

MINUTES
DEVOAD MEETING 15 OCTOBER 2014
DEMA SMYRNA, DE

This meeting was held in conjunction with the regularly scheduled Delaware Citizens Corps meeting at DEMA, Smyrna, DE, convening at 10:00am. The DEVOAD portion of the meeting convened at 11:00.

DEVOAD Secretary Dave Scott chaired the meeting in the absence of Chairperson Pastor Shane Moran.

Motion to waive reading of the minutes of the 16 July 2014 meeting passed, and the minutes were approved as submitted by e-mail to all members on 17 July, as amended by Larry Sullivan.

Secretary Scott advised the membership that he had submitted the list of nominees for Officers for terms commencing at the conclusion of this meeting, by e-mail on 17 July and again on 10 September, for consideration and voting at this meeting.

The nominees were:

- Dave Venables, Team Rubicon, for Chairperson
- Pastor Shane Moran, current DEVOAD Chairperson, for Vice Chairperson
- Dave Scott, NCC OEM and current Secretary, for Secretary
- Larry Sullivan of the Commodore Center, for Treasurer.

Secretary Scott asked if there were any further nominees; no additional nominees were offered. A voice vote was held.

The aforementioned slate of candidates was unanimously approved by a voice vote. These officers officially assumed their positions following the vote. (Larry Sullivan still needs to complete some administrative paperwork with outgoing Treasurer Lawrence Shurtleff of the Salvation Army, in order to access the DEVOAD bank account).

Business turned to the adoption of a revised set of By-Laws drafted by the Executive Committee following the 16 July 2014 meeting. Copies of the draft By-Laws were sent to all DEVOAD members by e-mail on 17 September 2014 for review, comment, and preparation for discussion at this meeting.

Rev Phil Huber, Lutheran Disaster Response, raised concerns about the membership role that government agencies would have under the proposed Article V, Paragraph A. Specifically Rev Huber's concerns were informed by his experience with the Maryland VOAD, where he reported that governmental agencies had an undue influence on the direction and scope of the Maryland VOAD. He stressed the need to have other than government agencies as the primary policy shapers and agenda setters on the DEVOAD. He suggested a "tiered" membership structure, with limited government agency voting.

Stephan Zweidler of Team Rubicon also discussed the pros and cons of allowing government agency members to have the same voting rights and membership authorities as the faith based, non-governmental, and private sector members.

Dave Scott pointed out that this issue was debated at length by the Executive Committee during the By-Laws drafting process, which led to the inclusion of a third paragraph in Article I: Purpose and Mission of the Organization: "Nothing in these by-laws shall prevent individual member organizations from taking independent action when such action is in the public interest and/or is integral to individual member

organization's core mission or charter." This clause was included to ensure no member organization would be encumbered in its mission by any government agency by virtue of its membership in DEVOAD.

Bill Duveneck of the ARRL suggested adopting the By-Laws as drafted, with a sunset provision of one year, in order to evaluate the influence, if any, of government agency members on the direction and operation of DEVOAD.

Rev Huber recommended we look at the Charter of the National VOAD to determine the appropriate role, level of membership, and degree of participation by government agencies, and to ensure the DEVOAD By-Laws are not in conflict with the National Charter.

Rev Tom Edwards of St. Mark's UMC made a motion that the Executive Committee review the National VOAD Charter and other State VOAD Charters/By-Laws to determine if a consensus exists regarding the role that government agencies have in VOADs, and to report their findings to the general membership at our January 2015 meeting.

Motion passed and the Executive Committee will re-convene to further examine this issue and make recommendations to the general membership. Adoption of revised By-Laws placed on hold until this issue is resolved.

Rev Huber raised the issue of Long Term Recovery (LTR) as being directly relevant to the mission and purpose of the DEVOAD. He recommended the next meeting be held at Chrisfield, MD, where we could observe some of the ongoing activities associated with the LTR efforts in Somerset Co MD. The Executive Committee recommended the next general meeting (Jan 2015) remain at DEMA HQ in Smyrna, however a special trip could be arranged in November or December for DEVOAD members to examine the situation in Somerset Co. Rev Huber will advise Secretary Scott on possible dates in November or December.

Tony Lee of DEMA pointed out that LTR is an important DEMA responsibility and that the DEVOAD has an important role in LTR. DEMA is looking to develop a Disaster Recovery Group, in which DEVOAD members would have an important role.

Rev Huber mentioned that faith based groups are often more comfortable operating with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) than with State agencies.

Chairman Dave Venables mentioned that DEVOAD has a new e-mail address, DelawareVOAD@gmail.com.

Chairman Venables wants to set up an ad hoc committee to survey and catalogue the resources, capabilities, and personnel skill sets of the various DEVOAD member organizations. We need to set up a data base identifying our various member organizations, their public service role, their representatives and key points of contact, the resources they have, and what functions they can perform in disaster situations.

Tony Lee noted that DEVOAD has an important role in the Delaware Emergency Operations Plan (DEOP) and in particular, providing representatives in the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during emergencies.

No further business discussed at this meeting.

Meeting concluded at 12:00. Larry Sullivan graciously paid for lunch out of pocket. As of the 16 July 2014 meeting, there was \$890.63 in our account. An update will be provided once Treasurer Sullivan completes the relief process with outgoing Treasurer Shurtleff.

Next general meeting will be held Wednesday 21 January 2015, 10:00-12:00 at DEMA Smyrna.