



MANATEE COUNTY
VETERANS COUNCIL

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March Meeting, Thursday, March 18, 2021

1. **Meeting was called to order at 11:04am by Chairman Edwin Robinson. The meeting was held at the Kiwanis Hall Manatee Performing Arts Center.**
2. **Invocation:** Chairman Edwin Robinson opened the meeting with prayer. Vice Chairman Donald Courtney led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.
3. **Office Election:** Motion to elect Candidate for Secretary: Tricia Sadler, DAR - Vice Chairman Donald Courtney made the motion; Teresa Cobb seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "I". The vote was unanimous for approval.
4. **Chairman's Comments:** Chairman, Edwin Robinson, reported a card was sent to former chairman, Carl Hunsinger, for sympathy for his wife, Norma "Linda" passing away. Chairman, Edwin Robinson, reported his mother was recovering from surgery and thanked everyone that was in prayer.
5. **Guest Speaker:** There were no guest speaker at this meeting.
6. **Recognition of New Members and First Time Guests:** There were no new members or first-time guests.
7. **Roll Call:** Roll call was conducted by Chairman Edwin Robinson. Present were eight paid members and 4 officers. Quorum was met.
8. **Minutes:** January, February and March's minutes will be voted on at April's meeting due to miscommunication with newly appointed secretary.
9. **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer, Margaret Smelser. Motion to review Treasurer's Report -Teresa Cobb made the motion; Tricia Sadler seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "I". The vote was unanimous for approval to review.
 - o Treasurer, Margaret Smelser requested delegation of added on duties



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- Walkway Brick/Bench Project: Jim Klocke, Elks Manasota 2734, volunteered manage the responsibilities of this project.
 - Treasurer, Margaret Smelser, to update contact information on form to Jim Klocke. Request for the form to be added to the website.
 - Kevin Wright, DAV Post 18, to advertise this project on his newsletter.
 - Record of council is to review names to add to brick/bench. Chairman to send a thank you to person ordering brick.
- Name Tags: Robert Greene, Puptent #17, volunteered manage the responsibilities of this project.
 - Chairman, Edwin Robinson, will submit a new standing rule to be voted on at April Meeting: New standing rule regarding name tags – Name tags will be approved for new members after two meeting attendance and the member will prepay \$10 for cost of name tag
 - Unclaimed name tags will be counted. Pin and backing of name tag will be recycled for use of new name tags.
- Treasurer, Margaret Smelser suggested:
 - Two Council members and two trainees be involved in the Veteran's Day Parade and Memorial Day services
 - PO Box be cancelled due to increased cost and lack of use
 - New address will be the address of the active Treasurer
 - Motion to cancel the PO Box and change MCVC mailing address to Treasurer, Margaret Smelser 1307 Bottlebrush Drive, Bradenton, FL 34208 -Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney, made the motion; Teresa Cobb seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "I". The vote was unanimous for approval to review.
 - Add more content to Website www.mymcvc.org – Calendar, Board members email addresses, List of annual awards, pictures of previous winners. Email all items to CAPTMARTY48@gmail.com
 - **Teresa Cobb requested \$250 for updating the names at Veterans Park (Aux of the year, Veteran of the year, Civilian of the year) prior to Memorial Day Services.** Motion to update



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the names and approve the cost - Teresa Cobb made the motion; Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney, seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "I". The vote was unanimous for approval to review.

10. Primary representative reports: Chairman Edwin Robinson will contact representative that are not present for today meeting. **Manatee Veterans Village reports** having 19 Veterans housed at this time with a move in scheduled for the 20th. Ms. Williams gave a big Thank You to all that assisted with the donation of a bicycle for a Veteran.

11. Reports of Standing Committees:

- **Veteran Monument Park:** Jim Klocke - please refer to request made and approved in Treasurer Report for \$250 to update names at Veterans Park
- **Legislative:** Kevin Wright, DAV Post 18, reported there are many items in legislative review for Veteran funding. These will be in review until May. He will provide update at that time.

12. Old Business:

- **Progress Report: Audit Committee:** L Washington, T Cobb and Courtney report that the audit is complete and with great results. Treasurer, Margaret S., did an outstanding job. There was one check that did not have back up and a copy of the bank statement will be required as back up. Motion to submit audit of Treasurer Reports for record – Robert Greene made the motion; Teresa Cobb seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "I". The vote was unanimous for approval to review.
- **Memorial Day Ceremony Preparations:** Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney, reported the service is being considered for live broadcast to start at 9 am. A singer for the National Anthem has been identified. A possible guest speaker, if needed, has been identified.

13. New Business:

- **Move Meeting to American Legion Post 24** – Table this discussion to April meeting due to consideration of meeting length
- **Request for Veteran volunteers to start the Manatee Commission meetings by presenting the Pledge of Allegiance.** Chairman, Edwin Robinson, made the request on behalf of Lee Washington, Manatee County Veteran Services.



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Chairman, Edwin Robinson; Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney; and Kevin Wright, DAV Post 18 volunteered

- **Request for a donation of \$140 for a total of 14 Backpacks for homeless Veterans at \$10 each.** Chairman Edwin Robinson request a flyer on the project. Kevin Wright, DAV Post 18, presented this VWF Post 3233 project and made the motion. Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney, seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating “I”. The vote was unanimous for approval to review.

14. Around the Room: Community Events were presented: Poker Run March 27; Desoto Parade – Veteran Convoy April 24; Military Ball April 17 – see flyers on table. Community Events will be sent to webhost to be listed on web site by Secretary, Tricia Sadler.

15. Closing Prayer: Chairman Edwin Robinson closed the meeting with prayer.

16. Meeting Adjournment: As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned. A motion was made and seconded at 12:19 pm.

Next Meeting: April 15, 2021 (Thursday) 11:00 am located at Kiwanis Hall, Manatee Performing Arts Center

Respectfully Submitted, Council Recording Secretary - Tricia Sadler