

MANATEE COUNTY  
VETERANS COUNCIL

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**March Meeting, Thursday, March 17, 2022**

1. Meeting was called to order at 11:00am by Vice Chairman Jim Klocke, In absence of Chairman Edwin Robinson. The meeting was held at the American Legion Post 24.
  2. Invocation: Vice Chairman Jim Klocke opened the meeting with a prayer and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.
  3. There was a Quorum present to hold a business meeting. Two officers and 9 paid members were in attendance.
  4. Roll Call: Roll Call was taken by Treasurer Spike, as the Secretary was not in attendance. Theresa Cobb was asked to record the minutes of this meeting, and this meeting only. February Secretary's report was accepted as presented.
  5. Guest Speakers: Were introduced by Vice Chairman Jim Klocke.
- Old Business:
6. Deb Kehoe, "Homes for Our Troops" will have a volunteer day in September, to finish a home for a disabled veteran, they are looking for volunteers to help, the home is located in the Tampa Bay Area. More information to come as the date comes closer.
  7. David Potter & Nel Maston Project is "Campbell's Call" ([projectcampbellscall.com](http://projectcampbellscall.com)) Walker to be in Florida in August 2022. He will be running 75 miles in 40 days to raise money for this project. A motion was made by Spike Klocke for the council to donate \$200.00 towards this project. Don Courtney seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  8. Becky McAllister & two others from Bay Pines Veterans Affairs Healthcare System stated if any veteran is in need of help, please refer them too Becky.
  9. Samantha McKee, of Empathy Health announced an event, on March 30, 2022 The event is for the "Home Bound Veterans," that may need help.
  10. Paige from Vern's Buchmans office is working on a bill for a Student Veterans Bill to be passed.
  11. The Treasurer's Report : was presented by Spike Klocke. Discussion followed. The cost of the storage unit is going up in April to \$150.00, it is now \$115.50. Gill will still be in touch about the Paterson Foundation donation for the Flag Day program monies. A motion was made by Donald Courtney to officially establish the Scholarship Foundation Fund. The motion was second by Theresa Cobb. Motion carried. The Treasurer's Report is to be filed for future review.

12. The council is now waiting to hear from Chairman Edwin who is to work with the scholarship committee members to finalize this project. Those serving on the committee are Rich, Meg, Don, Gill, and Edwin.

13. The New Manatee County Veterans Services Representative is Renee Medina.

14. Lee Washington has been promoted and he will be missed. The Council members wished him well in his new job and a speedy recovery from surgery.

15. Primary Representative Reports:

There were no representatives in attendance for this meeting from the following Organizations:

1. Veterans Village
2. Sarasota County Veterans Commission.
3. The USFSM veterans success
4. The SCF student veterans
5. The Goodwill Veterans Services.
6. The Turning Points
7. JFCS.

16. Update regarding the Veterans Monument Park. The work on the poles is working out well. There has been no word on reimbursement yet from the county.

17. Don and Jim Klocke will work together on the Memorial Day events. There will be no port a potty, tent or chairs again this year due to the expense. Rich Blunt, to donate 4 cases of bottled water for Memorial Day services to be delivered to Jim Klocke.

New Business

18. The Knights of Columbus donated \$1,500.00 to this Council. The Knights of Columbus donation is to be moved to the Scholarship Fund. A motion was made by Jim Klocke, and seconded by Rick Blunt. Motion carried.

19. A motion was made by Don to reimburse Gill Ruderman \$50.00 for his time and gas for picking up the checks for Bingoland donations throughout the years. The motion was second by Theresa Cobb. Motion carried.

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

21. Meeting Adjournment: As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Jim Klocke at 11:50 a.m.

Next meeting: The next will be held on April 21, 2022 at 11:00 am located at the American Legion Post 24 in Bradenton, FL.

Respectfully Submitted,

Recording Secretary Pro Tem

Theresa Cobb for this meeting only – edited by Tricia Sadler, per Theresa Cobb