

DELAWARE VETERANS POST #1
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 1 Apr 2026

TIME: 1930 hrs.

Cmdr. Schilling called the meeting to order at 1930 hours this date. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited by all and honors rendered.

CEREMONIES: None

SECRETARY: Cmdr. Schilling asked the Secretary for a reading of the previous meeting's minutes. Motion made by Bob Morris to waive a reading of the previous minutes as they have already been posted. Seconded by Mike Baldi passed by voice vote. Cmdr. Schilling then asked the Secretary for a reading of the Executive board minutes. The minutes were read. The Commander then opened the floor for questions. Hearing none a motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Mike Baldi, seconded by Harvey Freville. Motion passed.

TREASURERS REPORT: Sean MacLaren. Sean presented the Profit/Loss report to membership. For the month of February total income was \$76,939.61; total cost of goods was \$27,001.66; gross profit of \$49,937.95; total expenses were \$49,121.52 resulting in a net gain for the month of \$816.43. Total net income year to date is \$27,350.52. It should be noted that a line item of \$202.50 is noted on the report. Sean advised this money is income from our ATM fees. He advised the Commander we have accrued \$351.00 in ATM fees year to date. Sean also notes the line item sheet apparently showed a carryover from 2025 of \$8,009.00 in the "Pool Management expense" line. He advised membership this is not a double payment as it appears of the sheet. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Ron Gower; seconded by Bill Allison. Passed by voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Vice Commander: John Pastor. No report.

Executive board: Ed Brinkman. Ed is on vacation with his family and was unavailable for a report.

Finance: Bob Morris. Bob advised the monthly bank statements are not yet compiled. He will have everything in order within the next week. Bob also advised membership that starting in this reporting year (2026) the Internal Revenue Service has raised the threshold of taxable

reporting of winnings to \$2000.00. For Post purposes this only applies to the gaming machines. The raffles are still limited to \$600.00 for the dollar raffle, and \$1500.00 for the five dollar raffle.

Home Inc.: Harvey Freville. No report.

By-laws: Joe Rodriguez. No report.

Bar: Brian Thomas/Jay Henry. No report

Chaplain: Sam Waltz. Chaplain Waltz advised membership of the following three members having passed: Wilmer Hunter, Max Hector, and David Swayze. He also advised membership that he is available for consultation at any time. Also noted for members who have children thinking of entering one of the service academies there will be an advisory board available in Dover between 2-6 pm all of next week. Unsure of Location. Also, an update on Anna Lee: She is finally home! Anna and Roger would like to thank everyone for the flowers and phone calls during this time. It is greatly appreciated.

Veterans affairs: Rick Rambo. Rick stated the committee is concentrating on 8 bills at the moment. Rick reminds all veterans that he is available for advice regarding any veteran related issues they might have, and if he cannot offer an answer he will find someone who can provide both an answer and further direction.

Entertainment: Vince Vandenbrak. Vince advised there are two more Pizza and wings events coming in April. Country line dancing on April 10th. April 14th is the next cheesesteak night which will have the Phillies on the big screen in the hall. This is considered a family event; bring the kids for dinner and the Phillies! Vince also noted he is putting together the Phillies bus trip. The stadium tickets are the 200 level. Cost for tickets, bus, beer, and sandwiches is \$60.00 per person. The list for the bowling outing is up so ensure you sign up. Bill Allison added he will have pizza rolls available during the pizza and wings nights. Make sure you put in your requests.

Rentals: John Descioli. Vince reported for John as he [John] was unavailable. There are 21 events/rentals for the month of April.

WACS: Lauren Cullumber. Lauren advised membership that March was quite a busy month with the WACs reaping the highest grossing WACy bingo to date. St. Patrick's day dinner brought in a profit of \$1,122.27! The WACs would like to thank both the Commander and the Executive board for the \$150.00 donation to the McAleer-Paulson School of Irish dance. They appreciated the donation and enjoyed entertaining our guests. The next WACs meeting is scheduled for April 7th.

Kitchen: Andi Chernekoff. No report.

Pool: Bill Conaway. Bill informed membership an email is going out on 2 April for dues. He also advised the pool committee is setting up a “Wednesday night office hours” for anyone who wishes to ask questions of the committee. This will begin on the following dates in April: 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th from 1800-2000 hours. Summer plans, membership information, and any pool updates are always on the agenda. Stop in, have a drink, and say hello!

