

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
PATRICK HENRY CHAPTER 34
EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES
April 22, 2025**

OPENING CEREMONY

Commander (Cdr.) Ethel Smith opened the Executive Meeting at 3:00 p.m. Chaplain (Ch.) Jeffrey Benoit gave the opening Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Senior Vice Commander (SVC) Rushton White. 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, Ch. Jeffrey Benoit, Member-At-Large (MAL) Clarence Johnson, Immediate Past Commander (IPC) Larry Griffin, Judge Advocate (JA) Robert Monroe and Adjutant Veranica Jordan. Treasurer Herbert Jones was excused. Comrade Jerome Payton, a CSO representative was also present. Executive Committee (EC) Meeting had a quorum of Chapter Officers present in order to conduct the meeting.

TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Herbert Jones will present the Monthly Chapter Finance Reports for March 2025 and April 2025 at the General Membership Meeting Saturday, May 03, 2025.

CHAPLAIN: None

COMMUNICATION

We received a Letter of Appreciation from Chapter 33 thanking Chapter 34 for donation of \$1,000 and the Commander received a letter from the Department of Virginia's Commander congratulating Chapter 34 for reaching annual membership goal.

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: No Report

Internal Audit Committee: Cdr. Ethel Smith reviewed the recommendations the Audit Committee suggested for Chapter 34. Chapter 34 is complying with all suggestions.

Nominating Committee: No Report

Entertainment: No Report.

Membership Committee: The Adjutant sent out an e-mail for the SVC to all members asking for volunteers for the Membership Committee.

Thrift Store: The Thrift Store Committee will meet at the 93rd Annual Department Convention, June 5, 2025 in Roanoke, Virginia.

CSO: SVC Rushton White stated for March 2025, the CSO's had processed 25 interaction with veterans and as of April 22, 2025, they had 12 interactions with veterans. This included completing DIC and insurance cards.

LVAP: Please turn in your hours for April 2025. This helps the Department with hours when competing against other states.

Building Committee: SVC White reported that the Building Committee met Saturday, April 19, 2025 at 10 a.m. Several members took tasking; SVC White met with all CSO's, Monday, April 21 at 1 p.m., Comrade Charles Morris, committee chairperson, contacted Brook's Realtor. The committee and all involved will meet the 1st week of May 2025.

Bylaws Committee: We received Chapter 34's Constitution and Bylaws from National Headquarters that is approved.

Budget: Treasurer Herbert Jones will present a draft of the 2025/2026 Annual Budget at the General Membership Meeting.

.IT: No Report

WEB Master: No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A handout calendar of Executive and General Membership Meeting for 2025/2026 was distributed.

The 93rd Annual Department Convention 2025 is June 5-8, 2025 in Roanoke, Virginia. The Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, and Immediate Past Commander are recommended to the body as delegates.

A Training and Membership Drive Veteran's Cookout is planned for September 20, 2025, Upper County Park, Toano, Virginia. Volunteers are needed to help JVC Curtis Lassiter with this project.

Ch. Jeffery Benoit made a recommendation, seconded by IPC Larry Griffin that Chapter 34 support "justbkids" by having a table set up at the Golden Corral. Date and time will start as soon as possible. There was a discussion, and this motion was approved to carry to the body.

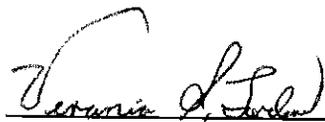
GOOD OF THE ORDER

Comrade Jerome Payton brought a package that he and Comrade Robert Newsome put together to give to the surviving spouse. It contains information required to be completed once the veteran is deceased.

Ch. Benoit asked are we trying to form some type of Committee reachout for children of veterans. There is a lack of leadership in the community. Do people know we are here and they can reach out to us? Someway we have to reach out to our veterans, widows and children.

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 4:06 p.m. The next Executive Committee Meeting will be June 03, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.



Veranica S Jordan
Adjutant

Date 22 April 2025



Ethel R Smith
Commander

Date 22 April 2025