



**Executive Committee Meeting
ROA Minuteman Memorial Building
Washington, DC
January 31, 2009**

MINUTES

The following members of the Executive Committee were present: President, COL Ladd Pattillo; President Elect, RADM Paul Kayye; Immediate Past President, Col. Paul Groskreutz; Vice President Army, LTC Tim Hoon; Junior Vice President Army, CPT Tim Nelson; Executive Committeemen Army, COL John Davenport, COL Terry Fobbs and LTC Chad Stoddard; Vice President Naval Services, RADM Jim Fowler; Junior Vice President Naval Services, LCDR Billy Franklin; Executive Committeemen Naval Services, CAPT David Epstein, CDR Rafael Ortiz and COL Tom Ragsdale; Vice President Air Force, Col. Bill Forshey; Junior Vice President Air Force, Capt. Wendy Hendley; Executive Committeemen Air Force, Lt. Col. Ann Knabe, Col. Dave Leta and Col. Mike Marten; and Executive Director, LTGEN Dennis McCarthy. Advisory members present were Judge Advocate, MAJ Bill Pentecost; and Deputy Executive Director, MG David Bockel.

Other elected and appointed National Officers present were: Surgeon and CIOMR Vice President, MG Robert Kasulke; Dental Surgeon, LTC Cheryl Becker; Public Relations Officer, CAPT Henry Plimack; and Sergeant-at-Arms, MAJ Charles Fairbanks. Invited guests included Chairman, Department National Council Members, Lt. Col. Don Stockton; ROAL President, Mrs. Anne Groskreutz; and PWG-21 Chairman, Col. Jim Reholz.

Advisory Members and National Officers excused were: Treasurer, COL Frank Ryan; Chaplain, Maj. Vince Cummings; Historian, COL Bob Jackle; and CIOR & UPORFA Vice President, MG Bob Smith.

A quorum being in attendance, the meeting was called to order at 0810 by Colonel Pattillo.

Introductory Remarks:

Colonel Pattillo opened the meeting by asking for an invocation, provided by Colonel Fobbs, and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Colonel Pattillo.

Colonel Pattillo stressed to the committee the critical financial situation ROA is facing. As ROA becomes a 21st century organization, everyone must to work together to make the brave decisions necessary to make ROA a fiscally responsible association that will last another 87 years and more.

Balanced Budget Initiative:

General McCarthy briefed the committee on the Balanced Budget Initiative (attached to these minutes) and addressed the many questions that followed. There was much debate and discussion among the committee before reaching the following "Sense of the ExCom."

Upon a properly made motion by Lieutenant Commander Franklin, which was seconded by Colonel Forshey, and upon a unanimous vote, it was resolved that it is the sense of the ROA National Executive Committee, adopted after study and debate at our meeting on 31 January 2009, that the steps to raise revenue and decrease expenses outlined in the "Balanced Budget Initiative" represent the best course of action for the Association to follow in the execution of our policy to achieve a balanced budget.

We direct the National Executive Director to proceed with the implementation of those portions of the Balanced Budget Initiative that are within his authority under the ROA Constitution and Bylaws. We encourage the National Council and other ROA leaders to assist in amending ROA's governing instruments where necessary to effect the other changes outlined in the Balanced Budget Initiative.

We further direct the National Executive Director to attach a copy of the Balanced Budget Initiative report to the minutes of this meeting, and to circulate the report widely throughout the Association.

Constitution and Bylaws Amendments:

Colonel Leta briefed the ExCom on two proposed Constitution and Bylaws amendments that will be reviewed by the C&BL committee during the Mid-Winter Conference. The first addresses changing the process of electing officers, to create a "one-member, one-vote" system. This change would enable the entire membership to elect the president/president elect and permit the service section's membership to elect their executive committee representation. The second is to limit the rebate to the Departments to the income from the Life Membership Trust Fund, and reduce the percentage of income to be rebated. After discussing the issue, the committee reached the following "Sense of the ExCom."

Upon a properly made motion by Colonel Ragsdale, which was seconded by Captain Hendley, and upon a 15-0 vote with 2 abstentions, it was resolved that it is the sense of the ROA National Executive Committee, adopted after study and debate at our meeting on 31 January 2009 that the ROA Constitution and Bylaws be amended to provide a system of "one-member, one-vote" for National Officers, and to provide for the gradual discontinuation of Department Dues Rebates, both of which will be of great benefit to the Association.

We encourage the National Council to adopt a similar resolution after it has had sufficient opportunity to study and debate the merits of these amendments.

We further encourage all members of ROA, and particularly those members who will attend their Department Conventions in 2009 and those who will serve as Delegates to the 2009 National Convention, to study these amendments and to support their adoption in Orlando, Florida.

National Conventions/National Council Meetings:

The question was asked as to which meeting will be held in February 2010 – a National Council meeting or a National Convention. It was announced that it will need to be a National Convention so that ROA can hold true to its charter mandate to hold a national convention annually. It was also announced that there will be a National Council meeting in the summer of 2010. General McCarthy asked Colonel Stockton for a sense of the National Council as to what the meeting should look like. Dates and locations cannot be chosen until those decisions are made.

Staff Director Reports:

- Industry Affairs: On behalf of Lani Burnett, Industry Affairs Director, who was busy preparing for the Military Expo, General McCarthy gave a quick status report of the show. Exhibit sales for this conference went very well and was almost 100 percent sold.
- Member Services: Colonel Will Holahan, Member Services Director, told the committee that the 2009 Membership Survey will be open on ROA's website through the end of March.
- Resource Development: Mr. Richard Thralls, Resource Development Director, updated the committee on recent development successes, and also shared detailed performance reports. He further pointed out improvements in on-line gifting capabilities, and outlined the purpose of the new Legacy Program. He asked that everyone be an advocate for soliciting contributions and reaching out to ROA members and potential supporters.
- Legislative and Military Policy: Captain Marshall Hanson, Legislative and Military Policy Director talked about the upcoming Hill visits on Wednesday. A change for this year is the use of Metro tickets instead of running bus shuttles. He emphasized that grassroots efforts within the department and chapters is a necessity when bills are going for a vote.
- Defense Education Forum: Colonel Bob Feidler, Strategic Defense Education Director, briefed the committee on recent and upcoming events for DEF. He briefed them on a proposed new logo for DEF that was the recommendation of the DEF Committee.

Upon a properly made motion by Colonel Fobbs, which was seconded by Lieutenant Colonel Hoon, and upon a unanimous vote, it was resolved that the Executive Committee approve the following logo (below) as the official logo of the Defense Education Forum.



Closing Remarks

Colonel Pattillo reminded the Executive Committee they are part of the National Council and urged everyone to attend the Wednesday, February 4 meeting of the National Council.

Colonel Pattillo wrapped up the meeting by encouraging everyone to read the "ROA Story," specifically where it talks about the changes made in 1981. Colonel Pattillo went on to say that the Executive Committee has discussed some serious issues and encouraged everyone to be honest and as factual as possible with members about what is going on within the association.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1450.

Minutes submitted by LtGen Dennis McCarthy, Executive Director.