

**American Legion  
Jeremy E. Ray Post 324  
Jersey Village, TX**

**August 13th, 2023  
Regular Meeting – Minutes**

Commander Stefanie Otto called the meeting to order at 1600 hours. There were 6 officers present:

Commander Stefanie Otto  
1st Vice Commander David Pyke Absent  
2nd Vice Commander Open  
Service Officer – Bill Brown  
Adjutant Terry Coon  
Finance Officer Michael LaRose Absent  
Sgt-at-Arms Wayne Huebner  
Chaplin Richard Ater  
Judge Advocate Trey Pryor Absent  
Historian Robert Howard

And 15 other members and 4 visitors (family members) for a total of 25 present. A quorum was met, and the meeting continued.

**Minutes:**

Commander Stefanie Otto requested a motion to forgo reading the minutes from the last meeting by distribution of minutes via email to all members. Bill Brown motioned to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Donna McCarty. Motion was then passed by membership.

**Finance Report:**

Finance Officer: Stefanie Otto spoke for Michael LaRose (absent) reported that the available funds of Post 324 were \$8,561.49 as of 08/13/2023 (not including the \$500.00 restricted funds.) Motion to accept finance report pending further audit was made by Jerry Roberts and seconded by Wayne Huebner. The motion passed by membership.

**Speaker from Boys State:** Diego Vaca spoke about his experience at Boys State in Austin in July. In summary he expressed great appreciation for the Post in sponsoring his attendance. Diego was apprehensive about interacting with others with different opinions but found the event allowed him to debate and discuss openly with others of opposing views. He ended with a positive experience and many new acquaintances.

**Committees**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice:** Absent.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice:** (none)

**Chaplin:** Pray for the leaders of our Country and for the Country.

**Sgt of Arms:** Will provide for distribution the new form for donations to Veterans organizations. Handed out Appointment Information for Veteran Service Organizations (VSO) that are located at the VA Houston Region Benefit Office. Reminder to sign the roster.

**Service Officer:**

1. The deadline to file a claim with the VA regarding the PAC act coverage has been extended to Monday. If you go on line and start a claim you are considered as filing an intent and it will stay available for 1 year to complete. Call Bill Brown for questions 281 799-7011.
2. Introduced guest speaker Donald Galiley Scout Leader along with Sammy and Rachel. They appreciate our Post supporting them and the multiple scouting troops under their guidance. They have 8 scouts working on their Eagle classification including 3 girls. 5 scouts will soon be completing their projects and earning their Eagle status. Rachel spoke of her son's project for providing baskets for Veterans collecting 4,000 items and presenting the baskets to 14 Veterans.
3. Bill Brown spoke of the continued need to collaborate with the Scouting organization and how much that helps in the community.

**Historian:** Spoke of his book that has been published and encouraged others to document their military experience.

**New to the Post introductions:**

John Neal is a Navy Veteran and Paid for Life member of the American Legion returning to our Post.

Donald Sanderson is a new to American Legion Navy Veteran serving in Vietnam and various other campaigns and locations.

**Judge Adjutant: N/A****New Business:**

1. Curtis Haverty will be driving the truck for the Veteran's Day Parade.
2. Phillips 66 is requesting our Honor Guard participation for their Veteran's Day event on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Looking for others for Honor Guard. Please let the Commander know.
3. Membership renewal and recruitment year for 2024 is now underway. We have a September 13<sup>th</sup> target to reach 50% of our goal of 244 members. Currently we are at 40%. Go online, send a check or pay in person.
4. Our Quarterly Charity is collecting items to Stuff Stockings.
5. Event to Salute our Heros this year Sergeant Harris on October 21<sup>st</sup> at Hyatt Regency West. Cost is \$75.00 for Veteran and Spouse.
6. We would like to purchase a full-page ad in the program for \$275.00. Motion was presented by Donna McCarty and seconded by Irene Infante. Motion carried.
7. Commander attended District Convention last Saturday.
8. We conducted a Post Audit, and all is good with our finances. Our books are open for review.

**Old Business:** None**Good of the Legion:**

1. Irene Infante spoke to events and opportunities to give coming up.
  - a. She will be conducting another pillow sewing event with date and place yet to be determined. We are discussing having a day to make dog toys.
  - b. Coloring Pages are available to have children color and we will distribute to Veterans in care.
  - c. The VA is looking for seasonal (fixed day of the week) and other volunteers.

- d. VA needs shirts, t-shirts, underwear (boxers) and socks.
  - e. Life Whole Health provided chiropractic and acupuncture care quickly.
2. Donna McCarty submitted that on September 13<sup>th</sup> the Brook Home and Gift, 12344 Barker Cypress Road, will have their fund raiser for Cy-Fair Educational Foundation from 5 to 8pm. Hors d'oeuvres and Beverages will be served along with shopping and silent auctions.
  3. Wayne Huebner's wife Cheryl is volunteering every Monday to call Patients with appointments. They need help with reminding Veterans of appointments.
  4. Wayne stated that if your status is 100% remind you family to list this on the death certificate. This will establish a full tax exemption to your survivor on the home.
  5. VA hospital needs books for families waiting and patients to read. Appropriate material please.
  6. There is a book published for those with PTSD and Veteran suicide called "Traumas and Suicide Prevention for Warriors by Warriors" written by Charles "Chuck" Wright with copies available to donate to Veterans.

**Adjourn:**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1708 hours. Our next scheduled meeting will be on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 1600 hours (4pm) at VFW 8905, HWY 290 next to Carl's BBQ.

**Respectfully Submitted:**  
**Terry Coon, Adjutant**