

DISABLED AMERICANS VETERANS
PATRICK HENRY CHAPTER 34
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ELECTION MEETING MINUTES
April 05, 2025

OPENING CEREMONY

Commander (Cdr.) Larry Griffin opened the meeting at 0900 a.m. Chaplain (Ch.) Jeffery Benoit gave the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Junior Vice Commander (JVC) Terrell Lasker. Cdr. Griffin stated the purpose for us being here and read the Mission Statement 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. Jeffery Benoit, Judge Advocate (JA) Robert Monroe, Member-At-Large (MAL) Clarence Johnson, Adjutant Veranica Jordan, Officer of the Day Rushton White, and Sergeant at Arms Ray Miller. Immediate Past Commander (IPC) Charles Morris was absent. The Executive Committee (EC) Meeting had a quorum of Chapter Officers present in order to conduct the meeting. Forty members were present.

VISITORS

Cynthia Bailey – Past Department Commander officiating chapter's election
Dwayne Ramey - Department Senior Vice Commander
Marcia Stewart – Department Second Junior Vice Commander
Willie J Matthews - Visitor

Cdr. Larry Griffin entertained a motion to dispense with all regular business with the exception of the Treasurer's Report that was moved by Comrade James Anderson and seconded by Comrade Jarl Christensen. There was no discussion and this motion was unanimously approved by the body.

Cdr. Larry Griffin entertained a motion to appoint Comrade Jasper Edmonds as Chairperson of the Election Tellers. A motion was made and moved by Comrade James Anderson and seconded by Comrade Mary Benoit. There was no discussion and this motion was approved by the body.

Cdr. Larry Griffin entertained a motion to appoint Comrade Jarl Christensen an Election Teller. A motion was made and moved by Comrade James Anderson and seconded by Comrade Rushton White. There was no discussion and this motion was approved by the body.

Cdr. Larry Griffin entertained a motion to appoint Comrade Jerry Phillip as an Election Teller. A motion was made and moved by Comrade Rushton White and seconded by Comrade Jarl Christensen. There was no discussion and this motion was approved by the body.

A motion was made by Comrade Jarl Christensen and seconded by Comrade Jerry Parke to have Past Department Commander (PDC) Cynthia Bailey supervise Chapter 34's 2025/26 election. There was no discussion and this motion was approved by the body.

Nominating Committee Chairperson, Mary Benoit, gave the Nominating Committee Report. The Nominating Committee consisted of Comrades Mary Benoit, Rushton White and Charles Morris. The Nominating Committee submitted the following recommendation for Chapter 34's Officers for 2025/2026: Commander – Comrade Terrell Lasker, Senior Vice Commander – No volunteer, Junior Vice Commander – No volunteer, Treasurer – Comrade Herbert Jones, Chaplain – Comrade Jeffrey Benoit, Member-At-Large – Comrade Clarence Johnson.

PDC Bailey dispensed with the Nominating Committee

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

For Office of Commander, Comrade Terrell Lasker was nominated by the nominating committee; Comrade Ethel Smith was nominated from the floor by Comrade James Anderson. With the majority of the votes, Comrade Ethel Smith was elected to the office of Commander.

For Office of Senior Vice Commander, there was no nomination from the nominating committee. The following nominations were nominated from the floor: Comrade Curtis Lassiter by Comrade Monroe Glover, Comrade Ruston White by Comrade Robert Monroe, Comrade Lora Skinner by Comrade Lora Skinner. With the majority of the votes, Comrade Rushton White was elected to the office of Senior Vice Commander.

For Office of Junior Vice Commander, There was no nomination from the nominating committee. Comrade Curtis Lassiter was nominated from the floor by Comrade Veranica Jordan. With no other nominations, Comrade Curtis Lassiter was elected to the office of Junior Vice Commander.

For Office of Treasurer, Comrade Herbert Jones was nominated by the nominating committee; there were no other nominations from the floor. Comrade Herbert Jones was elected to the office of Treasurer.

For Office of Chaplain, Comrade Jeffery Benoit was nominated by the nominating committee; there were no nominations from the floor. Comrade Jeffery Benoit was elected to the office of Chaplain.

For Office of Member at Large, Comrade Clarence Johnson was nominated by the nominating Committee; there were no nominations from the floor. Comrade Clarence Johnson was elected to the office of Member at Large.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICER

PDC Cynthia Bailey conducted the installation of the newly elected officers for 2025-2026. Comrade Wayne Wynne, Officer of the Day stood with the following new inductees in front of the room for installation as PDC Bailey called the roll: Ethel Smith, Commander; Rushton White, Senior Vice Commander; Curtis Lassiter, Junior Vice Commander; Herbert Jones, Treasurer; Jeffery Benoit, Chaplain; and Clarence Johnson, Member at Large.

After the installation ceremony was conducted all new inductees took their seat with the exception of Cdr. Ethel Smith. PDC Cynthia Bailey gave Cdr. Ethel Smith a welcome address and presented the gravel to Cdr. Smith as a symbol of her new position.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Herbert Jones reported the beginning balance for February 2025 was \$107,305.72; income - \$20, 281.63; disbursements - \$3,792.04; and ending balance -\$123,795.31. Treasurer Jones gave a pro forma report for March 2025 with a beginning balance \$123,795.31; income - \$20.00; disbursements - \$9,953.55 and ending balance \$ \$113,861.76.

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

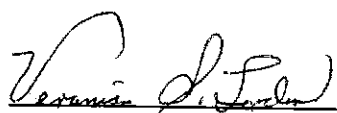
APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Elected Cdr. Ethel Smith appointed the following officers: Veranica Jordan as Adjutant; Wayne Wynne as Officer of the Day; Robert Monroe as Judge Advocate/Benefits Protection Team Leader; Ray Miller as Sergeant at Arms and Jerome Payton, Robert Newsome, Rushton White, Clarence Johnson, and Ethel Smith as CSOs.

PDC Cynthia Bailey conducted the installation of appointed Officers and Committees Chairs for 2025/2026.

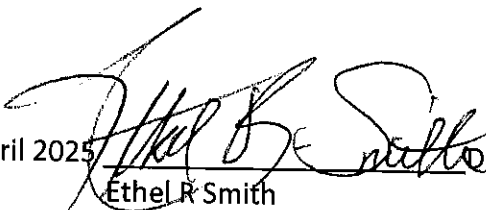
CLOSING CEREMONY

A motion was moved to adjourn the meeting. Cdr. Ethel Smith gave a tribute to the fallen veterans. Ch. Jeffery Benoit closed the meeting with a prayer and Cdr. Smith adjourned the General Membership Meeting at 1045 a.m. The next General Membership Meeting will be May 03, 2025 at 0900 hours.


Veranica Jordan

Adjutant

Date 05 April 2025


Ethel R. Smith

Commander

Date 05 April 2025