



## Chapter Presidents Zoom Meeting Notes June 3, 2020 | 2 pm ET

**Chapters Represented** – Broward, Chattanooga, Dallas, Greater Cincinnati, Los Angeles, Mary Ball Washington, Pensacola, Sacramento, Tucson, Utah, and Valley Forge.

**Board Members in Attendance** – Sandy Cook and Marvell Ruppel

### Welcome

Thank you to all who participated in our first ever chapter presidents' zoom meeting. I think it all went well for a first go of it. Below is a link to the recorded meeting.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/u89YEL-h1FIORqfPxFz8fYd\\_Edv9eaa80SYZ-ffxRycB-Yludh0hc\\_uYMqThb53](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/u89YEL-h1FIORqfPxFz8fYd_Edv9eaa80SYZ-ffxRycB-Yludh0hc_uYMqThb53)

### ★ Freedoms Foundation Updates from Headquarters

Coronavirus: Where we stand. Freedoms Foundation is still in the area of a red zone, but will be moved to a yellow zone this weekend with the opening of more businesses and allowing larger gatherings of 25. Hopefully in two weeks if things continue to trend down we will be in the green phase which will open everything back up to close to normal within proper guidelines. Freedoms Foundation is still on track for September to resume programming. Schools in our area have been given the green light to return to in person instruction July 1<sup>st</sup> and that in many ways is our barometer. Campus has gone through a major cleaning. Our housekeeping and maintenance staff have really done an amazing job. Safety precautions will be in place and we will continue to follow CDC guidelines and will be ready to welcome students in October.

- ★ Los Angeles Chapter talked about the struggle in Los Angeles to keep the chapter in touch and active during this shutdown. The shutdown in Los Angeles looks to continue for a while.

We will be running a Flag Day Campaign to focus on the importance of Flag Day and to bring attention to Freedoms Foundation and our mission. The campaign will be running the week leading up to Flag Day from June 8-14<sup>th</sup>. It will start with a Constant Contact email and end with a message from David. We will be running posts to social media about the flag, personal videos from staff and supporters like Medal of Honor Recipient Willy Williams. We will have a daily flag quiz on twitter with prizes. You can help with the campaign by flying your flag and encouraging others to do so as well. You can also follow along with us on social media and like our pages and share our pages with others. We will post to each chapter's Facebook page that we control. Hopefully this campaign will bring exposure to our organization and knowledge about Flag Day.

We are looking towards a new idea – Chapter Zoom Meetings. This is a time for each chapter to meet via zoom with several FFVF office members and each other for an hour. This could be a Q&A or could be a formal presentation on a topic of each chapter's choice. We think this is a great way to bring back interaction during lockdown. We would work with each chapter individually to select the best time and items you want to discuss.

- ★ Comments: Utah Chapter likes the idea and would like to participate. Chattanooga mentioned doing something similar with friends, but don't know how many of the membership will participate. Will bring to the membership for discussion. The Los Angeles Chapter also has concerns of membership participation, but would consider joining other chapters. Los Angeles is also looking for ideas on how to get older members on Zoom.

We will move forward on this idea. We will start a schedule and will reach out to chapters to set up times and topics.

We just sent out a Spring Appeal letter to our donors and will be running a follow up email to non-donors. We have been working with American Philanthropic on this appeal. If you have gotten a letter or email already, please let us know your thoughts. We are looking for feedback on the presentation, format and message. Jason Raia has worked hard on this appeal and would like to get good feedback to see if it's making an impact. Send opinions both good and bad to either myself or Jason at [jraia@ffv.org](mailto:jraia@ffv.org).

- ★ Question brought up about purchasing bricks. We still have the brick campaign in the Walk of Honor. You can find the form on our website under the Support Menu.

## ★ Education Updates

Graduate programs have gone online for the summer of 2020. The schedule is as follows...

