

DRAFT
Delaware Veterans Post # 1
General Membership Meeting
December 6, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Commander Bob Onorato at 7:30 PM.
All cell phones were silenced, and hats removed.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was rendered by all attendees.

The Commander called on Election Chairman Chip Roop to review the nomination slate for tonight's elections.

Chip reviewed the slate and stated that all positions were unopposed.

Officers

Commander – Bob Onorato
Vice Commander – John Pastor
Secretary – Mark Schilling
Treasurer – Michael Janes
Treasurer Elect – Ed Herman

Chip explained that Michael Janes who was the Treasurer Elect will automatically move to the Treasurers position.

E-Board

Jim Hague
Bob Morris
Vince Knoll

Chip stated that there are two, 2 – year terms and one, 1 – year term.

Home Inc.

Frank Dobson

State Board

Past Commander – Joe Rodriguez
Moon Riley – At Large

The Commander stated that there are five candidates for the Delaware Veteran Member of the Year award.

The Nominees are: Harvey Freville, Bob Morris, Jim Biddle, Vince Vandenbrak, and Mark Parson.

The Commander stated that the Biographies for each candidate will be read, however, this time they will be read in reverse order starting with Vince Vandenbrak and proceeding in alphabetical order. The Commander stated that the Secretary will read the first two and he will read the remaining three.

After the Biographies were read the Commander asked the committee to retire to count the ballots.

Previous General Membership Meeting Minutes – The Commander asked the Secretary to read the minutes from the previous General Membership Meeting on November 1, 2023. The Commander stated that there is a rule that the general membership meeting minutes must be read at least once per year and this is the meeting they are read, mostly to give the Election Committee time to complete their task.

The Secretary read the minutes. The Commander asked if there were any questions or corrections to the minutes.

Hearing none, a motion was made by Jim Brannon to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Bob Morris, passed by a voice vote.

Special E-Borad Meeting 11/8/23

The Commander asked the Secretary to read the minutes from the November 8, 2023, special E-Board meeting.

The Secretary read the minutes from the meeting. This meeting concerned the replacement of the game room floor and the recommendation from the Board to use Pala Tile & Carpet to replace the floor at a cost of \$12,700.00.

The Commander asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes.

Hearing none, a motion was made by Mike Baldi to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Roger Lee, passed by a voice vote.

Previous E-Board Meeting Minutes 11/21/23 – The Commander asked the Secretary to read the minutes from the November 21st Regular E-Board meeting.

The Secretary read the minutes from the meeting.

The Commander opened the floor for questions:

Alex Czarnota asked for clarification as to why the Post was not interested in the food truck offer.

The Commander explained that the issue would create problems for the Post even though the operator could provide insurance and license they would need to get into the Post in the very early hours and then there is the issue of clean up. The Commander explained that this was something that we just were not interested in taking on.

Harvey Freville made a motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Jim Biddle, passed by a voice vote.

Treasurers Report – Treasurer Ed Herman reported a negative loss for the month of October in the amount of \$13,593.95 Ed stated that our total sales for the month were \$41,553.61. The total cost of goods was \$20,921.97 for a gross profit of \$20,631.64. Our total expenses were \$34,430.59 leaving a net income of -\$13,593.95. Year to date we are at a Negative \$4,276.46.

The Commander asked for any questions regarding the Treasurers report. There were no questions, Jim Biddle made a motion to accept the report as read, seconded by Ron Gower, passed by a voice vote.

Committee Reports

- **Vice Commander** – John Pastor - No report. John stated that he would update the membership on the pool repair project under old business.
- **Executive Board** – Bob Morris – No report. Bob stated that immediately after the meeting the Executive Board for 2024 will meet to elect a new E-Board President.
- **Finance Committee** – Bob Morris – All accounts are balanced. Bob also explained that our dues are in line with our fiscal year, January 1st to December 31st. Bob asked the members to please not try to pay their dues until January first. We need the dues to go towards the 2024 year.

- **Home Inc.** – Jim Brannon – No report.
- **By Laws Committee** – Mark Schilling – No Report
- **Bar Committee** – Erin Facciolo – Erin stated that there will be different drink specials for different events so be on the lookout. Erin also stated that they will take requests for different types of drinks.
- **Chaplain** – Randy Scott – Sean McLaren reporting for the Chaplain - Sean reported the following:
 - Veteran member, Ben Powell USN passed away, cards have been sent.
 - Life member Phyliss Hennessee is in the hospital.
- **Veteran Affairs** – Rick Rambo – Not Present, no report.
- **Entertainment** – Vince Vandenbrak reported the following schedule:
 - 12/1 – Erik Henkels
 - 12/9 – Adult Christmas Party
 - 12/16 – Children’s Christmas Party
 - 12/24 – Christmas Eve Social 3-6 p.m.
 - 12/25 – Christmas Day, Post Closed
 - 12/31 – New Year’s Eve in the hall
 - 1/6 – The Twangabillies
 - 1/12 – Rick & Connie
 - 1/27 – Jerry Lee Watkins
 - 2/2 – Benny and Bill
- **Eagles Football**
 - 12/3 – vs 49ers, 4:00 kickoff
 - 12/10 - @ Dallas – Sunday Night Football
 - 12/18 - @ Seattle – Monday Night Football
 - 12/25 – VS Giants – 4pm Kickoff
 - 12/31 – VS Arizona – 1pm Kickoff
- **Rentals** – John Descioli – John reported that the month of December is not as busy. There are sixteen events, January is very busy.

