

WESTERN RESERVE SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BOARD MEETING

**April 1, 2025
Minutes**

Present in person: Smith, Kertes, Kittredge, Hoon.

Present by Zoom: Havlovic, Palo, Riley, Ross, Stanley, Stickney, Watkins.

Start time: noon

Stop time: 1:05 pm.

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance: Smith.

Invocation: Hoon.

Quorum: Stanley confirmed.

Minutes: Motion by Kittredge, seconded by Palo, to approve the February Minutes.
Approved.

President's remarks:

- Smith reported that the George Washington Birthday luncheon attendance exceeded expectations: close to 100 attended. We have a very busy April. The first First Thursday takes place at Hail Mary's in Westlake. Smith would like to focus on current descendants of WRSSAR founding members. He has received interest from the Perkins family. The Board thought the exercise is a good idea - grow from descendants of past members. Riley suggested offering to waive first year membership for such descendants.

First Vice President's remarks:

- Havlovic reported working at the Genealogical Expo of the Western Reserve Mayflower Society. The youth oratory contest has been moved from March to April. He is also working on a July Compatriot Family Picnic - date to be determined.
- Havlovic is hosting the May First Thursday at the Burntwood Tavern in North Olmsted. He has spoken with Richard Stanley about a First Thursday in September at Sapphire Creek.
- The 250th anniversary lapel pin comes from an original Connecticut design. No copyright or patent over the pins. They have a US manufacturing facility for the pins. Possibly use the pins as an incentive to come to meetings. Kittredge offered to buy 300 pins for WRSSAR.

Treasurer's Report

- The Treasurer's Report was emailed to the Board last week. Ross moved to approve. Hoon seconded. Approved by Board vote.

Youth Awards:

- Watkins reported that he is in contact with the principal of the Gates Mills school for the Fourth of July program.

Consolidated Funds

- Watkins reported that, as of the end of March, the balance of the Consolidated Funds stood at \$633,266.00. He commented that, so far this year, we have spent \$25,538.85 for life dues and George Washington's Birthday. The fact that we have taken significant expenses from this fund means that the actual investment results were down only 2.9 % for the year. Our investments are very conservative.
- Ross asked about the meeting of the Consolidated Funds Committee. Smith reported that that meeting is in the planning stages and should occur before the next Board meeting. Smith's name is being added to the account.

Veterans Committee:

- Ross reported that the committee will not have a designated chair. They have looked at the previous year's activities and decided that the person who led year's will self-assign to lead the same activity this year. Riley reported that the Joint Veterans Council luncheon on April 12 will be supported by WRSSAR. We will award an Air Force JROTC cadet on May 7. In Westlake on April 19 we will support grave markings.

New Business:

- Smith reported that a new Navy ship being built in Wisconsin is to be named the USS Cleveland. A specific date has yet to be set for commissioning. Smith will meet with the ship's commissioning committee to determine how WRSSAR can support them. The Board thought our support was a great idea.

Benediction: Hoon.