



MANATEE COUNTY  
VETERANS COUNCIL

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### July Meeting, Thursday, July 15, 2021

1. **Meeting was called to order** at 11:00am by Vice-Chairman Don Courtney. The meeting was held at the American Legion Post 24.
2. **Invocation:** Secretary Tricia Sadler opened the meeting with prayer. Don Courtney led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.
3. **Chairman's Comments:** Vice Chairman, Don Courtney, spoke about the park benches requiring maintenance. Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney, requested submission for Veteran of the Year; Auxiliary of the Year; and Volunteer of the Year be turned in by August meeting. Palmetto Elks Lodge 2449, Mr Benedick, presented us with a check for \$2500 to use towards flag pole repairs.
4. **Guest Speaker:** There was no guest speaker.
5. **Recognition of New Members and First Time Guests:** Mr. Greene introduced First time guests, Flores and Mozley. Flores and Mozley are new officers at US Coast Guard Cortez Station.
6. **Roll Call:** Roll call was conducted by Secretary, Tricia Sadler. Present were nine paid members and 3 officers. Quorum was met.
7. **Minutes:** June's minutes were voted for approval. Treasurer Margaret Smelser made the motion; Theresa Cobb seconded the motion; All voting members voted for approval by stating "Aye". The vote was unanimous for approval.
8. **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. The lock on the storage unit has been changed and Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer have the new keys.
9. **Primary representative reports:**  
**Manatee County Veteran Services** Lee Washington confirmed the flag pole repairs are being made and maintenance of the other flag poles will be completed at the same time



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when the cost of the maintenance is approved. Mr. Washington stated Manatee County Monthly meeting will resume soon and the volunteers to say the Pledge of Allegiance will be needed at that time.

#### 10. Reports of Standing Committees:

- **Veteran Monument Park:** Jim Klocke confirmed the benches and smaller flag poles require maintenance.
- **Legislative:** Kevin Wright, DAV Post 18, was not present to report.

#### 11. Old Business:

- **BOCC Pledge Program:** Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney, has a signup sheet for all Veteran volunteers to present the Pledge of Allegiance at the open ceremony at the Manatee County meetings which are held on Tuesdays at 9am.
- **Veteran scholarship** Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney, request copies of Standard Operating Procedures from other organizations that have scholarships by August meeting. The committee will review them.
- **Veteran's Day Ceremony:** Vice Chairman, Donald Courtney, reported he would like a volunteer to shadow him and take over this event next year.
- **Discussion of Change in Membership Requirements:** Tabled until August meeting

#### 12. New Business:

- **Recruitment of Members:** Treasurer, Margaret Smelser, presented the idea of a recruitment drive for new members. It was suggested that Chairman, Edwin Robinson, write a letter and the board send it out to local Veteran organizations. This topic will be revisited at August meeting.

#### 13. Around the Room: Community Events were presented:

- Mr. Greene The BIBWAC listing, please contact to ensure your listing is correct.

#### 14. Closing Prayer: No Closing prayer.

#### 15. Meeting Adjournment: As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Donald Courtney at 11:24am.



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**Next Meeting:** August 19, 2021 (Thursday) 11:00 am located at American Legion Post 24

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