

The Association of the Century, Inc.  
Minutes of Board of Directors  
8 May 2024 Fort Knox, KY

1. Call to Order: MSG Wayne Gerding, President, called the meeting to order at 1300 hours, 8 May 2024. MG Barron presented LTC Horace Johnson with a silver Mint Julep cup in recognition of his term as past President of the Association.
2. Recognition of Guests: No guests were present.
3. Approval of Minutes: Motion by LTC Kapp to approve the minutes of the February 6 Zoom meeting. Second by COL Abel. Motion carried.
4. Treasurer's Report: LTC Kapp emailed the financial statements and Treasurer's Report to the board prior to the meeting. LTC Kapp reviewed the income/expense statement and balance sheet, and the Treasurer's Report contains related details and commentary. LTC Kapp noted that improved deposit rates enable achieving a rate of return vs laddering. Contributions received or pledged include \$3,000 from the VFW in Owensboro, \$2,000 from the American Legion Post in Owensboro, and \$5,000 from Atmos Energy. The \$1,200 expense item to Zoom Video, found on Pg. 4 of the financial statement, is listed incorrectly. The item is the \$1,200 annual fee for website maintenance and was paid to Sublime Media. LTC Kapp will correct the line item and provide a revised statement to the Board. LTC Kapp reported that the Franklin Club Challenge has increased \$1,200 this year. MG Barron asked if information about the Franklin Challenge Club should be included in the next newsletter. LTC Kapp will write up a brief history of the program for the newsletter. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Financial Report by COL Abel, second by COL Bland. Motion carried.
5. Website: COL Cobb reported updated information about the Supply room merchandise was provided to Sublime Media and is in the process of being uploaded. He expects completion in the next few days. COL Cobb reported that Sublime Media inadvertently failed to invoice the annual \$1,200 maintenance fee for the prior year. Sublime will issue an invoice for the current year. COL Cobb requested information about the annual meeting be sent to him and he will get that to Sublime Media. COL Cobb reported discovery of a "glitch" that occurred with a recent online order. This problem was researched and resolved satisfactorily and resulted in an improvement with the ordering and payment tracking process. SGM Zimmerman suggested placing information in the newsletter reminding members how to access both the website and member section. COL Cobb said he would prepare something for the newsletter. MSG Gerding suggested placing a copy of the Association's by-laws in the member section of the website. COL Cobb requested Counsel provide him with the most current set of by-laws and he will provide Sublime Media with the information for the website.

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6. Membership Report: SGM Zimmerman provided the Membership Report to the Board prior to the meeting. Since the last meeting, the Association has gained four new members but lost four members due to deaths. Current membership is 884. MSG Gerding asked about the Taps Report and SGM Zimmerman said he forwards information about deceased members to COL Cobb who maintains the Taps Report. There was some discussion that the Taps Report wasn't accurate, and COL Cobb said he would check on it.

7. Newsletter: MSG Gerding reported for COL Williams who was unable to attend. The next newsletter is scheduled for mid to late June and anyone having items to include in the newsletter, send to COL Williams.

8. Scholarships: CW5 Diamond asked for two volunteers to help with the scoring of packets this year. She would like to have individuals that haven't previously scored packets. In addition, she suggested one of the positions rotate each year thus allowing more Board members to gain exposure to the scholarship process and develop a better understanding of how the process works and to solicit current ideas on possible improvements. Application packets are now computer scored rather than hand scored. SGT Lamkin and COL Rowe indicated they would volunteer. MSG Gerding asked if any packets had been received yet and CW5 Diamond said none yet but that packets are not typically received before the end of May.

9. Corridor of the Century: COL Russell reported he has received a few inquiries this year and has two packets coming and another one possible. The Association received an email from LTC Sarah Lisher, G2/6, 100<sup>th</sup> TD, inquiring how she could be of assistance in recruitment of minorities and females to the Association. She asked what she could do to help ensure recognition of deserving officers and NCOs. COL Russell contacted LTC Lisher and explained he was dependent on submission of nomination packets for the corridor. COL Russell explained that she could help by becoming a member of the Association and be the eyes and ears for the Association since she was on staff. COL Russell said she seemed to understand and accept his explanation.

10. Supply Room: COL Cobb has received sample shirts with a price point of about \$34 per shirt. He suggested a 10% mark-up to around \$37 to \$38 per shirt (plus tax). COL Cobb said he and LTC Johnson would conduct a physical count of the items currently in stock and develop a list of items needing resupply. He requests approval to spend up to \$1,200 to resupply items. MG Barron asked about hats and COL Cobb said we had an ample supply of hats in stock. The coins, flasks and decanters were popular items last year and he hoped they would continue this year. There was discussion on the reordering of coins and MAJ Holland reported the proof was good for two years. If a reorder is not placed within two years, the process will have to start over with submission of artwork and design. There was no cost to develop the proof. The coin cost for one hundred coins was \$685 or \$6.85 each. The decision was to not reorder coins prior to the Annual Meeting as there are still about 40 coins in stock. Motion by SGT Lamkin to approve up to \$1,200 for COL Cobb to reorder supplies. Second by CW5 Diamond. Motion carried.