- **WACS** – Lauren Cullumber – Diane Onorato reported for Lauren. While Diane was getting ready to read her report, she realized it was Bob’s “Honey Do List”. Diane reported:
 - Pizza night in conjunction with Post entertainment made \$1,104.02.
 - Donations since the WAC’s spaghetti dinner: \$2,000.00 to six organizations – Folds of Honor, DV 5K, Special Olympics, Polar Bear Plunge, National Kidney Foundation, Fisher House & Atonement Church.
 - Clothing –
 - Title I school, BSD - \$350.00
 - VA Medical Center - \$300.00
 - Child Inc. - \$500.00

The WAC’s donated a total of \$10,138.66 worth of clothing, coats, hats & gloves for the year.

- Coat Drive – A total of 15 coats were collected in the lounge.
- Christmas Auction – Between the 50/50 and the Auction a profit of \$1,349.81

Diane stated that the WAC’s plan on enjoying the holidays. They will meet on January 2nd and are already planning events for 2024.

- **Kitchen** – Andie Chernekoff – No Report.
- **Pool** – Shawn Coho – No report. Art Chernekoff reminded Shawn that there is still clean-up needed in the pool area.
- **Sports** – No report.
- **Grounds** - Jack McKelvey – No report. Everything is looking good.
- **In House Committee** – Chip Roop – No report
- **Membership** – Jim Biddle reported:

1st reads
PRESENT –

Associates
 Mark Ross

Veterans
 Brandi H. Nichoff – USA/NG

NOT PRESENT –

Veterans

Gilbert L. Bunner – USN

Nicholas Nichoff – USA/NG

Associates

2nd reads

PRESENT

Associate

George E. Brooks

Veterans

John D. Waldorf – USN

NOT PRESENT

- **Progressive Raffle** – Art Chernekoff – No report.
- **Honor Guard** – Vince Knoll – No report.
- **Scholarship** – Mike Phillips – Mike reported that an Anonymous member donated \$1,000.00 to the Scholarship committee. Mike also reported that the pancake breakfast was successful and thanked all those that supported it. Mike stated that applications for the scholarship award are due by February 1, 2024.
- **Baseball** – No Report.
- **Swim Team** – Stephanie Coho – No report.
- **Public Relations** – Florie Henry – No report.
- **Welcoming Committee** – Ed Brinkman – Not Present, No report.
- **Facilities Management** – Harvey Freville – No report.

- **Old Business** – The Vice Commander reported on the ongoing issue with the Pool Repair project. The Vice Commander stated that there are no issues with the pool management contract but there are problems with the pool repair contract. Negotiations are currently ongoing between the attorneys for both parties. Aquasafe has requested information from us and hopefully this issue will be resolved soon.
- **New Business** – At this time Election Chairman Chip Roop returned with the results from the election. The Commander turned the meeting over to Chip to report. Chip stated that all positions were unopposed: For the E-Board, Jim Hague and Bob Morris received two-year terms and Vince Knoll a one-year term. Chip reported that the DelVet of the year for 2023 is Harvey Freville. At this time the Commander asked all the nominees to come forward and be recognized. After a group picture, the Commander awarded all nominees a certificate for two hours open bar and a DelVet challenge coin.
- **Good of the Order** –
 - Bob Morris reported on the status of the two donated grave sites. Please see Bob if you know of someone who can use them.
 - Jim Brannon thanked the Commander for the great turnout at the volunteer dinner. Jim also stated that Peggy Derhle won the vacation package that was donated by Gerry Herman and Kim Riccio and said that it was a great time. Jim thanked them for donating this package.
 - Harvey Freville pointed out that the Christmas tree in the hall has ornaments from the White House that were donated by Jim & Paula Biddle. Harvey encouraged all members to walk up and look at them as they are impressive.
 - Florie Henry pointed out the new gas grill that was in the hall. Florie stated that the grill was donated by Butch and Robin Minner. See Florie for tickets.
 - Jim Biddle donated a dehumidifier to the Post for the Liquor storage room downstairs.
 - The Vice Commander, with much reservation, stated that the bar would be open for one hour.
- **50/50** – Jim Hague won \$138; Post received \$137.00 from ticket purchases.

Sean McLaren recited the Del Vets Prayer.

Taps were sounded.

Motion was made by Harvey Freville to adjourn the meeting, Bill Allison seconded the motion, passed by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:50 hours.

Respectfully submitted by the Secretary Mark Schilling