

**DISABLED AMERICANS VETERANS
PATRICK HENRY CHAPTER 34
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
November 02, 2024**

OPENING CEREMONY

Commander (CDR) Larry Griffin opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Chaplain (Ch.) Jeffrey Benoit gave the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Junior Vice Commander (JVC) Terrell Lasker. CDR Griffin read the purpose for us being here and stated the Mission Statement is posted on the wall. CDR Griffin declared the meeting open for business.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

The following officers were present: CDR Larry Griffin, Senior Vice Commander (SVC) Ethel Smith, JVC Terrell Lasker, Treasurer Herbert Jones, Ch. Jeffrey Benoit, Immediate Past Commander (IPC) Charles Morris, Member-at-Large (MAL) Clarence Johnson, Judge Advocate (JA) Robert Monroe, Adjutant Veranica Jordan, Officer-of-the-Day Rushton White and Sergeant at Arms Thomas Coleman. Executive Committee (EC) had a quorum of Chapter Officers present in order to conduct the meeting. The general body had twenty-two members present.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. James Icenhour - Veteran, retired Air Force, Chairman of the Chamber's Military Affairs Committee. Mr. Icenhour expanded on "Home for the Holidays" and left brochures for donation.

Comrade Keith Davis - Veteran, HVAC Transportation. Comrade Davis stated we lost our drivers and gave the qualifications for being a driver for the VA. please come by the office if you are interested and your name will be given to Comrade Keith Davis. Comrade Davis also talked about the Christmas Party at Hampton VA Medical Center, December 15, 2024. Comrade Davis stated the "Need List" will be sent out next week to the Commander, Senior Vice Commander and Adjutant.

Mr. Louis McKinney – Marine veteran. Guest of Comrade Ray Miller

MINUTES OF THE LAST GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

A motion was entertained and moved by JA Robert Monroe and seconded by Comrade Wayne Wynn that we dispense with the reading of the October 12, 2024, General Membership Meeting Minutes. There was no discussion and this motion was unanimously approved by the body.

A motion was entertained and moved by Comrade Rushton White and seconded by JA Robert Monroe to approve the General Membership Meeting Minutes as written for October 12, 2024. There was no discussion and this motion was approved.

TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Herbert Jones reported the Monthly Chapter Finances for October 2024. The beginning balanced for October 2024 was \$100,878.75, income was \$268.96, disbursements were \$7,118.63, and the ending balance for October 2024 was \$92,444.11.

Treasurer Jones stated \$77,085.99 of the chapter money is in CDs.

The Treasurer's report will be filed for internal audit.

CHAPLAIN REPORT: No Report

COMMUNICATIONS: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Reports were given by the chairperson or the respective committee representative for the following committees:

Welfare and Relief: MAL Clarence Johnson reported we helped three veterans this month for a total of \$1,519.14.

Entertainment: JVC Terrell Lasker played the recorded statement he prepared to be used at Golden Corral for Military Appreciation.

Membership Committee: No Report

Thrift Store: No Addendum

CSO: MAL Clarence Johnson reported the CSOs had processed 19 cases for the month of October 2024. This included completing DIC and insurance cards.

LVAP: No Report

Building Committee: No Report

Bylaws Committee: No Addendum.

Budget Committee: Treasurer Herbert Jones presented the suggested budget to the body for approval.

IT: No Report

Web Master: Comrade Jerome Payton stated he needed to be informed when items needed to be added to the web site.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

Reading of the Executive Committee meeting minutes for October 22, 2024 was read by Adjutant Veranica Jordan. A motion was entertained and moved by Comrade Jerry Phillips and seconded by Comrade Lora Skinner to approve the Executive Meeting minutes as read. There was a discussion and this motion was approved by the body.

