

DRAFT

Delaware Veterans Post # 1

General Membership Meeting

October 5, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Commander Harvey Freville at 7:30 PM.

All cell phones were silenced and hats removed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was rendered by all persons present.

Commander Freville asked Jim Biddle, Membership Committee to present a veteran applicant for 2nd Read who is a police officer briefly attending the meeting. Jim introduced the applicant to membership.

Commander Freville asked Chip Roop to explain the Post's election process. Chip advised the following positions are up for the December 2022 elections:

Commander

Vice Commander

Secretary

Treasurer Elect

2 positions on E-Board for 2 years

Home Inc. - 1 position for 2 years and 2 positions for 3 years; 1 position must be a Past Commander

State Board – 2 positions for 2 years

Information is posted on the Bulletin Board

Chip further advised for the positions of Commander and Vice Commander an applicant veteran member must be in good standing for four (4) years. Other positions require an applicant veteran member must be in good standing for two (2) years. Any veteran member interested to run for office please contact a member of the Elections Committee, names are posted on the Bulletin Board. Commander asked if there are any questions.

Leo Zelinski inquired why veteran members are required to be a members for four years to run for Commander and Vice Commander positions. Commander Freville advised we follow the Post By-Laws. Joe Rodriguez, a Past Commander and member of the By-Laws Committee advised reason for the requirements are these positions should have working

experience and knowledge of Post operations. Joe recommended anyone interested should first serve on several Committees where they can learn first-hand the many details how the Post operates.

Previous General Membership Meeting Minutes – Commander Freville asked the Secretary to read the minutes from the previous General Membership Meeting. Motion was made by Bob Morris to approve and wave reading of the minutes as they were previously distributed and posted. Gerry Stauffer seconded the motion; Commander inquired if there were any objections; none – passed.

Previous E-Board Minutes - Commander Freville asked the Secretary to read the minutes from the previous E-Board Meetings. Draft minutes from the September 2022 E-Board meeting was read by the Secretary. Commander inquired if there were any questions or corrections. Jim Ebright inquired if the baseball team will continue to participate in the American Legion tournaments; Commander advised affirmative. Motion was made by Gerry Stauffer to approve. Jim Ebright seconded the motion, passed by voice vote.

The Treasurers Report – Commander Freville asked Treasurer Ed Herman to report on the Profit and Loss Statement for August 2022. Ed reported net income for August was \$-23,702; copy of statement was distributed to membership. Commander inquired if there are any questions/ comments from membership – none. Motion was made by John Squire to approve. Gerry Stauffer seconded the motion, passed by voice vote.

Vice Commanders Report – Vice Commander Bob Onorato advised funeral services for 60 year member Bob Talley was recently held. It was disappointing participation by Post membership was minimal. The Post members are like a family and we should pay our respects supporting the families of our deceased members. Bob advised individuals who have their First Reads today should meet with the Welcoming Committee after this meeting.

Joe Rodriguez noted he was a friend of Bob Talley and only learned about his passing when he came to tonight's meeting. We should have better communication.

Executive Board –no report.

Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee – Bob Morris reported the bankbooks are balanced.**
- **Home Inc. – no report.**

By Laws Committee –Commander Freville report for the Committee and discussed the proposed By-Law changes that were presented at two previous General Membership Meetings; this is the third reading, after which membership vote is taken. Commander inquired if there are any questions – none. Commander requested all Veteran and voting Associate members who agree to the proposed amendments to the Post By-Laws please rise. Commander asked the Sergeant-At-Arms to count the votes. Commander requested all Veteran and voting Associate members who disagree to the proposed amendments to the Post By-Laws please rise. Commander asked the Sergeant-At-Arms to count the votes.

Sergeant-At-Arms reported votes counted; 35 for – 0 voting against. Changes passed.

Article II, Section 1 – Membership Requirements

- **Letter C – Spouse Membership**
 - #1- would remain the same – no change
 - #2 – Spouse of a deceased Veteran member may become a lifetime member unless he/she declines the membership. May not hold elected office, has no voting privileges, no annual membership dues. If remarried, the spouse of the deceased Veteran would move to the Associate membership status. May not hold elected office, has no voting privileges, and must pay annual membership dues. The new spouse will not be eligible to assume this membership upon the death of the Veteran spouse.
 - #3 – Spouse of a deceased Associate member may assume the membership of the deceased Associate unless he/she declines the membership. May not hold elected office, has no voting privileges, must pay annual membership dues. If remarried, the new spouse will not be eligible to assume this membership upon the death of the Associate spouse.

- New #4 – In the event that a deceased associate member had achieved lifetime membership status prior to their death, the spouse would not be required to pay annual membership dues unless they possess their own membership, however, if the deceased associate was a voting associate, the voting rights will not carry over and the spouse would become an associate member (if they accept the membership)

New - No member can hold two membership classifications. This would also apply to spouses of deceased Veteran Members who also possess their own membership. The membership committee will address these issues on a case-by-case basis.

- **Letter D – Associate Members:**
 - No Change to opening statement
 - #1 – Would remain the same - no change
 - #2 – Would remain the same - no change
- #3 – Pool Associate – Proposing to eliminate this classification. All current Pool Associate applicants would be converted to an Associate member.
 - **Letter E – Swimming Pool Members:**
 - No change to current language
 - **Letter F – Associate Membership Limitations:**
 - 1. Associate Membership will be limited to 35% of the total Veteran membership

SECTION 3

METHOD OF PROCESSING APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Last Amended 12/02/2009.