The Association of the Century, Inc.  
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11. Historical Holding Center (Museum): MG Barron reported current efforts for the museum are to paint the tank in front of the Headquarters building on May 18. After the tank is painted, he will work to arrange another group of volunteers to come in and work on the light cases. Date is to be determined.

12. Board of Directors: LTC Johnson provided handouts on the status of the Board of Directors. At the last Annual Meeting, the Board discussed establishing three tiers with the term expiration dates in each tier come due at the same time. This will provide a more balanced approach to the appointment terms. Tier B terms expire this year, 2024. All nine (9) members of Tier B have agreed to continue serving on the board. Tier B becomes the slate of recommended nominees from the Board to present to the general membership for approval at the Annual Meeting. Motion by CSM Belcher to approve Tier B as the slate of nominees for the Annual Meeting. Second by COL Butler. Motion carried.

Regarding the two existing board vacancies, the by-laws of the Association allow the Board of Directors to fill a vacant position for the remainder of the current term of that position. MSG Gerding recommended filling the vacancy in Tier A with CSM Duard Thomas. Motion by COL Butler to nominate CSM Thomas for the Tier A vacancy. Second by CSM Belcher. Motion carried.

Regarding the vacancy in Tier C, CSM Belcher has two potential candidates for consideration: CSM Ned McWhorter and CSM Larry Craig. Both individuals are life members of the Association and have regularly attended the Annual Meetings. Motion by CSM Belcher to nominate CSM McWhorter for the Tier C vacancy. Second by COL Bland. Motion carried.

MSG Gerding discussed establishing a goal to maintain an equal balance between NCO's and officers on the board. This is an item the board has discussed in the past. MSG Gerding informed the Board that setting a specific goal requires a change to the by-laws. Based on that information, a recommendation was made to make this a general policy, or guideline, of the board without a formal change to the by-laws.

13. SOS Pickle Jar: MG Tindall recalled the previous discussions about what we might do with the restricted funds in the SOS account as we do not know of any 100<sup>th</sup> Division soldiers currently deployed. MG Tindall talked with the Division XO and confirmed no active 100<sup>th</sup> Division members currently in deployed status. MG Tindall's recommendation is to continue to hold contributions in the event of future needs given the current situation in the world. He suggested we consider placing those funds into a Certificate of Deposit. LTC Kapp said a CD is not needed. He recognized the intent is to grow the funds rather than sitting idle and that could be accomplished by establishing an internal policy that pays a fixed rate of return to the fund. LTC Kapp recommended paying 5% annually to the fund on the balance of the Pickle Jar account. Motion to make a 5% annual interest payment as a policy made by MG Tindall. Second by CSM Bethards. Motion carried.

The Association of the Century, Inc.  
Minutes of Board of Directors  
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14. Old Business: MSG Gerding provided a handout to the Board detailing income/expenses associated with the annual meeting. Preliminary expense projection is \$15,745 with income projected at \$27,412 from multiple sources. Meal costs were discussed at length. MSG Gerding recommended reducing the management fee for meals from 24% to 12% with the difference covered by the Association. After further discussion regarding the meal management fee, the Board consensus was to eliminate the management fee thus reducing meal costs for attendees. Motion to remove the 24% management fee and establish the individual meal costs to \$35, \$31, \$41, and \$31 (\* see below) made by MG Barron. Second by COL Abel. Motion carried.

Meal	Cost
Friday – BBQ Buffet	\$35
Saturday – Option 1 (Chicken)	\$31
Saturday-Option 2 (Pork)	\$41
Saturday – Vegetable Plate	\$31

MSG Gerding reported that COL Noble is preparing a Veterans Welcome Packet and COL Abel is having Welcome Packets prepared that highlight available activities in the Owensboro area. Bingo is still on schedule for Saturday. COL Noble provided additional information to MAJ Holland who reported the auction/ raffle committee is MSG Bruin, MSG Bohannon, CSM Bethards, and COL Butler and COL Noble. Other miscellaneous items were discussed and coordinated, and MSG Gerding indicated the planning process was in order and no significant issues noted. Hotel reservations stand at around twelve so far.

15. New Business: MSG Gerding noted that the Board needed to reconfirm the motion to accept the recommended changes to the scholarship program made in the previous Zoom meeting. Motion to accept the changes as noted made by MAJ Holland. Second by CSM Bethards. Motion carried.

Motion made to accept the Minutes and the Treasurer’s Report and financial reports from the previous Zoom meeting made by SGT Lamkin. Second by COL Warren. Motion carried.

16. Next meeting is 1300 hours, via Zoom on 6 August 2024. The next in-person meeting is 12 November at Fort Knox.

Being no further business, motion by MAJ to adjourn. Second by COL Abel. Motion carried.

Craig Holland, MAJ, (Ret)  
Assistant Secretary