

**AMVETS Post 1776 Tallahassee**  
**Meeting Minutes November 7, 2019**  
**Allegro Retirement Center**

Meeting called to order by Commander Lightfoot at 1832 hours. Vice Rick Brown  
Pledge of allegiance led by Provost Cecil Taylor  
Invocation by Provost Cecil Taylor  
Recitation of the AMVET Preamble of it's constitution ALL

**Roll Call:**

Commander Lightfoot  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Rick Brown  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Harry House  
Finance Officer (vacant)  
Judge Advocate Henry Lowery  
Chaplain (Absent)  
Provost Cecil Taylor  
Adjutant Anthony Minichiello

**Committee Reports:**

**Randy Miller, Chair Bell Tower Planning Committee:** Budget was given as \$46,375.00, estimating 50% share between our Post and AMVETS Service Foundation. It was stated that we needed \$19,375.00 to have enough to complete project. (This was assuming that National would honor its commitment of \$36,000.00)

**Finance Report** was not given due to change in Finance Officers. Harry Mulhearn has resigned/retired and Paul Rogerson has been appointed Finance Officer until elections next May. The Commander asked for and received approval of Paul's appointment from membership. Our Bank Balance was estimated as follows from the October meeting: Checking account balance \$14,344.00. Savings account: \$9,326.00

**Total cash on hand estimated: \$23,670.00**

Randy had a commitment from donors exceeding \$12,500.00. Randy also has cash to deposit: \$6,550.00

**Bell Tower Status** report by Commander Lightfoot. Fundraising continues. In addition to above report of fundraising, we have another \$1,000.00 ready for deposit and another \$800 to \$900 pledged from the AFA that Gordon will receive next week. Further, the Campbellsville shop drawings were sent to our architect for certification and approval, after which a formal project proposal will be submitted to Raymond Miller who will pass the project proposal on to the National Cemetery Administration for final approval. Concurrent to proposal submittal Campbellsville will begin construction phase of project, as contracts have been signed and deposits

received. Ray made a motion to accept report and was seconded by Henry. Motion passed.

Don Gerstein gave a brief update on progress being made on the Patriotic Film project for the Leon County School System. The School system has held the project up helping Don complete the work on the film. No vote was required.

**New Business:** Commander Lightfoot set parameters for standardizing our uniforms requirement for ceremonies. White shirts with a P.O.W.M.I.A. patch on right sleeve. An American flag patch on left sleeve and you can wear ribbons over your right breast. (Updated: Commander Lightfoot has arranged for G. Willies Uniform on Mahan to provide the white shirt with an embroidered AMVETS logo on the left breast. Ask for Nina and she will sew the patches on the sleeves for \$3 per patch and put the embroidered AMVETS logo on the shirt for \$10. The shirts are approximately \$31.00 almost \$20.00 cheaper than the Commander found online.) Also, for our events please wear your Green Garrison Cover with AMVETS logo and, when appropriate, Blue Blazer, black slacks and black low quarter shoes. Rick Brown made a motion to accept and Cecil Taylor seconded. Motion was approved.

Raffle tickets were distributed to members and plans were made to set up a table/tent to sell raffle tickets along with some of our challenge coins during the breakfast at the American Legion Hall just prior to the veteran's day parade.

**Henry Lowery**, Judge Advocate, gave his report from the commanders meeting while promoting the following events:

**On December 14<sup>th</sup>** over 1,600 wreaths will be placed on veteran's graves by volunteers at the Tallahassee National Cemetery. Volunteers are needed and should show up around 9:30 a.m. if you want to help.

**On Thursday November 28**, from 1100-1300 hours a free traditional Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner will be hosted by American Legion Post 13 at the Lake Ella legion building.

**On Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup>**, Bass Pro Shops will host a Hometown Hero Gill-Off with free Hot Dogs and Face Painting.

**On January 25, 2020**, The Tallahassee Veterans Legal Collaborative will host 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Fun Sporting Clay Shoot.

Paul Rogerson made a motion to accept reports and Tony seconded. Motion passed

Motion to adjourn was made by Harry Mulhearn and seconded by Rick Brown.

Flag Salute by Henry Lowery  
Closing Prayer by Cecil Taylor  
Adjourned

Submitted by Anthony "Tony" Minichiello, Adjutant

**November 7<sup>th</sup> 2019, Attendance:**

John Schmidt, Jr.

Claude Shipley

Cecil Taylor

Henry Lowery

Randy Miller

Gordon Lightfoot

Anthony Minichiello

Paul Rogerson

Eric Smith

Rob Aguilera

Don Gerstein

Anthony (Tony) Minichiello

Harry Mulhearn

Rick Brown