



MANATEE COUNTY
VETERANS COUNCIL

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February Meeting, Thursday, February 17, 2022

1. **Meeting was called to order** at 11:00am by Vice Chairman Jim Klocke. The meeting was held at the American Legion Post 24.
2. **Invocation:** Vice Chairman Jim Klocke opened the meeting with prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.
3. **Chairman's Comments:** Vice Chairman Jim Klocke announced Lee Washington's promotion. Mr. Washington gave a brief statement about the transition of position to Renee Medina.
4. **Guest Speaker:** No guest speakers present.
5. **Recognition of Special Guests:** Vice Chairman Jim Klocke introduced Rick Stegmeier from St. Vincent De Paul and Roberta Troxell from MOWW from Sun City location.
6. **Roll Call:** Roll call was conducted by Secretary, Tricia Sadler. Present were 14 people of whom 8 were paid members and 3 officers. Quorum was met.
7. **Minutes:** November's minutes were voted for approval. Theresa Cobb made the motion; Richard Blunt seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "Aye". The vote was anonymous for approval.
8. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer, Spike Klocke. Vice Chairman Jim Klocke moved for the Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit. Gill Ruderman made a motion that \$500 in the Flag Education Program will be moved to the Veteran Park to correct the allocation of the gift from Manasota Elks in 2021. Theresa Cobb made the motion; Richard Blunt seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "Aye". The vote was anonymous for approval. Treasurer announced that Grace Wellenberger Trust has donated \$9500.00 from her estate. She reported that the legal documents have been signed and returned to receive those funds. Treasurer verbally confirmed that a decision had been made that name tags are to be paid by member or member's organization.
9. **Primary representative reports:**



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Manatee County Veteran Services: Lee Washington/Renee Medina reported that the Veteran transitional housing project is in the works and remodeling is projected to start in 12-18 months.

10. Reports of Standing Committees:

- **Veteran Monument Park:** Vice Chairman Jim Klocke reported flag poles were not repaired as of this date. Mr. Washington and Vice Chairman Klocke stated they signed an estimate with a new company for repairs and that the parts were on order as of this date. Mr. Washington stated the county would reimburse the council after it is paid in full. Vice Chairman Klocke reported that two new flags were needed for the park.
- **Legislative:** No report provided.

11. Old Business:

- **Veteran scholarship:** Rich Blunt presented a completed scholarship plan and application. Mr. Blunt requested the information regarding the scholarship program be added on the website for review. Mr. Blunt requested that this be tabled until a future meeting (possible May) when the committee would be present along with larger amount of voting members to finalize the details.
- **Shirts/Promotional items:** Vice Chairman Jim Klocke showed two shirts with a basic logo from Manatee Apparel for \$20.00. He encouraged members to get shirts made.
- **2021 Financial Audit Committee** Teresa Cobb presented the report with the audit committee's findings. The committee found all 2021 financial records to be in order.

12. New Business:

- **2022 Manasota Military and First Responder Ball:** Motion was made for the council to pay for half the cost (\$27.50 per ticket) for any paid council member to attend the ball. Theresa Cobb made the motion; Gill Ruderman seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "Aye". The vote was anonymous for approval.
- **Flag Program Funding:** Gill Ruderman made a motion for the Patterson Trust gift of \$1600.00 be moved from Flag Education Program to the Scholarship Program. After a discussion the decision to locate the original records or contact the Patterson Foundation regarding the intent of the funds would be completed



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prior to a vote. Gill Ruderman volunteered to make contact with the Patterson foundation.

13. Around the Room:

- 24 Riders announced a Sissy Bar Pageant will be held on March 12th at 5pm. The location will be at the American Legion 24.
- American Legion District 8 is holding a picnic on March 19th at 12pm in honor of the American Legion's 103th birthday and Florida's 177th birthday.
- VFW 12055 Yard Sale on Saturday April 16th. The yard sale will be in Lakewood Ranch across the street from the firehouse and in front of the distillery.
- 2022 Military and First responder Ball on March 19th at IMG. Cost \$55 each or table of ten for \$550.00.

14. Closing Prayer: Vice Chairman Jim Klocke led the closing prayer.

15. Meeting Adjournment: As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Jim Klocke at 11:55am.

Next Meeting: March 17, 2022 (Thursday) 11:00 am located at American Legion Post 24

Respectfully Submitted, Council Recording Secretary - Tricia Sadler