



AMVETS

Department of Ohio

Friday, June 5, 2020

Fellow AMVETS,

I hope this letter finds everyone in our AMVETS family safe, in good health and beginning to get used to the new normal. Everyone needs to understand we are still experiencing a worldwide Pandemic of the COVID-19 virus and patience now is as important as good hygiene and social distancing.

The purpose of this letter is to specifically address post meetings and elections. The National Commander has already sent out a directive advising that all National officers would remain in office until the 2021 elections; this was done after cancelling the National Convention and stated that all departments who were unable to hold their state convention before August 1, 2020 should do the same. Subsequently, the department issued a directive that no posts or their supporting organizations should have meetings or elections until the State of Ohio allows us to reopen the social club portions of our posts. The State of Ohio announced yesterday, June 4, 2020, that social clubs can officially reopen on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 which means all posts within the department may resume normal operations. Therefore, the following directive is issued to all posts providing the options below for the 2020/2021 elections. All elections, if held, must follow proper procedure as laid out in the Constitution and By-Laws (CBL):

1. All current officers stay in place until 2021 elections. If an officer does not want to continue, they should resign, and proper replacement procedures as outlined in the CBL should be followed.
2. Hold elections in one of two options stated below. All elections held must be in accordance with the CBL and must be completed by August 1, 2020.
 - a. Posts with regular meetings scheduled after the second Tuesday of each month, can choose option 1 from above or have nominations at their regularly scheduled June meeting and then elections at their regularly scheduled July meeting.
 - b. Posts with regular meetings scheduled before the second Tuesday of each month, can choose option 1 from above or send out a notification in accordance with the CBL stating that a special meeting for elections will be held a minimum of 30 days from date of the special notice, scheduled after your regularly scheduled July meeting and prior to August 1, 2020 deadline.



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The Department suggests that posts handle their upcoming meetings in one of the two manners listed below:

1. Posts with regularly scheduled membership meetings on or after June 10th: suspend regular business after the call to order, benediction, roll call of officers and the determination you have a quorum; then entertain a motion, a second, open discussion, make a determination on the option, vote and then continue with regular business.
2. Posts with regularly scheduled membership meetings prior to June 10th: the post Executive Board (EB) will need to decide if they choose option 1 or option 2b from above (*EB is tasked by the membership with running the post between meetings*). If the post waits to send the special meeting notice until after the regularly scheduled July meeting, the post will not meet the August 1, 2020 deadline. If option 2b is chosen, the post nominations would be at the regularly scheduled July meeting and elections at the scheduled special July meeting.

Regardless of the option chosen by your membership or executive board, revalidations are required to be filed with the Department by all posts no later than August 1, 2020 (*this year only*).

Yours in Service,

Andrew McElrath
Department Commander

Cc: Kay Gibbins, Auxiliary President; Vern Davenport, Sons Commander