

## **DELAWARE VETERANS POST #1**

### **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE: 6 May 2026**

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

#### **CEREMONIES:**

Cmdr. Schilling called upon Mike Philips of the scholarship committee. The Commander and Mike Philips presented ceremonial checks to Kaden Cole Taylor-McKinney, and to Victoria Ann Romeo as the awardees of a two thousand dollar scholarship from the Post.

Cmdr. Schilling then introduced distinguished guests of the Post: Councilman John Cartier of the 8<sup>th</sup> district, and State senator Ray Siegfried of the 5<sup>th</sup> district.

**SECRETARY:** 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 opened the floor for questions. Andi Chernenkoff wished to clarify that the request to have new decorative covers for the chairs in the Hall came from the Christmas committee not the Kitchen committee. The Secretary noted the distinction and corrected the minutes. Hearing no further questions a motion to accept the minutes was made by Harvey Freville; seconded by Ron Gower. The motion was passed.

#### **TREASURERS REPORT: Sean MacLaren**

Sean advised membership with continuing computer software issues (as updated in the Executive board minutes) a line item breakdown of Post finances remains unavailable. Bob Morris interjected the computers have been changed out however links to Post accountant Carolina remain a problem. He stated it should be resolved soon.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

##### **Vice Commander: John Pastor**

John gave membership a liquor inventory update. He advised we will soon have a one year baseline of purchasing and usage with the next quarter's accounting. For now, the difference

shown from Jan 2026 to April 2026 is thus: Bottles purchased (Jan-618, Apr-570). Value (Jan-\$13, 757.00, Apr-\$12,999.00). This shows a reduction of 6 percent saving the Post \$758.00 for the first quarter of 2026.

**Executive board: Ed Brinkman**

Ed advised membership the next Executive board meeting is 19 May @ 1900 hrs. He also advised the three boxes designed to house the AEDs will soon be mounted. The sound system is up and running at the Pool. Sirius advised him they would offer us seasonal membership for the Pool music system.

**Finance: Bob Morris**

Bob issued a computer update to expand upon the Treasurer's report. The computer in the office suffered a malfunction soon after replacement. It was taken back to Kehtron, and the issue has since been resolved. Bob advised the Commander due to the computer issues he could not present an updated report of the Post accounts. Bob also advised the Spot On Direct system is due to be emplaced in the next week. The Commander opened the floor for questions. Debbie Hague offered the Post unused equipment that is compatible with Spot On from her business. The Commander thanked Debbie for the offer and advised her the Executive board will make contact once Spot On Direct ensures equipment compatibility.

**Home Inc.: Harvey Freville**

No report.

**By-laws: Joe Rodriguez**

Joe advised Cmdr. Schilling the Committee intends to meet again in July to further peruse the By Laws in an effort to update and, or streamline.

**Bar: Brian Thomas/Jay Henry**

No report.

**Chaplain: Sam Waltz**

(Updated report) The following members have passed away this month: John Gerstenberg, (Air Force) 5/8/26; Jack Calcaterra (Life Associate) 5/10/26; and Roberta "Bobbie" Helms (Life Associate) 5/11/26. A celebration of life for Bobbie will commence in the Post Hall on 27 May between 1pm and 4pm.

**Veterans affairs: Rick Rambo**

The following list was presented by Rick of the legislative agenda:

HB31-passed the house. SB 219-passed the senate. HB 349-in appropriations. HB 162-passed the house. HB-63 passed the house and senate. SB216-passed the senate. SB 217-passed the senate. SB-218 has yet to be considered. SB 147-has yet to be considered. HB 285-passed the house. Finally, the Veterans Trust fund increase remains under consideration.

### **Entertainment: Vince Vandenbrak**

Vince advised the following events are scheduled for the month: May 7<sup>th</sup>-pizza and wings, May 8<sup>th</sup>-country line dancing, May 12<sup>th</sup>-Blood bank, May 14<sup>th</sup>-Post golf tournament. May 15<sup>th</sup>-WACs year end dinner, May 16<sup>th</sup>-Preakness, May 19<sup>th</sup>-Jimmy's cheesesteaks, May 23<sup>rd</sup>-Memorial day ceremonies, and Post picnic following, June 3<sup>rd</sup>-Next General membership meeting, June 6<sup>th</sup>-Belmont.

