

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
J.L. GOLIGHTLY CHAPTER #32
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2013

The meeting was called to order by the Commander at 1930 on February 27, 2013.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS Present were: Commander, Earl Mason; Senior Vice Commander, Henry (Hank) Merckson; Adjutant/Treasurer, Brian Mitchell; Officer of the Day, Campbell Love; Sgt at Arms, Ron Butt; Chaplain, Leisa Todero and Executive Board member, Jessie Owens.

MINUTES The minutes of the January meeting were distributed for review. One typo was found and will be corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT The Treasurer reported income of \$ 1,881.00 and expenditures of \$ 3,315.03 during January leaving a balance of \$ 17,338.38. The single largest expense was the cost of sending six members to service officer certification school and the cost of the newsletter, all of which falls in the category of welfare, relief and service.

A motion to allow the Treasurer to pay all bills against the Chapter was made by Jessie Owens, seconded by Hank Merckson and passed on voice vote.

REPORTS OF ILLNESS OR DISTRESS Service officer Jean Gautreaux is recovering from surgery. A get well card was circulated for signature. Comrade Bob Whitney has been admitted to hospice.

NEW MEMBERS Three requests for transfer were reviewed: Rocco Battista from Ch # 122 in Florida, Timothy Hammons from Ch #6 in Georgia and Anita Moore from Ch#5 in Louisiana. All were approved on voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

The Coke machine is still on Craig's list.

The By-law changes have been re-sent to Department (third time).

Still no status on the Auxiliary fund-raiser.

The Treasurer has the paperwork for the changes in signatories for the checking account that will be needed after the election of officers. He has also checked on the procedure for updating the names associated with the certificates of deposit.

Comrade Butt once again reminded everyone of the Forget-Me-Not drive to be held March 2&3 at the Melbourne Beach Publix and solicited assistance.

NEW BUSINESS

The minutes of the February Executive board were circulated for review. The Adjutant noted that the Board had approved the expenditure of up to \$ 600 for the construction of two more service offices at the south end of the building. The Commander requested a motion from the floor to formalize this action. The motion was made by Donald Drew, seconded by Campbell Love and passed on Voice vote. \$ 223.00 is available on Home Depot gift cards left over from the exterior renovation grant.

The Adjutant mentioned the possibility of the Chapter advertising in a publication called the Veteran Voice. He is going to check with the Department Adjutant as to the propriety of doing so and, if OK, what the content can be. Also if approved, he will solicit the other five chapters in the County to see if they want to be mentioned and share the cost. (Note: while reviewing the literature during preparation of the proposal, it was discovered that the cost would be prohibitive for this and the idea is being abandoned.)

The Adjutant read from a solicitation from The Memorial Day Foundation, requesting a donation to support their wreath-laying operation in Washington, DC on Memorial Day. After discussion, the members agreed not to make a donation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Hank reported that we have apparently made our quota for the year once more.

Legislative Earl mentioned that there is once again quite a bit of veteran related action in Congress but the big thing now is the sequestration which may have the effect of raising our service load due to veterans being laid off from defense related jobs and trying to finally get disability benefits to replace the income lost. Many have not put in claims as they have thought that doing so would jeopardize their employability.

Service Earl reported that the VA has been pushing the Fully Developed Claim process and it has, in fact, expedited the processing of simple, well-documented claims.

The moving wall will be at Wickham Park 21-28 April. The DAV mobile service office will be there 26 & 27 April and at our place on 25 April. The Wall committee is looking for "Wall Monitors" to guard the area during the time that it is on display. We will most likely have a wreath to place this year as Comrade Bosquet has created a smaller, less cumbersome unit for us.

January service figures were: 91 clients, 430 LVAP hours, 240 of which were for the Service Officer school.

Nomination Committee The committee has come up with the following ballot for the March elections:

Commander, Brian Mitchell
Senior Vice Commander, JoAnn Ashton Jackson
Junior Vice Commander, Rafael Rodriguez
Treasurer, James Daniel
Chaplain, Leisa Todero
Judge Advocate, JoAnn Ashton Jackson
Legislative Officer, Earl Mason
Sgt at Arms, Ronald Butt
Officer of the Day, Campbell Love
Executive Committee, Earl Mason, Henry Merckson, Jean Gautreaux and Jessie Owens.

Other nominations will be solicited at the March meeting. If no other nominations are received, it is proposed to have the election then.

MEMORIAL SERVICE The following comrades have passed away since the last meeting: Michael Fineman and Thomas Sullivan. May they rest in peace.

ADJOURNMENT The 50/50 was won by the Commander who donated his share back to the Chapter, netting the Chapter \$43.00.

No further business appearing, the meeting adjourned at 2015 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian L. Mitchell
Adjutant/Treasurer