- ★ June 22-26 Medal of Honor Legacy Program WWII
- ★ July 6-10 America Revolution Philadelphia Campaign
- ★ July 12-16 The Presidency – Electoral Power
- ★ July 27-31 – Medal of Honor Legacy Program – Technology & War of Terror

Programs will run daily from 11am-3pm with breaks in between. The programs will contain 15 hours of professional development via Google Classroom and Zoom. Teachers will no longer receive graduate credit, but will receive professional development hours. There are still openings. Teachers must register by June 8<sup>th</sup>. A nice feature of going on line is we will be offering opportunities via Zoom to members and supporters to hear some of the keynote speakers in the graduate programs. Examples of speakers include Woody Williams and David Eisenhower.

- ★ A question was brought up about cost. The programs are free for teachers.

Spirit of America updates - Rachel Schy who was handling Spirit of America has left FFVF to pursue studies to become a rabbi. The education team is looking for a replacement. In the meantime for the October programs please reach out to Carolyn with any questions or for assistance. The dates of the programs again are October 8-11 for FFVF III and October 22-25 for FFVF IV. As the programs get closer we will keep you updated on any necessary guidelines.

## ★ Awards Update

The deadline for National Awards is now September 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have entries ready, please send them in as we will have a jury in place this July to start the review process. We will be ready for ceremonies in November. We do plan to return to the June 1<sup>st</sup> date in 2021. Ideas for awards include heroes from COVID-19 pandemic.

This is the last year for the Leavey Awards and we will be honoring 5 amazing educators. Though, this is the last year for the Leavey Awards for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education, we are looking to continue the award to honor teachers in entrepreneurship. How that award will look, we do not know now yet. We are working with the Leavey Foundation on a suitable plan moving forward. The manner in which we honor the Leavey Class of 2020 has changed due to COVID-19. We will still conduct the Leavey Summit on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. It will just be virtual via Zoom. We will be able to invite everyone to participate. The awards will be presented at each recipient's school. David will go to make the presentation and if possible other staff will join. We will also do nice Philadelphia/Valley Forge themed gift basket for each recipient to bring Philly to them.

### ★ Other News and Notes

- ★ As mentioned throughout this call we will be offering online events. We have many upcoming opportunities including graduate program speakers and the Leavey Summit. We are also working with the Union League Legacy Foundation and offering programming such as the "Constitution and COVID-19" with more coming this summer. Please be on the lookout for information on registering for these great program opportunities.
- ★ Another project in the pipeline is a How to Guide on chapter elections. A topic that has come up during the pandemic is what do we do about elections? Do we postpone or do we hold them electronically? The guidelines we create will be a dos and don'ts for electing chapter officers. We are looking for feedback and suggestions.
  - ★ Los Angeles has completed elections. They were held via mail and electronically. They made sure to have a quorum and majority vote.
  - ★ If this piece doesn't pertain right now it will serve as a good reference piece for the future.
  - ★ Dallas had its election. 90 percent of members have email. The voting information was sent via email. The election in person usually has 25 members vote this email process had 58 votes.

Final Comments - This is still a time of flux as we continue to figure things out moving forward, but if anyone has dates of rescheduled events please let us know. David is always looking to visit. Any updates for your websites please let us know. Keep us informed of new officers and when they take over officially.

### ★ Chapter Input – Open Floor

- ★ Question about Teacher Registration. The teacher application process for online is different than the larger process for the in person sessions. We are now just looking for name and contact information. If the teacher was already registered they have been informed and are all set with the new online programs. Registration is needed only for new teachers.
- ★ Can member attend sessions? We are opening some sessions up to a larger audience, but if people can drop in and out on a program, I am not sure. I will follow up with that information.
- ★ Will teachers still get credit? They will not get graduate credit but will get professional development hours.
- ★ Chattanooga Chapter made a request for help with revising their bylaws. They are looking for a sample for another chapter. Los Angeles joined in on the request. I will be sending chapters out more guidelines for bylaws and 501c3 as requested. Headquarters would like copies of all chapters' bylaws/standing rules.

With no further comments the meeting was brought to a close. Thank you to all who attended and remember if you need anything or have any questions,

Carolyn is just a phone call and email away – 610-933-8825 ext. 234 or [csantangelo@ffvf.org](mailto:csantangelo@ffvf.org)

**Next Meeting – Wednesday, Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2PM EST**

Submitted by  
Csantangelo on 6/5/2020