

# AMVETS Tallahassee Post 1776

Meeting minutes from May 5, 2021  
American Legion Post 13, Hall, Lake Ella

Meeting called to order by commander Lightfoot at 1835 hours  
Pledge of Allegiance by Provost Cecil Taylor  
Invocation by Chaplain Eric Smith  
Recitation of the AMVET preamble of it's constitution, ALL

Roll call:

Commander, Present  
1st Vice, Present  
2nd Absent  
Finance Officer, Present  
Judge, Advocate Present  
Provost, Present  
Adjutant, Present

Minutes for April 2021 meeting were sent to membership. Motion to accept minutes as sent by Adjutant. Motion to accept by Eric Smith, second by Henry Lowery. Motion passed.

**Chaplain Report:** Chaplain Eric is in need of the note cards, which are sent to members or their families in times of stress and need. Supply will be given to him. Cards will be sent to Ray House (discs in back, he's in pain) and Henry Lowery's family (death in family). Motion to accept by Henry Lowery, second by Cecil Taylor. Motion passed.

**Finance Report:** Paul Rogerson gave our financial status: Bank Balance of **\$37,032.00. Expenses:** \$4663.84. **Income:** \$8,474.64.  
Motion to accept by Bob Aguilera, second by Henry. Motion passed.

**Bell Tower Report:** Commander Lightfoot brought the Post up to date: The large Granite rock will be placed at the center of the roped off area in front of the Tower. A bronze plaque will be attached to the Stone with bronze screws. The closed off area around the tower will have a chained off area with nine treated wooden posts painted black encased in concrete with chains encircling the diameter of the base area. There will be pea gravel covering the inside area. Henry and Gordon personally did the work for the base of the tower.

Gordon displayed actual sized proof of the plaque honoring all donors. The plaque will be fastened to the wall in the foyer at the entrance of the offices in the Admin. Building. A table with a scale model of the tower will sit on a table below

the mounted plaque. Gordon asked for a check for \$1068.00 to cover 50% of the final cost of the plaque, which is to be made this month. Motion made and seconded, motion passed.

Gordon also mentioned that on the 29th -30th of this month, Memorial Day weekend, there will be a schedule of three songs played from the tower every hour at the Tallahassee National Cemetery. From 1-6 pm on Saturday and from 8 am to 6 pm on Sunday. Paul will be helping Raymond Miller at the Tallahassee National Cemetery to program the songs. Everyone is encouraged to at least do a drive by to hear our Carillon play.

Also certificates are being made for the Tower donors.  
Motion to accept by Henry, second by Paul. Motion passed.

**Golf Tournament Report:** Tournament director Minichiello gave his report: 19 teams participated; we had a couple of new Sponsors. The new earlier date was a better time than in the heat of summer. The silent auction and the raffle were a big success. He also mentioned the Challenge Coins re-order was in. Motion to accept by Henry Lowery, second by Ray Wright. Motion passed.

**Membership:** Rob Aguilera stated that we have a new member: Robert Davie, Coast Guard/Army. Also, a member that wants to join our Post cannot give us his credit card number to pay his dues as we do not have the capability at this time to process it. Paul will ask member to pay via check or cash. Motion to accept by Tony Minichiello, second by Cecil Taylor. Motion passed.

Final nominations for officers were open prior to the election. Final nominations included: Commander, Gordon Lightfoot; First Vice Commander, Rob Aguilar; Second Vice Commander, Ray House; Judge Advocate, Henry Lowery; Adjutant, Antony "Tony" Minichiello; Provost, Cecil Taylor and the Chaplain, Eric Smith was appointed for another year. After nominations, a single vote was cast as a unanimous consent to elect all nominees. Installation of all officers and appointees followed the election. All were welcomed back.

**New Business:** John Folsom brought to the floor a request to purchase a complete Flag unit for the Ladies Auxiliary of Post 13. The reason being their original unit has disappeared. Since they are instrumental in assisting with the tournament Rob Aguilera made a motion to purchase a new unit. Henry Lowery seconded. Motion passed.

John Folsom also mentioned the following:

1. The possibility of hosting a dinner for the volunteer Patriot Guard members.

2. A high profile speaker will be at Oak Hill Cemetery on Memorial Day.
3. Possibility of doing a biography of new members. Also, perhaps all Post members. (Note: From Post Commander Lightfoot, most Post members have a bio on file. Post Commander will share the spreadsheet containing this information for use in helping compile the rest of the bios for the members.)

Paul Rogerson made three proposals to increase the amount of donations to the four recipients for whom we raised funds during the tournament. Donations were increased to levels as follows: \$1000.00 Honor Flight Tallahassee. \$2000.00 Disabled American Veterans. \$1000.00 Big Bend Chapter 96 Vietnam Veterans of America. Post 13 American Legion remained the same at \$500.00, as a temporary donation with possibility of future funding on an as needed basis. Dale Mabry WWII Aviation Museum was postponed until we can invite the Dale Mabry Board to visit one of our Post meetings for a questions and answer session.

Good and Welfare: None at this time  
Benediction by Chaplain Smith  
Retiring the colors by Provost Taylor  
Adjournment at 2000 hours.

**Attendees:**

Ray Wright  
Rob Aguilera  
Eric Smith  
Henry Lowery  
Cecil Taylor  
Raymond Rogerson  
Tony Minichiello  
Gordon Lightfoot  
John Folsom  
Via Zoom: Ben Balding