### **Rentals: John Descioli**

John advised there are 22 events scheduled for the month of May.

### **WACS: Lauren Cullumber**

Lauren reported that the WACs have achieved their highest membership ever at 67 ladies! The night of May 5<sup>th</sup> was last meeting for the 2025/26 year. At the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting a vote commenced to donate \$2000.00 to the Post. A letter to the Commander and Executive board follows. The bake sale from the craft fair net \$246.00. Approval was sought and received from the Commander and Executive board to move forward with the Pop Dart tournament in November. The WACs are off for a well-deserved summer break-they will return September 8<sup>th</sup> in order to prepare for the annual spaghetti dinner on Sep 18<sup>th</sup>.

Lauren would also like to point out this was the best fundraising year to date with the raising of \$12,600.00; 67 percent of which went to Veteran causes! \$2000.00 was donated to the Post, also \$5155.00 in non-monetary donations such as the coat, and the hygiene drives.

### **Kitchen: Andi Chernekoff**

Andi wished to thank everyone for coming to the Derby and for bringing so much food to share!

### **Pool: Bill Conaway**

Bill advised on May 11<sup>th</sup> that the wrap for the pump house will be installed. (Update) The wrap is in and is quite impressive! Bill also advised there will be a DJ and a bounce house from 1-4 for Memorial day. He also implored members to be patient with the new snack stand. If there are any complaints please see either Bill himself or anyone from the Pool committee for assistance.

**Sports: Sam Minetola**

No report.

**Grounds: Bill Carpenter**

Bill would like to remind everyone that the date for spring cleaning up is May 9<sup>th</sup> rain or shine. 0830 start time. If there happens to be a storm the following Saturday in the rain date.

**In-house Committee: Chip Roop**

Chip advised the Lounge A/C has been repaired and all A/C units have been serviced. The Pool bathrooms and been repainted, and the deck has been cleaned.

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

**1<sup>st</sup> reads present-**

**ASSOCIATES-none**

**VETERANS-Kynise Simms and Michael Ven Douran.**

**ABSENT-Charles McKee, Nolan Lewis, Jason Sperzino.**

**2nd reads present-**

**ASSOCIATES-none**

**VETERANS-Mark Roberts (Navy)**

**ABSENT-none**

**Progressive raffle: Art Chernekoff**

No report

**Honor Guard: Bill Redhefer**

Bill advised the final meeting before Memorial Day is May 12<sup>th</sup>. He also reminds everyone that the annual Pig Roast will be held on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Scholarship: Mike Phillips**

Mike Baldi advised 450.00 from the scholarship drive through Texas roadhouse was given to the Treasurer this week.

**Baseball: Mike Buono**

Mike was not present however sent Sam Minetola in his stead. Sam read a letter from Mike which is attached to these minutes. Sam also advised the Home field for the team is Friends HS. Dyer field is for scheduled night games. The Commander also advised Bob Edelman will be assisting Mike with the collection of funds this season.

**Swim team: Stephanie Coho**

Not present-no report.

**Public Relations: Florie Henry**

No report.

**Welcoming Committee: Bill Redhefer**

All first reads meet in the northwest corner of the Hall for paperwork and a briefing.

**Facilities management: Harvey Freville**

No report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Cmdr. Schilling opened the floor to discuss old business. Jim Biddle reminded everyone that all remaining membership cards have now been mailed out. Myron Smith inquired about the list for which family to bring either a side dish or dessert to the Memorial Day picnic? Andi advised the list will be attached to both pool and membership fliers.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Commander Schilling opened the floor to discuss new business. Hearing none he closed the floor.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Bob Morris pointed out the shirt he was wearing is from the "Wall that Heals" organization. They travel with a smaller scale version of the wall and are coming to Aston, PA on November 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>.

Florie Henry advised the golf tournament is sold out! Jerry Stauffer reminded everyone that the sign up sheet for graves visitation is on the bulletin board.

Cmdr. Schilling advised everyone that the Memorial Day ceremony is shaping up.

**50/50:** Debbie Hague won \$120.00, congrats! \$120.00 went to the Post.

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

**Motion to adjourn:** Motion made by Harvey Freville @ 2057 hrs., seconded by Jerry Stauffer.  
Meeting adjourned.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Vince Knoll**

**Recording Secretary**

**Delaware Veterans Post #1.**