



**MANATEE COUNTY  
VETERANS COUNCIL**

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### **October Meeting, Thursday, November 18, 2021**

- 1. Meeting was called to order** at 11:00am by Chairman Edwin Robinson. The meeting was held at the American Legion Post 24.
- 2. Invocation:** Chairman Edwin Robinson 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:** Edwin Robinson Gave individual thanks to Treasurer, Vice Chairman and other members of the council. Mr. Robinson then presented the Veteran of the Year, Timothy Rogers, with his award.
- 4. Guest Speaker:** 1) Kenny Vanstreader with Fun Factory presented his products, specifically shirts with logo embroidered on it. Shirt cost is \$12-13 each plus logo cost with a minimum of 12 pieces for an order. 2) Rickard Jenson with Nathan Benderson Park and the Veteran Dragon Boat team spoke on events with Dragon Boat and invited Veterans to participate.
- 5. Roll Call:** Roll call was conducted by Secretary, Tricia Sadler. Present were 15 people of whom 9 were paid members and 4 officers. Quorum was met.
- 6. Minutes:** September's minutes were voted for approval. Richard Blunt made the motion; Theresa Cobb seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "Aye". The vote was anonymous for approval.
- 7. Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer, Margaret Smelser. Vice Chairman Donald Courtney moved for the Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit. Treasurer stated the 2022 Dues had a deadline of January to be paid.
- 8. Primary representative reports:**  
**Manatee County Veteran Services:** Lee Washington reported that the flag pole parts are in and the crane was being scheduled. Members agreed that if the work was not completed by January a motion would be made to locate another vender to complete the repairs. Mr. Washington reported that he has new staff in the Veteran Services Department – Maria, Adina and Edward. Lee Washington reported that the county is



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moving forward with creating a transitional housing program for homeless veteran. Council members might be invited to roundtable meeting regarding this program.

**Manatee Veterans Village:** Tricia Sadler reported three open vacancies at the Village and that the Veteran's day event with pie and ice cream for the veterans went great – thank you to Vivian Hans and volunteers. The veterans are looking forward to Thanksgiving dinner put on by the Klocke's.

#### 9. Reports of Standing Committees:

- **Veteran Monument Park:** Jim Klocke reported flags from Veteran's Day were now in storage. There will be a dedication for the new stone in January.
- **Legislative:** Kevin Wright was not present to report.

#### 10. Old Business:

- **2022 Officers:** Vice Chairman Donald Courtney held the election by announcing new board members: Chairman – Edwin Robinson; Vice Chairman – Jim Klocke; Treasurer – Janice (Spike) Klocke; Secretary – Tricia Sadler. All voting members voted for approval by stating "Aye". The vote was anonymous for approval.
- **Veteran's Day Ceremony:** Event was great with over 100 people attending. The video is up on the MEtv web site.
- **Veteran scholarship:** Tabled until January meeting.
- **Recruitment of Members:** Letters with an invitation to become a member or renew membership are being sent out on this day by Theresa Cobb. Motion to reimburse Cobb for postage expense was made by Tricia Sadler. Robert Greene seconded the motion. All voting members voted for approval by stating "Aye". The vote was anonymous for approval.
- **Manatee 2021 Standdown:** 187 attendees of which 25 were homeless Veterans. Our booth was great and a new banner with our name on it was there. Thank you to everyone that manned the booth.

#### 11. New Business:

- Shirts/Promotional items was discussed. Members stated there was a person at the Red Barn Flea market that had the logo as well as Manatee Apparel.
- Motion was made by Margaret Smelser to donate \$100 towards the Thanks giving Dinner at the Manatee Veterans Village; Richard Blunt seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "Aye". The vote was anonymous for approval.



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- Motion was made by Theresa Cobb to support MOTS program by donating \$350.00 which would assist with the postage for 15 boxes to be sent to active military overseas. Margaret Smelser seconded the motion; After a discussion, all voting members voted for approval by stating “Aye”. The vote was anonymous for approval.

**12. Around the Room: Community Events were presented:**

- BIVOUC are here – please take one.
- Order of Cootie is a Wreath collection point
- AM Post 317 disbanded and members moved to Post 312

**13. Closing Prayer:** Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney led the closing prayer.

**14. Meeting Adjournment:** As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Donald Courtney at 11:52pm.

**Next Meeting:** January 20, 2022 (Thursday) 11:00 am located at American Legion Post 24

**Respectfully Submitted, Council Recording Secretary - Tricia Sadler**