A motion was made by Comrade Ruston White and seconded by IPC Charles Morris to amend the Chapter 34 budget for 2024/2025 to reduce the following AFR lines: to reduce line 12D by \$1,600.00 from \$6,000 to \$4,400.00, line 14A by \$1,400 from \$5,000 to \$3,600.00, line 14J by \$3,500.00 from \$5,000.00 to \$1,500.00, 14L by \$2,500.00 from \$6,000.00 to \$3,500.00, 14M by \$2,500.00 from \$6,000.00 to \$3,500.00, and 14N by \$500.00 from \$3,000.00 to \$2,500.00 for a total of \$12,000; to increase the following AFR lines: line 1 by \$282.50 from \$900.00 to \$1,182.50, 12C by \$4,005.30 from \$10,000.00 to \$14,005.30, 14B by \$457.50 from \$5,000 to \$5,457.50, 14S by \$7,100.00 from \$0.00 to \$7,100.00, and 21 by \$100.00 from \$100.00 to \$200.00 for a total of \$11,945.30. There was no discussion and this motion was approved by the body.

Comrade Robert Hilliard made a motion that was seconded by Comrade Jerome Payton that Chapter 34 participate at VFW Post 8356 Veteran's Day Celebration, "A Tribute to Veterans thru the Years", November 9, 2024 in West Point, Virginia at 11:00 a.m. There was a discussion on the event and the motion was disapproved by the body by show of hands. (There was a tie with the Commander breaking the tie.)

SVC Ethel Smith stated we are celebrating the 44th Anniversary of Chapter 34 November 4, 2024. Any member who wants to be on the committee to come up with suggestions for this event; please meet with SVC Smith on Monday, November 4, 2024 at 10 a.m. at the Chapter. SVC Smith will present the suggestion to the body at the next General Membership Meeting, December 07, 2024.

JVC Terrell Lasker donated \$75.00 for the rental Space for "Christmas on the Town" fundraiser December 1, 2024 in West Point, Virginia.

A motion was made by Comrade Rushton White and seconded by Comrade Mary Benoit to suspend the 1st Reading of the Constitution and Bylaws to the next General Membership Meeting, December 07, 2024. There was no discussion and the motion was approved by the majority of the body.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Comrade Rushton White asked the question "Could someone look into using the QR Code legally"? JVC Terrell Lasker stated we can use a QR Code at the event. Treasurer Herbert Jones stated that he will check by Langley Credit Union to make this work.

Comrade Mary Benoit stated we appreciate the body being patient with questions being asked over and over again. We are trying to learn the right procedures.

Treasurer Herbert Jones would like for the SVC or JVC to ask the Department: "When is the proper time for the body to make a motion from the floor at the Conference?"

JVC Terrell Lasker stated even if the whole chapter is not willing to do an event, we should not stop the chapter from participating in the event. We have only a few members that participate in all events. If we are participating at an event, we are being seen. If we have one person willing to participate in an event, we should not vote it down. Now we are hindering the chapter.


Cdr. Larry stated daylight savings time is Sunday, November 3, 2024, at 2 a.m. "Fall back".

Cdr. Griffin requested that the chaplain do a unity prayer. We need unity. This was carried out by Chaplain Jeffery Benoit.

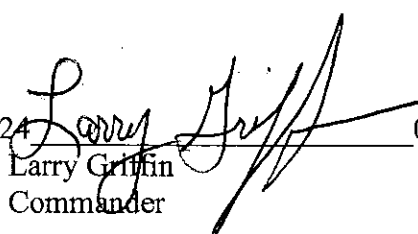
Comrade Mary Benoit asked the chapter members to sign up for the Golden Corral Military Appreciation. There are several empty slots. Those that have not signed up, please consider it.

CLOSING CEREMONY

A motion was moved to adjourn the meeting. CDR Larry Griffin gave a tribute to the fallen veterans. Chaplain Jeffrey Benoit closed the meeting with a prayer and CDR Larry Griffin adjourned the General Membership meeting at 11:15 a.m. The next General Membership Meeting will be conducted on December 07, 2024.


Veronica Jordan
Adjutant

02 November 2024


Larry Griffin
Commander

02 November 2024