on Attachment 5 as being the normal room rate that the hotel charges. BUSMVA will have a group rate that is lower than the “flexible” room rate.
 - Berry talked toward a reunion “theme” that can be an attractant to prospective attendees.
- December 2019 publication of *Observer* content. Facilitated by Allen.
 - Deadline for articles is 15 December.
 - Election for Treasurer announced.
 - Bylaws approval process announced.
 - Financial statement from 2019 provided by Rich.
 - In acknowledgement of the 30th anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall, Allen to prepare and post an excerpt from his book of the events leading to 9 Nov 89.
- Upcoming Election for Treasurer. Facilitated by Allen.
 - The December *Observer* will announce the election for Treasurer in 2020. Rich has announced his candidacy.



- Absentee ballots for all candidates will be prepared and mailed to current members in February 2020.
 - The election will be held concurrent with the September 2020 Reunion in Billings.
- Paypal payment options for Reunions and Memberships.
 - Conclusion drawn from discussion shows that BUSMVA is not yet ready to adopt an online payment system such as Paypal. Payments for reunion registrations and membership/membership renewals will be through paper check only, submitted per the instructions indicated within the current registration/application forms.
 - Allen will log on the Paypal account and close it down by the end of 2019 and provide copies of all statements through 2019 to Rich. Any monies will be transferred to the bank that is electronically tied to the account.

Respectfully submitted:

Allen Lawless
BUSMVA Secretary