1. All Veteran and non-veteran application forms are to be properly completed and forwarded to the Executive Board prior to the next Executive Board meeting. **Any application that is improperly filled out and submitted to the Executive Board must be returned to the applicant to be completed properly. Sponsors signatures must be legible to continue the processing of the application. Associate applicants will have their place in line held while their application is being corrected.**
 - a. All Veteran applicants must attach proof of their honorable service in the armed forces of the United States.

- b. A Quorum of the Executive Board must verify all applicants' written proof and the Secretary shall note this fact on the application form. The Executive Board or their designee shall present the applicants in person to the general membership at the next general membership meeting. This will be considered the first reading. An applicant cannot pay post dues or receive a key card until final approval of the application.
- c. It shall be the duty of the Executive Board to examine all applications. The Membership Committee will investigate by interviewing the applicant's sponsor. The Membership Committee Chairman or Committee Member will assist with the investigation by posting the names of the applicants on a designated bulletin board at the post.
- d. The post Commander or his designee will have the names of the applicants placed in the membership section of the post newsletter designated: "Awaiting Final Approval". Any member who has any objections to an applicant must notify the Executive Board in writing or in person prior to the second reading.
- e. If no further investigation is warranted by the next general membership meeting, the applicant must then appear in person for the second reading and final approval. Upon final approval of the applicant, the Executive Board will direct the post Treasurer, upon payment of dues to present the applicant with a membership and key card.
- f. The application and all records shall be kept in the files of the Membership Committee. If an applicant is unable to attend one or any of the membership meetings as required above, then the **applicant and or their sponsor are** responsible for informing the Membership Chairman and or the Executive Board.
- g. The Executive Board will determine on a case-by-case basis whether to continue to proceed with the processing of the application or place the application on hold until the applicant can appear in person before the general membership.

- h. Dues must be paid within 30 days after notification of acceptance as a member; otherwise, acceptance shall be void.
- i. Any member who resides beyond 75 miles of the Wilmington Post #1 will pay dues that are ½ of the dues and any assessment for that current year.
- j. All new members will be subject to a six (6) month probationary period. During this probationary period, a new member may have their membership revoked if in the opinion of the Post Executive Board that such action is necessary and in the best interest of the Post and such revocation is not subject to appeal to the State Board.

- **Bar Committee – no report.**
- **Chaplain –**
- **Veteran Affairs – no report, position open**
- **Entertainment – Vince Vandenbraak reported the successful event for the recent 1 pm Eagles game where Post provided food and participants brought side dishes. Similar events will be held during next afternoon Eagles games. Saturday night October 29 Halloween Party, in November – Diamond wing Jazz Trio will be at the Post, November 13 Blues Festival at the Post-tickets sell out quickly. Events are posted on the Bulletin Board and disseminated in the Newsletter.**
- **Rentals –Vice Commander Onorato reported for John Descioli – calendar for November if almost full and December will be busy. Anyone thinking about booking the Hall should do it soon.**
- **WACS – Diane Onorato reported the Spaghetti Dinner was a success, raising \$2200. She thanked everyone and specially Andi and Sylvia for their organization efforts.**

Diane noted the WACs will be making \$2300 donations of which \$500 will be donated to Toys-For-Tots in memory of Jack Houck.

WACs are collecting coats (all sizes) for Child Inc. Potato Bar will be available evening before Thanksgiving.

- Kitchen – Andi Chernekoff thanked Chip Roop for fixing all things in the kitchen. She noted the Cheese Steak night was very successful. Volunteers are welcome.

Andi noted October 23, 4-7 pm food will be available in the Hall during the Eagles game- a family event, and children are welcome.

- Pool – Shawn Coho – no report.
- Grounds – no report.
- In House Committee – no report.
- Membership – Jim reported: New Member List for July 2022

1st READS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch</u>
Father John Gayton	USN – not present
Lewis Thomas	Army – present
William Gupta	Army – not present
Richard E Longo III	Air Force – not present

2nd READS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Branch</u>
Elizabeth B McDaniel	USA NG – Active duty
Anthony Bastone, Sr.	Air Force – present
Joseph O’Neill	USMC/Army- present
Bruce Thomas	Navy – present
Robert Dion	Navy – present
Robert Schrock	USMC – not-present
Michael Berger	Assoc – present
Eric Buss	Army – present
Mark Tatasciore	Assoc – present
Alexander M Iuliano	Army – present
Michael Annone, Sr	Assoc – team coach
Christopher L Cain	Assoc - present

- **Del Vets Raffle** – no report.
- **Honor Guard** – Frank Dobson reported Shrimp and Chicken Feast scheduled for Saturday October 15th, cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. with Frank & Michelle from 8 - 11 p.m.
- **Scholarship** –Mike Phillips reported the Committee plans to meet in October.
- **Baseball Team** – Coach Michael Annone noted the team was very successful this year as explained at the last General Membership meeting and thanked the E-Board and membership for supporting the traveling baseball team program.

Old Business – none.

New Business – none.

Good of the Order – Jim Biddle advised the VA Hospital is giving out Flu and Covid vaccinations.

Joe Rodriguez commented regarding the recent hurricane tragedy in Florida and urged members to support the citizens impacted through donations to legitimate service organizations.

Commander Freville advised Post is looking for an assistant custodian, anyone interested to contact him.

50/50 – Vince Knoll won \$138; Post received \$137 from raffle purchases.

All attendees stood for the recital of the Del Vets Prayer.

Taps was sounded.

Motion was made by Gerry Stauffer to adjourn the meeting. Vince Knoll seconded the motion, passed by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by the Secretary John Pastor