

**DISABLED AMERICANS VETERANS  
PATRICK HENRY CHAPTER 34  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ELECTION MEETING MINUTES  
April 06, 2024**

**OPENING CEREMONY**

Commander (Cdr.) Charles Morris opened the meeting at 9:05a.m. Chaplain Jeffrey Benoit gave the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Junior Vice Commander Ethel Smith. Cdr. Morris stated the purpose for us being here and read the Mission Statement posted on the wall. Cdr. Morris declared the meeting open for business.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present: Cdr. Charles Morris, Senior Vice Cdr. (SVC) Larry Griffin, Junior Vice Cdr. (JVC) Ethel Smith, Treasurer Terrell Lasker, Chaplain Jeffrey Benoit, Immediate Past Commander (IPC)/Judge Advocate Robert Monroe, Member-at-Large (MAL) Clarence Johnson, Adjutant Veranica Jordan, Officer of the Day Herbert Jones, and Sergeant at Arms Thomas Coleman. The Executive Committee (EC) Meeting had a quorum of Chapter Officers present in order to conduct the meeting. Twenty-two members were present eligible to vote.

**VISITORS**

Will King, Department Commander

Maria and Jim King , visiting DAV members and Commander Will King's parents.

Rich Lehmann, 1<sup>st</sup> Junior Vice Department Commander

Cdr. Charles Morris entertained a motion to dispense with all regular business that was moved by Comrade Jerry Parker and seconded by Comrade Jerry Phillips. There was no discussion and this motion was unanimously approved by the body.

Department Commander Will King appointed two volunteers; Comrades Jerry Parker and Rodney Young as Election Tellers with Comrade Jasper Edmonds.

Nominating Committee Chairperson, Clarence Johnson, gave the recommendation from the Nominating Committee of the candidate submitted for position being voted upon. Department Commander Will King dispensed with the nominating Committee

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

For Office of Commander, Comrade Larry Griffin was nominated by the nominating Committee; there were no other nomination from the floor. Adjutant Veranica Jordan cast a single unanimous vote for Comrade Larry Griffin for Commander.

For Office of Senior Vice Commander, Comrade Ethel Smith was nominated by the nominating Committee; there were no other nomination from the floor. Adjutant Veranica Jordan cast a single unanimous vote for Comrade Ethel Smith for Senior Vice Commander.

For Office of Junior Vice Commander, Comrade Terrell Lasker was nominated by the Nominating Committee; there were no other nomination from the floor. Adjutant Veranica Jordan cast a single unanimous vote for Comrade Terrell Lasker for Junior Vice Commander.

For Office of Chaplain, Comrade Jeffrey Benoit was nominated by the nominating Committee; there were no other nomination from the floor. Adjutant Veranica Jordan cast a single unanimous vote for Comrade Jeffrey Benoit for Chaplain.

For Office of Member at Large, Comrade Clarence Johnson was nominated by the nominating Committee; there were no other nomination from the floor. Adjutant Veranica Jordan cast a single unanimous vote for Comrade Clarence Johnson for Member at Large.

For Office of Treasurer, Comrade Herbert Jones was nominated by the nominating Committee; there were no other nomination from the floor. Adjutant Veranica Jordan cast a single unanimous vote for Comrade Herbert Jones for Treasurer.

Department Commander Will King dismissed the tellers.

#### **INSTALLATION OF OFFICER**

Department Commander Will King conducted the installation of the newly elected officers for 2024-2025. Comrade Herbert Jones, Officer of the Day stood with the following new inductees in front of the room for installation as Department Commander King called the roll: Larry Griffin, Commander; Ethel Smith, Senior Vice Commander; Terrell Lasker, Junior Vice Commander; Herbert Jones, Treasurer; Jeffery Benoit, Chaplain; and Clarence Johnson, Member at Large.

After the installation ceremony was conducted all new inductees took their seat with the exception of Cdr. Larry Griffin. Department Commander King gave Cdr. Griffin a welcome address and presented the gravel to Cdr. Larry Griffin as a symbol of his new position.

#### **APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Elected Cdr. Larry Griffin appointed the following officers: Veranica Jordan, Adjutant; Robert Monroe, Judge Advocate/Benefits Protection Team Leader; Rushton White, Officer of the Day; Thomas Coleman, Sergeant at Arms; and Rodney Young, Welfare and Relief.

1<sup>st</sup> Junior Vice Commander Rich Lehmann conducted the installation of appointed Officers and Committees Chairs for 2024/2025.

Department Commander King expanded on subjects pertaining to the successful running of Chapter 34.

A motion was entertained and moved by Judge Advocate Robert Monroe and seconded by Senior Vice Commander(SVC) Ethel Smith that we continue with regular chapter business. There was no discussion and this motion was unanimously approved by the body.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Terrell Lasker reported the beginning balance for March 2024 was \$114,988.49 and ending balance is \$112,577.30 for Treasurer Report.

The Treasurer's report will be filed for internal audit.

#### **CHAPLAIN REPORT**

Chaplain Jeffrey Benoit stated Treasurer Herbert Jones and Judge Advocate Robert Monroe, both had been hospitalized, but is back with us today.

Judge Advocate Robert Monroe stated all members should read the Constitution and Bylaws approved in November 2023 and do everything according to the bylaws.

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

People can volunteer at Chapter 34 without being a member. Remember to submit a LVAP for their hour as "non-member".

Comrade Jerome Payton stated Virginia has approved license plates supporting Women Veteran. He has purchase two for his vehicles.

Retiring Commander Charles Morris was thanked for his service to the members and the chapter.

A motion was entertained and moved by Junior Vice Commander (JVC) Terrell Lasker and seconded by Senior Vice Commander SVC Ethel Smith that Chapter 34 set aside NTE \$200 to secure a pavilion at a park for a Veteran's Cookout. There was a discussion and this motion was unanimously approved by the body.

Comrade Jerry Parker has a motorized wheelchair free to a member, veteran and veteran's widow. See Cdr. Larry Griffin or Comrade Rodney Young if you are interested.

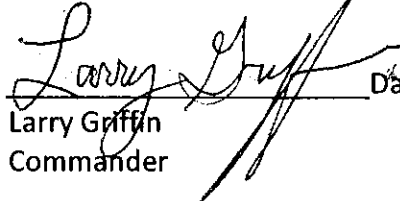
**CLOSING CEREMONY**

A motion was moved to adjourn the meeting. Cdr. Larry Griffin gave a tribute to the fallen veterans. Chaplain Jeffery Benoit closed the meeting with a prayer and Cdr. Larry Griffin adjourned the General Membership Meeting at 9:55 a.m. The next General Membership Meeting will be May 04, 2024 at 0900 hours.



Date 06 April 2024

Veranica Jordan  
Adjutant



Date 06 April 2024

Larry Griffin  
Commander