



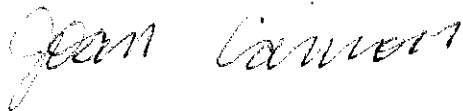
My year as National Executive Committee (NEC) began by attending orientation to become familiar with responsibilities of my new position. National Parliamentarian Chris Dickey provided training on NEC 101 Serving on "A National Board of Directors," September 2, 2021, at a very early 7:30 am. There are only three duties of a NEC members Duty of Care, Duty of Obedience and Duty of Loyalty. Following our orientation I attended the Post-Convention NEC committee meeting. Sharon Conatser Finance Chair provided the finance committee report. The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) FY 2022 Budget was discussed and a vote to adopt was carried out budget was adopted. The adoption of ALA Foundation FY 2022 Budget was also discussed and a vote to adopt was carried out budget was adopted.

In discussing the FY21 budget results were strong but mostly due to reduced services, activities and travel related to COVID. Investments could see swings in market values over the next few months, inflation concerns and the national debt increasing. These all affect the stock market which then affects our investments. The FY22 budget has a deficit that can be linked to the continued decrease in membership revenue. Between 2014-2021 membership decreased by approximately 131,000 members which equals \$1.57 million in lost revenue. If this continues without sources of replacement revenue further cuts will be needed such as programs, staff cuts and support for volunteer services will need to be implemented. **Bottom line, a membership dues increase proposal will be drafted and communicated prior to mid-year NEC meeting. We need to go back to our units and discuss our current dues. National retains \$12.00 of our total dues currently they state an increase to \$18.00 is needed to support the FY22 budget.** An example my unit if we didn't increase our dues to accommodate the potential increase of \$6.00, we would have to pay \$3.00 for each member and we would not gain membership revenue for our unit. Decisions made at the mid-year NEC meeting will be discussed at 2022 National Convention. Our ALA leadership are working with the Legion

to help reduce future costs to include conventions. Special Committee reports on inclusion & diversity and code of ethical conduct was conducted by Trish Ward. My first NEC session ended, and an Executive Session was held once those not allowed to attend left. The last NEC Special Executive Session I attended was held via zoom on November 3, 2021.

My takeaways from the three NEC meetings I have attended, 1. Made sure your unit understands there is a possible dues increase that would be voted on at National Convention 2022. Discuss what a possible \$6.00 increase would mean to your unit and unit members. 2. Membership dues increase is a direct link to our decrease in membership. As we all have heard from our Department Membership Chairman Tracy Varnell-Fercho we are all membership chairmen. Do all you can to support membership within your unit. 3. Lastly there are many hard-working ALA national, department, district and unit members working to solve raising costs and loss of membership.

Thank Madame President this concludes my report.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Cannon".

Joan Cannon, NEC