

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS  
PATRICK HENRY CHAPTER 34  
EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES  
June 10, 2025**

**OPENING CEREMONY**

Commander (Cdr.) Ethel Smith opened the Executive Meeting at 3:00 p.m. Comrade Rodney Young gave the opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Junior Vice Commander (JVC) Curtis Lassiter. Cdr. Smith stated the purpose for us being here and read the Mission Statement as posted on our Conference's Room wall. Cdr. Smith declared the meeting open for business.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present: Cdr. Ethel Smith, SVC Rushton White, Junior Vice Commander (JVC) Curtis Lassiter, Treasurer Herbert Jones, Ch. Jeffrey Benoit, Member-At-Large (MAL) Clarence Johnson, Judge Advocate (JA) Robert Monroe and Adjutant Veranica Jordan. Immediate Past Commander (IPC) Larry Griffin was excused. Emergency Relief Chairperson Rodney Young and Assistant Treasurer Loralie Skinner were present. Executive Committee (EC) Meeting had a quorum of Chapter Officers present in order to conduct the meeting.

**TREASURER REPORT**

Treasurer Herbert Jones presented the Monthly Chapter Finance Reports for May 2025. The beginning balance for May 2025 was \$109,871.51, income was \$20,335.98, disbursements were \$3,388.36 and the ending balance for May 2025 was \$126,819.13.

**CHAPLAIN**

Chaplain Benoit reported one of our members passed away, Comrade Thomas Carl Coleman. Chapter 34 Honor Guard will ask permission to participate in his home going. Also IPC Larry Griffin fell and is now at VCU Health Emergency Department in New Kent.

**COMMUNICATION:** Chapter 34 received a letter from Chapter 61, our sister chapter, thanking us for the \$1,000 and The Peninsula Agency on Aging sent Flyers and Business Cards explaining new Veterans' Transportation Program to provide rides to veterans for their medical appointments at the Hampton VA Medical Center.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Committee Reports were given by the chairperson or the respective committee representative for the following committees and these reports will also be given at the General Membership Meeting.

Welfare and Relief: Comrade Rodney Young reported we assisted three veterans in May 2025. One veteran we assisted with a place to stay, stopped an eviction and one stopped water and sewage to be cut. The total was \$1530.00.

Internal Audit Committee: Comrade Mary Benoit, Chairperson, has tentatively scheduled the audit for July 4, 2025.

Nominating Committee: No Report

Entertainment: JVC Curtis Lassiter gave an update on the Veteran's Outreach for 20 September 2025. The Chapter will not be using Chapter or Thrift Store funds.

Membership Committee: SVC Rushton White gave a detailed report on where Chapter 34 is concerning meeting quota and membership.

Thrift Store: Treasurer Herbert Jones received an article on what the Thrift Store money can be used to fund.

CSO: MAL Clarence Johnson stated for June 2025, the CSO's made 31 contacts with vets. This included completing education information, DIC and insurance cards.

CDCE (VAVS): No Report

Building Committee: No Report

Bylaws Committee: No Report

Budget: Treasurer Herbert Jones reported that the Thrift Store income will increase \$5,000 per quarter. Treasurer Jones explained how that will affect the breakdown of the budget.

IT: No Report

WEB Master: No Report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

SVC Rushton White made a recommendation, seconded by MAL Clarence Johnson that Treasurer Herbert Jones and JA Robert Monroe be approved as delegates at the 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Department Convention, May 2-8, 2025 and be reimbursed for hotel, travel, and per diem. There was not a discussion and this motion was unanimously approved to carry to the body for approval.

JVC Curtis Lassiter made a recommendation, seconded by SVC Rushton White that the following members be delegates for the 103<sup>rd</sup> DAV National Convention August 8-13, 2025 in Las Vegas, Nevada: Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Treasurer, Adjutant, and Social Media. There was not a discussion and this motion was approved to carry to the body.

Treasurer Herbert Jones made a recommendation, seconded by SVC Rushton White to set up a booth for \$75, at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual West Point Crab Carnival on Saturday, October 4, 2025 In West Point, VA. . There was a discussion, and this motion was approved to carry to the body for approval.

Cdr. Ethel Smith informed the committee that we will have a Guest speaker at the General Membership Meeting, June 14, 2025: Ms. Elaine Buchanan, with USAA.

SVC Rushton White made a recommendation, seconded by JVC Curtis Lassiter to submit the amended 2024/2025 Budget to the body. There was a discussion, and this motion was approved to carry to the body for approval.

Ch. Benoit gave Adjutant Veranica Jordan the information needed to get a donation from Walmart.

Treasurer Herbert Jones stated for the Outreach Cookout for 2026 we should look into partnering with the Knights of Columbus. They will cook the food for us. Treasurer Jones will invite them to the Veteran's Cookout September 20, 2025.

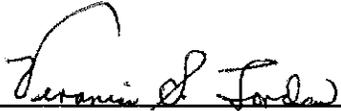
**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

JVC Curtis Lassiter called the Chamber of Commerce informing them that Chapter 34 is interested in participating in the Christmas Parade.

Chaplain Jeffery Benoit let it be known he would like to go to the National Convention if one of Chapter 34's delegate drop out.

**CLOSING CEREMONY**

A motion was moved to adjourn the meeting. Cdr. Ethel Smith gave a tribute to the fallen veterans. Ch. Benoit closed the meeting with a prayer and Cdr. Smith adjourned the Executive Committee Meeting at 4:37 p.m. The next Executive Committee Meeting will be July 22, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.



Date 10 June 2025

Veronica S Jordan  
Adjutant



Date 10 June 2025

Ethel R. Smith  
Commander