

September

Rockford, IL WWII HRS Public BOD Meeting Minutes

23 September 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm. Attending were Dave Fornell, President; Rick Pennington, Axis Rep; Jonathan Stevens, Secretary.

After brief introductions, the meeting was directed to begin with Public Comments.

Mike Blazchek voiced his opinion on the Polish Lancers. He described them as much improved in the last few events and felt that they would be a good addition to the WWIIHRS. He pointed out they are banned from Lowell in 2007 but that was the result of a member that is no longer with the unit. DF commented that the Lancers have made significant improvements and he would support their application to join the HRS.

Todd Machin was concerned about the by-law banning "political uniforms" such as HJ and asked that this be addressed in the future to possibly allow their use in living history events.

Joe O'Brian and Mike Lipe of the TSG addressed some complaints made about safety and authenticity at the August 2006 event at Harvard, IL. A number of emails and posts to internet forums had complained about a number of issues that according to Mike Lipe had been addressed including the reattachment of the SPR Tiger tank muzzle break. He felt that people should not hide behind a keyboard when making critical comments. DF thanked them for their input.

Mike Hayes questioned the status of The Edge since the former editor had resigned. Dave Fornell mentioned this would be addressed later in the meeting.

Jim Dritzler asked why the By-laws included a ban on the goosetep since it is historical and was used extensively before WWII. Dave Fornell mentioned this could be taken to the By-law Reform Committee for review.

New Editor:

DF discussed the complaint against Mike Bollow regarding the lola event not being included in The Edge. He continued to explain that MB had resigned as editor and that a new editor was being sought with 3 or 4 prospects. The editor's compensation was explained as being an incentive since it takes between 10-15 hours a month to produce an issue. Further, to contract out newsletter would have been \$250 plus postage per month. In the future DF mentioned that the Edge may become both paper delivery and electronic.

(At this point Dave Halseth, Brian Jones, and Elliott James joined the meeting and were introduced.)

The prospects for editor were determined to be Todd Machin, Adam Mahler, and Jay Sproat. The merits of each were briefly discussed and AM was chosen by voice vote as the new editor on a trial basis.

Proposal to Review Edge Before Publication

DF talked on the proposal to review the content of the Edge before publishing. The secretary, Jonathan Stevens, was mentioned as being the BOD member to review the Edge. DF pointed out that the secretary would probably be too busy to perform this task and mentioned that the probable next president, Elliott James, should have this task. After a voice vote it was determined that EJ would review the Edge before publication.

Accounting

EJ explained a financial review of the WWIIHRS has been done. A full audit was nearing completion and would cost about \$3000. Currently the organization has a total of \$18,000 in the accounts. EJ pointed out that an audit every year is not worth the cost. DF mentioned some coming expenses for BOD insurance and a treasurer's bond. DH pointed out this was necessary to legally protect the members of the BOD.

Polish Lancers Charter Status

DF said the Lancer's charter looked good. He continued and said that the Lake County Park District had banned the Lancers from the 2007 event. Brian Jones asked about a probation period for the Lancers. Andrew Lisowski, the co-commander of the Lancers, agreed that mistakes had been made in the past by some individuals. He explained that at Lowell one member caused the problems and was no longer associated with them. A voice vote was taken on the charter and all voted in the affirmative for the Lancer's charter.

Charter Reviews

The 116th Windhund Mike Bollow charter was disbanded and a new group from Ohio wanted to charter the 60th regiment, 116th panzer division. A voice vote was taken and all approved to disband the charter. A second voice vote was taken and approved the charter of the new 60th regiment, 116th panzer division.

The 29th division from Wisconsin had no members for two years and was disbanded by voice vote.

The 29th Div MP unit charter was forwarded to Greg Lee for review.

The 506th PIR, commanded by Anthony Noce, was discussed. No members were recorded this year and they reportedly formed the "Tri-State Reenactor's Association." It was determined to hold off on disbanding the unit until fall 2007.

The 21st Infanterie Div. from Arkansas charter had been submitted and needed some clarifications. The charter would be reviewed.

#3 Commando charter submitted by Sam Carson looked good but needed the M1 garand removed from approved unit weapons according to BJ. The charter was on hold until this was changed.

New Business

Carl Bogar, the candidate for Commonwealth rep, asked when the new board would be starting. DF replied that either January 1 as stipulated in the bylaws or when the current board members resigned.

The HRS directory was also asked about. After a brief discussion the merits of the directory the question was raised about the cost. EJ gave the figures of \$1600 to print and \$700 to mail it. DF mentioned the directory had been worked by Marilyn Fornell earlier this year and was nearly complete at the time. A voice vote was taken to approve the publication of the directory later this year.

After this discussion the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10pm.