

**AMVETS Post 1776 Tallahassee**  
**Meeting Minutes with Addendum**  
**November 5, 2020**  
**Post 13 American Legion Hall**  
**Lake Ella, Tallahassee, FL**

Meeting called to order by Commander Lightfoot at 1830 hours

*Note: This meeting was held with ZOOM allowing members off-site to observe and participate on-line.*

Posting of Colors

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Preamble of AMVETS Constitution

Judge Advocate

Chaplain

Judge Advocate

**Roll Call of Officers:**

Commander - Lightfoot

1<sup>st</sup> vice - Rob Aguilera

2<sup>nd</sup> vice - Ray House (absent)

Chaplain - Eric Smith

Finance Officer - Paul Rogerson

Provost - Cecil Taylor

Adjutant - Anthony "Tony" Minichiello

**Committee Reports:**

**Chaplin** gave a report on sending our post "Thinking of You" cards to members who may be having health, or other, issues. Eric mentioned that one would be sent to Randy Millers family.

(**ADDENDUM #1** to these minutes for November: We received notice this past week that our member Randy Miller succumbed to COVID-19 on November 27, 2020. Randy fought the virus at TMH for almost a month. Randy will be laid to rest at our Tallahassee National Cemetery with military honors. Randy was our Chair to the Planning Committee for our Bell Tower/Carillon Project and as we all know in just the past year and one half contributed tremendously to raising most of the funds for this Project. Randy brought in several new members throughout the course of his time with us and will be missed by us all. God Bless Wendy his wife and his daughter Holly as they struggle to cope with their personal loss. Rest in Peace Randy.) (We will announce arrangements for Randy's service as soon as we know them.)

**Finance Officer** Post had very little income. \$5.50 interest for the month with \$150.00 outlay to Post 13. Paul purchased 120 pens with the AMVETS Logo. Paul has concerns about or need to pay for the Bell Tower and yet keep a healthier balance in our bank account to cover any exigencies which may crop up. Motion to accept: Henry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fred. Report approved.

**Membership officer** Rob stated we have 34 members, which include 20 Life members. One new member will be joining. Motion to accept: Henry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cecil, motion approved.

**Bell Tower** report by Commander Lightfoot. The Commander sent a letter of approval to NCA/VA for their final approval and signature on the MOA plus an OK to pay 10K for Maintenance. (we need to write the check to them (V.A.) so that the maintenance fund for the Bell Tower/Carillon will be under their control. Commander also explained it will take a couple of months to build tower and 1-2 days to install. We will concurrently be constructing the foundation so that the Tower can be installed in just a couple of days once it is delivered. Also, the Commander commented that we need to continue raising money that will be maintained in a special account expressly for the Bell Tower/Carillon, e.g., funds that might be needed for enhancement of the Cemetery grounds where the Tower will be located. Henry Lowery lauded on how hard Commander Lightfoot had labored for over 5 ½ years to bring this project along and the whole Post agreed. Motion to accept report: Henry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Fred, motion approved.

(**ADDENDUM #2** to these minutes for November: Commander Lightfoot received the final approval letter from the NCA/VA Undersecretary Randy Reeves, dated November 19, 2020 giving AMVETS Tallahassee Post 1776, Inc., approval of the design and construction documents for the tower and carillon proposal submitted on behalf of the Tallahassee National Cemetery. This letter gives us permission to begin the construction phase of our Project and the \$10,000.00 check from our Post will be hand delivered to Raymond Miller at the Tallahassee National Cemetery on Monday November 30, 2020. More details forthcoming.)

**New Business:** Tony mentioned that he had been appointed to the Dale Mabry WWII Aviation Museum Board of Directors. Tony also mentioned that the Post will also be hosting another Golf Tournament in 2021, possibly in April. Ray House will assist and Tony asked all members to be involved. Details will be presented in December meeting.

Cecil mentioned that Dr. Brickler is associated with the 332<sup>nd</sup> fighter group (the Red Tails who trained, briefly, here at Dale Mabry) might be a good contact.

*Fund raising and donation possibilities discussed were:*  
\$100.00 donation to "Toys for Tots" Approved by voice vote  
Sale of a 2<sup>nd</sup> hand vehicle as a fund-raiser.

Good and Welfare by Post Members  
Benediction by Chaplain  
Adjournment by Provost at 1945 hours

Submitted by Anthony "Tony" Minichiello, Adjutant

**November attendance:**

Tony Minichiello  
Gordon Lightfoot  
Rob Aguilera  
Eric Smith  
Cecil Taylor  
Henry Lowery  
Paul Rogerson  
Fred Ingly

**Zoom remote:**

Ray House  
John Folsom  
Guess?