

Friday, December 5, 1997

The meeting was called to order by Joe Smith. Roll call of the organizations was taken. Ray Stelmachuk made a motion to accept the minutes. There was no Treasurer's Report.

Bob Hanson gave an update on the Veterans' License Plate Issue. The release date for the plates is scheduled for Memorial Day due to some computer delays.

SFC Phil Miller handed out some updated reports on the Veterans' Cemetery. Rick Ryan gave a report on DVOP and LVER.

Jennifer Gladden, Job Service Executive Director, gave a report.

Propositions for change of the Constitution were given: Elmer Ekern, from the AMVETS, proposed some By-Laws changes in Article II. John Mullen, from the VVA, proposed a one-word change to Article V, Section 2 of the constitution. Joe Smith proposed the addition of a second paragraph. He also talked about Article V regarding meeting dates.

Joe Novak spoke on the Veterans' Cemetery Fund Solicitation letter. He specified that in order for donations to be used for the Veterans' Cemetery, checks must be made out to "ND Veterans' Cemetery Trust Fund" or "Cemetery Trust Fund." Joe also answered some questions that had come up at the last meeting. The first two questions were about who could access monies in the Veterans' Cemetery Trust Fund. The answers from the Attorney General's office were that the Governor can not access monies from the Trust Fund, but the Legislature can because they can access state funds. The third question was whether or not donations to the Cemetery Trust Fund are tax-deductible. The IRS says that the donations, in fact, are tax-deductible. Discussion was held on the Trust Fund donation issue. Bob Evans made a motion to appoint the Public Information Sub-committee to put together a news release to be used by the Veterans' organizations' newsletters so they can be used in the next publications I regards to donating to the Cemetery Trust Fund. Discussion was held and Willie Warner seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Saturday, December 6, 1997

Joe went over meeting date changes. John Mullen made a motion to accept the changes of meeting dates as discussed on Friday and Rudy Jenson seconded the motion. The motion passed. The changes are as follows: delete Section 1 as printed and insert change as read:  
Section 1: Regular meetings of the council shall be called by the President and upon due notice to council members by the secretary. The dates and locations of these meetings shall be at the discretion of the president with the approval of the council.

Dave Schmidt made a motion that recommended changes to Constitution and By-laws be tabled until next meeting. Present committee will remain active. Rick Ryan seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The news release was read and handed out to adjutants for use in publications.

**Old Business:**

John Mullen brought up the License Plate Bill Issue. Ted Will made a motion to go with the plate and have the branch of service and organization's emblem on the plate. John Mullen seconded the motion. Much heated discussion followed. The motion failed.

Joe Novak proposition that the decision be tabled until the next meeting, failed.

Rick Ryan made a motion that the Legislative Committee be instructed to continue working on License Plate Issue with the Department of Transportation using Armed Forces emblems with caviate to discuss using veterans logos in the future. Ray Stelmachuk seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

**NDACVA Report: See minutes from NDACOVA**

**1998 Meetings**

March 27-28 Fargo

July 17-18 Lisbon

Sept. 18-19 Bismarck

Dec. 4-5 Bismarck

Dave Schmidt made a motion to approve and John seconded. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.