

**DISABLED AMERICANS VETERANS
PATRICK HENRY CHAPTER 34
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ELECTION MEETING MINUTES
April 01, 2023**

OPENING CEREMONY

Commander (Cdr.) Charles Morris opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. Chaplain Rodney Young 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, Immediate Past Commander (IPC) Robert Monroe, Treasurer Terrell Lasker, Chaplain Rodney Young, Adjutant Veranica Jordan, Officer of the Day Herbert Jones, and Sergeant at Arms Thomas Coleman. Judge Advocate Ronald Christian was excused and Member-At-Large (MAL) Curtis Lassiter was absent. The Executive Committee (EC) Meeting had a quorum of Chapter Officers present in order to conduct the meeting. Twenty-seven members were present.

VISITORS

Cynthia Bailey – Immediate Past Department Commander officiating chapter’s election
Samuel Hardy - past member of the U.S. Army

Cdr. Charles Morris entertained a motion to dispense with all regular business with the exception of the Treasurer’s Report and the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes that was moved by Comrade James Anderson and seconded by Comrade Jarl Christensen. There was no discussion and this motion was unanimously approved by the body.

Cdr. Charles Morris entertained a motion to appoint the following members as Election Tellers. A motion was made and moved by SVC Larry Griffin and seconded by Comrade John Bucelato that the following members be appointed to the Election Committee: Comrade Jasper Edmonds - Chairperson, Comrade Jarl Christensen, and Comrade Rodney Young. There was no discussion and this motion was unanimously approved by the body.

A motion was made by IPC Robert Monroe and seconded by Treasurer Terrell Lasker to have Immediate Past Department Commander Cynthia Bailey supervise Chapter 34's 2023/24 election. There was no discussion and this motion was unanimously approved by the body.

Nominating Committee Chairperson, Ethel Smith, gave the recommendation from the Nominating Committee of the candidate submitted for position being voted upon. The Nominating Committee consisted of Comrades Ethel Smith, Veranica Jordan and Jasper Edmonds.

IPDC Bailey dispensed with the nominating Committee

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

For Office of Senior Vice 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 Senior Vice Commander.

For Office of Junior Vice Commander, Comrade Terrell Lasker was nominated by the Nominating Committee; Comrade Ethel Smith was nominated from the floor. With the majority votes, Comrade Ethel Smith was elected to the office of Junior Vice Commander.

For Office of Treasurer, Comrade Herbert Jones was nominated by the nominating Committee; Comrade Herbert Jones declined the nomination. Comrade Terrell Lasker was nominated from the floor. Adjutant Veranica Jordan cast a single unanimous vote for Comrade Terrell Lasker for Treasurer.

For Office of Chaplain, there was not a nomination by the nominating Committee; Comrade Jeffery Benoit was nominated from the floor. Adjutant Veranica Jordan cast a single unanimous vote for Comrade Jeffery Benoit for Chaplain.

For Office of Member at Large, Comrade Clarence Johnson was nominated by the nominating Committee; Comrade Thomas Coleman was nominated from the floor. With the majority votes, Comrade Clarence Johnson was elected for Member at Large.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICER

Immediate Past Department Commander (IPDC) Cynthia Bailey conducted the installation of the newly elected officers for 2023-2024. Comrade Herbert Jones, Officer of the Day stood with the following new inductees in front of the room for installation as IPDC Bailey called the roll: Charles Morris, Commander; Larry Griffin, Senior Vice Commander; Ethel Smith, Junior Vice Commander; Terrell Lasker, 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. Charles Morris. IPDC Cynthia Bailey gave Cdr. Morris a welcome address and presented the gravel to Cdr. Charles Morris as a symbol of his new position.

APPOINTMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Elected Cdr. Charles Morris appointed the following officers: Veranica Jordan, Adjutant; Clarence Johnson, Assistant Adjutant; Herbert Jones, Officer of the Day; Robert Monroe, Judge Advocate/Benefits Protection Team Leader; Thomas Coleman, Sergeant at Arms; Robert Monroe, Constitution & Bylaws; Terrell Lasker, Budget Committee; Clarence Johnson, Building; Charles Morris, VAVS; Clarence Johnson, Grievance; Rodney Young, Welfare & Homeless; Herbert Jones, Internal Audit, Jerome Payton, LVAP/Webmaster & Photographer; Ethel Smith, Nominating; Charles Morris, Thrift Store; Ronald Heyward, Transportation; and Larry Griffin, Alternate Thrift Store (ATS).

IPDC Cynthia Bailey conducted the installation of appointed Officers and Committees Chairs for 2023/2024.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Terrell Lasker reported the beginning balance for March 2023 was \$98,499.42 and ending balance is \$96,782.67.

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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

A motion was entertained and moved by Comrade James Anderson and seconded Treasurer Terrell Lasker to dispense with the reading of the General Membership Meeting minutes for February 28, 2023. There was no discussion and this motion was unanimously approved by the body.

COMMUNICATION

Adjutant Veranica Jordan stated we received two "Thank You" cards. One was from Comrade Marcia Payton and the second was from her.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Reports were given by the chairperson or the respective committee representative for the following committees and these reports will also be given at the General Membership Meeting.

Welfare and Relief: Comrade Rodney Young stated we received one application fo a veteran from state to help with electric bill in the amount of \$262.14.

Membership Committee: SVC Larry Griffin, Comrade Herb Jones, and Chaplain Jeffery Benoit gave out detailed information on the Informative Session and Membership Drive at the James City County Recreation Center, April 22, 2023 from 11 a.m. – 1p.m.

Thrift Store: Cdr. Charles Morris stated the Thrift Store sales are up 8%. They purchase land in Grafton to build a new store and they have two lots in Chesapeake worth approximately \$7,000 each.

CSO: JVC Ethel Smith stated that 14 cases were completed during the month of March 2023.

LVAP: Comrade Jerome stated to turn your sheet in before you leave today.

Constitution & Bylaws: IPCC Monroe stated he is the chair and has the authority to appoint two members to be on his committee. Everyone should read the National, Department and Chapter Bylaws and be familiar with them. When reading the Chapter Bylaws you see anything that you think need to be changed, contact him.

The reading of the Executive Committee (EC) Minutes dated March 28, 2023 was read by Adjutant Veranica Jordan. A motion was made and moved by Comrade Herb Jones and seconded by Comrade Jarl Christensen to accept the EC Minutes. There was no discussion and the motion was unanimously approved by the body.

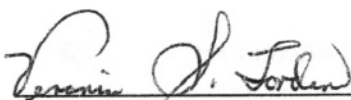
GOOD OF THE ORDER

SVC Larry Griffin recognized that we had several members present we had not seen in a while.

IPC Robert Monroe encourage Chapter 34 to have some, not all monthly meeting at the VFW in Williamsburg. He stated for us not to vote on it now, but just think about it and then vote. Several members had comments on this statement. IPDC Bailey intervened.

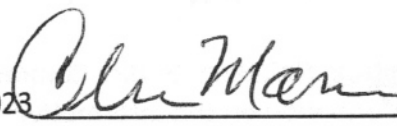
CLOSING CEREMONY

A motion was moved to adjourn the meeting. Cdr. Charles Morris gave a tribute to the fallen veterans. Chaplain Jeffery Benoit closed the meeting with a prayer and Cdr. Charles Morris adjourned the General Membership Meeting at 11:00 a.m. The next General Membership Meeting will be May 06, 2023 at 0900 hours.



Veranica Jordan
Adjutant

Date 01 April 2023



Charles Morris
Commander

Date 01 April 2023