

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS  
Chapter 123  
Merritt Island, Florida 32952

General Membership Meeting Minutes  
8 December 2011

Call to Order – Commander Benagh called the meeting to order at 10:30.

Pledge of Allegiance – Commander Benagh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation – A moment of silence was observed.

Roll Call of Officers – Adjutant Smith reported a quorum was present.

Introduction of Visitors – None

Minutes of Last Meeting 10 November 2011 - Approved

Treasurer's Report/Bills against the Chapter – Approved

Reports:

Service Officer – No report

Membership/Introduction of New Members – No new members in December.

Legislative:

Legislative Officer Caron reported that there will be a 3.6% COLA for 2012 for retired pay, Social Security, and VA disability benefits.

Welfare/ Sickness and Distress – No report

Pelican Post:

Pelican Post Editor Furis reported that all articles must be in by 15 Dec.

Forget Me Not:

Forget-Me-Not Chairman Thompson is retiring. Don Rathbun will take over as Forget-Me-Not Chairman. Volunteers are needed for 21 Jan 2012 at the Cocoa Beach Publix.

Others - None

Reading of Communications:

Adjutant Smith read a letter from the Brevard County Veterans Center thanking Chapter 123 for helping to sponsor a hole at the annual golf tournament.

Bob Brekke presented a program from the Brevard County Massing of the Colors, in which Chapter 123 participated.

Old Business:

DAV Monument at Brevard Veterans' Center:

The Chapter approved the purchase of a Chapter 123 marker for the Brevard County Veterans Center monument area for \$1,000, plus the cost of engraving. Commander Benagh appointed a committee consisting of Don Rathbun, Bob Brekke, and Joe Hershey to determine the engraving of the marker.

Caps and Pins for New Members:

The Chapter has several DAV lapel pins already available to give to new Chapter members. Don Rathbun will obtain estimates for the cost of a baseball-style hat to be given to new members.

New Business:

Plaque for Retiring Service Officers:

The Chapter approved the presentation of a memento to retiring Chapter Service Officers for honorable service. Those leaving with less than 5 years of service will receive a framed Certificate of Service. Those leaving with 5 or more years of service will receive a plaque.

Closing of Savings Account:

The Chapter approved the closing of the Savings Account and merging the funds with the Checking Account. If the rate of interest on Savings Accounts increases significantly, the Chapter reserved the option to re-open a Savings Account.

Funding for Service Officer Training/Mid-Winter Conference:

The Chapter approved a maximum of \$5,500 to fund the Service Officer Training and Mid-Winter Conference, to be held in Jan 2012.

There will be no Executive Committee or General Membership meetings in Jan 2012, due to the Service Officer Training and Mid-Winter Conference.

Commander Benagh tasked the By-Laws Committee to review the existing Chapter By-Laws and report any recommended changes at the April 2012 meeting. Commander Benagh requested Webmaster Malpass to post the current Chapter By-Laws on the Chapter Web Site.

The Brevard County Veterans Center will hold its annual Christmas Party at 10:00 on Dec 14; however, all tickets to the party have already been sold.

Good of the Order – No announcements

Adjournment – Commander Benagh adjourned the meeting at 11:20.

Moment of Silence

Prayer – Immediate Past Commander Donovan gave the closing prayer.