Sports: Sam Minetola. Sam advised membership that travel ball appears to be going away as a means for players to obtain meaningful game reps. Apparently the new trend is Legion baseball which bodes well for players wishing to commit to the Delvets baseball team. Commander Schilling added if anyone is interested in assisting Mike Buono with fee collection to please contact him ASAP.

Grounds: Bill Carpenter. Bill stated Spring cleanup is coming May 9th. He asks if any members can help out it would be greatly appreciated. Let us make our Post grounds shine! Bill also states he has obtained new service flags for the flower garden, and he hopes to plant fresh flowers to make said garden more colorful.

In-house Committee: Chip Roop. Chip stated “My cousin Vinny” plumbing has fixed the leak in the basement. He would also like to thank Cliff Breeding and Bill Frank sr. for fixing the urinal in the men’s bathroom in a timely fashion. Regarding the AC unit repair Chip states Commercial agreed to give us an opportunity to spread out payments to ease the cost of that repair. Chip is meeting Commercial next week to assess the AC unit damage.

Membership: Chair Jim Biddle presented the following names for application:

1st reads present-

ASSOCIATES-none

VETERANS-Mark Roberts (Navy)

ABSENT-Charles McKee, Maria Puka

2nd reads present-

ASSOCIATES-none

VETERANS-James Elliott, Daniel Vink

ABSENT-Rebecca Gargan

Progressive raffle: Art Chernekoff. Art advised the quarterly chip audit has been completed.

Honor Guard: Bill Redhefer. Bill was absent due to illness. There was no report from the Honor Guard.

Scholarship: Mike Phillips. Mike advised membership the board has completed interviews for scholarships and will decide upon candidates soon. Mike Baldi advised another fundraiser at Texas Roadhouse will commence on April 28th. Art Chernekoﬀ asked if the \$320.00 from the previous fundraiser had been received? Mike stated it had not and he is following up with Texas Roadhouse to obtain those funds.

Baseball: Mike Buono. Not present, no report.

Swim team: Stephanie Coho. Not present, no report. Cmdr. Schilling advised he is attempting to coordinate a meeting with the Swim team board ASAP.

Public Relations: Florie Henry. No report.

Welcoming Committee: Bill Redhefer. As Bill is under the weather the Commander advised first reads they will receive welcoming introductions upon their second read in May.

Facilities management: Harvey Freville. No report.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Regarding Rebecca Gargon (eligible for second read) and Maria Puka (cadet in the naval academy) Jim Biddle requested a motion to waive a second reading (Gargan) as she lives in New Hampshire and a first reading (Puka) as she is in the Naval Academy and unable to respond for general meetings. A motion to accept both Gargan and Puka without additional readings was made by Chaplain Waltz, seconded by Sam Minetola. Membership agreed by voice vote.

GOOD OF TRHE ORDER: Florie Henry gave a golf outing update. She advised there are three foursomes remaining. She also stated they have secured 40 hole sponsorships with each hole gleaning a \$100.00 profit to the Post.

Brian Thomas reminded all members to please clean your tables when finished eating and drinking. It is not within the duties of the bartenders to clean up tables during or after their shift.

Florie Henry also mentioned there have been a few folks who are not guests of the Post who have been allowed into the lounge area. The Commander reminds membership of the Post guest policy, and advised membership to be mindful of who is allowed into the Post and with whom they were or were not signed in.

Harvey Freville asked the Commander if we might obtain a 250 year banner to celebrate the birth of the United States? Cmdr. Schilling said he would contact Jim Durbrow to handle the matter.

Gerry Stauffer reminded membership about graves visitation on the Sunday morning after the Memorial day celebration. It is a solemn duty in which all members and their families can participate.

Jim Biddle reminded everyone to pick up their membership cards! Also to see him if there is a need for a replacement card or replacing key cards for entry into the building.

Cmdr. Schilling presented a photograph donated to the Post depicting a Vietnam veteran hoisting up a small child to place his hand upon a name on the Wall. This powerful picture will be displayed prominently in the Post.

50/50: \$113.00 went to the winner Sam Minetola. Sam immediately donated the money back to the Post building fund.

Closing: The Commander ordered the Chaplain to recite the DelVets prayer. Taps were sounded and honors rendered.

Motion to adjourn: Motion made by Bob Morris, seconded by Harvey Freville @ 2040 hrs. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vince Knoll

Recording Secretary

Delaware Veterans Post #1.