



28th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Company B

TO: Membership
FROM: Rob Calhelha, Secretary
DATE: January 25, 2025

Company B of the recreated 28th Mass held its annual meeting on 24 January 2026 in Fredericksburg, VA.

The annual meeting was called to order with opening remarks by the Chairman.

- The Chairman put a motion on the floor to allow for verbal voting by unanimous content. Motion was passed.
- The Chairman put a motion on the floor to approve the 2025 minutes. Motion was passed.

Reports

Reports for the year were presented by the following officers and representatives:

- Chairman
- Captain
- First Sergeant
- Treasurer
- Quartermaster
- Webmaster
- Third Regiment Representative
- Irish Brigade Statue Representative
- Musician
- Secretary (Sub-reports on recruiting, social media, and event planning.)

All reports were received by the membership.

Elections

Elections were conducted for the following positions:

- Chairman, Captain, First Sergeant, Two Members-at-Large

All nominated candidates ran unopposed and were duly seconded and approved by vote:

- Tim Faudree was elected Chairman (2-year term)
- Rolf Madole was elected Captain (2-year term)
- Aaron Harvey was elected First Sergeant (2-year term)
- Dennis O'Connell was elected Member-at-Large to complete the remaining 1-year of Tim Faudree's term.

- Ben Hood was elected Member-at-Large to complete the remaining 1-year of Joe Abernathy's term.

The outgoing Chairman introduced the newly elected board, after which the meeting was turned over to the incoming Chairman, who made brief acceptance remarks.

Appointments

Discussion regarding events committee. Chairman appointed Aaron Harvey as Chair, solicits volunteers. Jon Fitzpatrick and Barney Mahaney volunteer.

Discussion around a civilian/special impression event coordinator by Joe Pankey. Chairman moves to appoint to the position, however per the bylaws any appointed position needs to be voted on by the board first. Secretary sent email out to appropriate parties to finalize duty roles and responsibilities, for board vote.

Treasurer (Harvey), Secretary (Calhelha), Webmaster (Lynes), Principal Musician (Mitchell), and Quartermaster (Calhelha) were appointed by the new Board with the consent of the membership.

Position Back-ups (Chairman)

The importance of developing backups and succession for key positions was discussed, and members were encouraged to express interest in shadowing leadership roles.

Trade Blanket (Chairman)

Chairman discussed bringing back the trade blanket at Spring Drill.

Quartermaster Transition (Chairman)

Hal Lapham formally stepped down as Quartermaster after many years of service and was thanked for his contributions. Rob Calhelha was appointed as Quartermaster.

Loaner Gear Policy (Chairman)

Concerns regarding accountability, availability, and liability of loaner gear were discussed. A policy was presented stating that all loaner gear was required to be returned after each event, with the Quartermaster serving as the primary point of contact. Provisions were noted for acceptance by field leadership or board members if the Quartermaster was unavailable. Policy is in place.

Recruitment and Retention (Chairman)

The need for continued recruitment and member retention was emphasized, particularly in light of anticipated attrition over the coming years.

Black Powder Availability (Chairman)

The ongoing black powder shortage was discussed, including limited availability and delayed resupply timelines. Members were encouraged to share sourcing information and assist with group purchasing when possible. There was much interest in a group buy if powder could be found.

Corporal Selection Criteria (Rolf, Aaron)

Proposed corporal selection criteria were discussed, including drill proficiency, teaching ability, and length of service. The process of mentorship and evaluation at spring drill was outlined.

Old Business

No additional old business was brought forward.

New Business/Open Discussion

- Jerry discussed making two new wayside signs for music and welcome sign. Said at some point he'd be willing to sale existing signs to the company.

- Mike M offered drums from the 49th VA for sale to the 28th MA. External discussion resulted in a determination the drums are not needed at this time.

- The failed vote to honor Bob Heath was discussed and there was interest in pursuing some sort of donation in his name.

- Barney M noted safety concerns with units falling in with us, group agreed that those in the field must be able to operate in a safe manner, regardless if they are a member or not. Field leadership and new NCOs will endeavor to keep event safe, even if needing to remove someone from the line.

Adjournment

Chairman proposes motion to adjourn. Motion passed, the meeting was adjourned at noon.