



MANATEE COUNTY
VETERANS COUNCIL

WWW.MYMCVC.ORG



February Meeting, Thursday, February 16, 2023

1. **Meeting was called to order** at 11:01am by Chairman Jim Klocke. The meeting was held at the American Legion Post 24.
2. **Invocation:** Vice Chairman Tom Sweeney 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:** Chairman Jim Klocke announced that Renee Medina with Manatee County is dealing with health issues and will be out of the office for a time.
4. **Guest Speaker:** No Guest Speakers
5. **Recognition of Special Guests:** Susannah Paige Morrison, Rep for US Congress Buchanan stated that the Manatee office is now located in Lakewood Ranch at 8433 Enterprise Circle.
6. **Roll Call:** Roll call was conducted by Secretary, Tricia Sadler. Present were 21 people of whom 14 were paid members and 4 officers. Quorum was met.
7. **Minutes:** January's minutes were voted for approval. Janice Klock made the motion; Theresa Cobb 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, Janice (Spike) Klocke. Chairman Jim Klocke moved for the Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit.
9. **Primary representative reports:**
 - Volunteers of America:** Latoya Pendergass reports that the Village has 19 beds filled and several referrals are being considered. Latoya introduced new employee Silvia Yumer. Paula Jaramillo, Property Manager, reported that they were looking to replace the mattresses and other furniture in the units. She stated that she would have a full list on needs available in March 2023.
 - Sarasota County Veterans Commission:** Chris announced SCVC will be meeting 2/23 at 4pm in Venice and again at 6pm in Sarasota. Marty Donner reported that the Sarasota national Cemetery is undergoing an expansion. Ceremonies are still on going. The 2nd



MANATEE COUNTY
VETERANS COUNCIL

WWW.MYMCVC.ORG



Wednesday of every month at 9am there is a ceremony for Veterans with no families. To participate as an organization please contact 941-922-7200. Public is welcome to attend.

10. Reports of Standing Committees:

- **Veteran Monument Park:** Chairman Jim Klocke reported that flags were up. He reports that the ropes need to be replaced on there is a need for 3 new flags. Motion was made by Margret Smelser for MCVV to purchase the flags and rope needed. Don Courtney seconded the motion. All voting members voted for approval by stating "Aye". The vote was anonymous for approval. Manatee DAR is donating a Revolutionary War Monument. There will be a tour at the park for DAR members to see the park on March 24th at 10am. There were two engraved bricks found at the park. Jim Klocke will contact Peg with Merchant Marine to find out where they came from.

11. Old Business:

- **Constitution Updates:** Updated By-laws will be uploaded to the website for paid members to access.
- **Financial Review 2022:** Financial Review Committee consists of Margerat Smelser, Tricia Sadler and JoAnne Kelderman. Theresa Cobb stood in for Joanne Kelderman. Tricia Sadler reported that the review committee completed the audit and found all records to be in order.
- **Pledge Allegiance Program:** Chairman Jim Klocke request Veteran volunteers to say the pledge at the Manatee County Meetings. See Jim to volunteer.

12. New Business:

- **2023 Veterans Day Parade:** First meeting is scheduled for 3/9 at 2pm in Palmetto with the Mayor. After meeting letters will be sent out to all Veteran organizations, schools and local business asking for participation. Theresa Cobb and Tricia Sadler will complete this task. The parade will start at 9:30am with the ceremony to follow at 11:00am at Sutton Park.
- **Lakewood Ranch Parade:** May 28, 2023 Gill Ruderman to sign us up for both a booth and to walk in the parade.
- **Desoto Parade:** April 29, 2023. Need a vehicle to participate. Dave Klien will attend planning meeting for participants on Tuesday 2/21 at 6pm located at Poppi 2 in Palmetto.



MANATEE COUNTY
VETERANS COUNCIL

WWW.MYMCVC.ORG



13. Around the Room:

- Bob Greene announced Bivouac's are present for everyone to take.
- Bob Greene announced Cause for Purple Hearts Lunch on March 8th at 11:30am @ Westminster Manor. \$13.50 is the cost. All are welcome.
- Tom Sweeney reported that Amry of Hope event is scheduled for March 5th from 12p – 4p at Elks @ Lena Lodge. The address is 4602 Lena Rd. Lakewood Ranch. Cost is \$15 includes lunch.
- Ed Padilla announced a Suicide Prevention event this Saturday at 11am.
- AL post 24 will have the Red Cross Blood Drive bus on site Sunday 2/19/2023
- Kevin Wright announced the Manasota Veterans Military Ball is April 15 – seats are available
- Kevin Wright announced Knights of Columbus is having a ball this Sunday 2/19/2023
- Margret Smelser announced Westminster dedicated a wall in their entry way to Honor those that have serviced

14. Closing Prayer and Meeting Adjournment: Vice-Chairman Tom Sweeney led the closing prayer. As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Jim Klocke at 11:58pm.

Next Meeting: March 16, 2023 (Thursday) 11:00 am located at American Legion Post 24

Respectfully Submitted, Council Recording Secretary - Tricia Sadler