Memorandum

Date: 3 January 2022
To: Department of Georgia Bylaws Committee
From: William Miller – Department of Georgia Finance Committee Chairman
Subject: Proposed Change to Department of Georgia Bylaws

NEW ARTICLE SIX – FINANCE COMMITTEE, SECTION 600 – FINANCE COMMITTEE

Present: N/A

Proposed (Note: If adopted, this will require the renaming/renumbering of the current Article Six, Section 600, Article Seven, Section 700 and 701, Article Eight, Section 800, as well as adding Finance Committee to the list of Standing Committees listed in Article Two, Section 200, Subsection f.):

ARTICLE SIX

FINANCE COMMITTEE

SECTION 600 – FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. The Finance Committee shall consist of at least four (4) members appointed by the Department Commandant and approved by the Board of Trustees.

b. The four (4) Finance Committee members shall consist of three (3) Regular Members in good standing and one (1) Associate Member in good standing. The Department Senior Vice Commandant shall serve as the Chairman and the Department Paymaster or Adjutant/Paymaster shall serve as an advisor but may not be a voting member of the committee. Each member shall be appointed to a one (1) year term and may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

c. The primary purpose of the Finance Committee is to oversee the financial welfare of the Department of Georgia as well as provide feedback and recommendations to the Department of Georgia Board of Trustees and the Department of Georgia membership. This will include the preparation and presentation of an annual budget, which shall be approved by the Board of Trustees and distributed to the Department of Georgia
Detachment Commandants for distribution within their Detachments no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the Department Annual Convention business meeting, where it shall be voted on by the membership. Once approved, any changes to the annual budget must be presented at a Department of Georgia Meeting for approval by the membership.

Rationale: As the Department of Georgia grows, there is a need to improve our financial awareness of how Department funds are utilized. In the past, the Finance Committee has been created as Non-Standing Committee and this amendment will ensure it is a Standing Committee. By adding a budget responsibility to the Finance Committee, this allows the Department of Georgia membership an opportunity to participate in the process of deciding how their funds are distributed as well as creating spending limits, based on budget line items, that will allow the Department of Georgia Board of Trustees to better operate. Any increase to a budget line item will require the approval of those members in attendance at a Department of Georgia meeting.