



Veterans of America
American Legion Post 394
Minutes of The General Membership

May 20, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER: The Commander called the meeting to order at 1900 hours.

Roll Call:

Commander	Present	Daniel D Martin	Chaplain	Present	Dee Beckham
Adjutant	Present	Louis Coutermash	Sgt-at-Arms	Present	James Lance
1 st Vice	Present	Victor M Cotto	Asst SGT at Arms	Excused	David Luzader
2 nd Vice	Present	Arthur Loretti	Historian	Present	Brad Johnston
3 rd Vice	New	David Luzader	Judge Advocate	Present	John Burke
Finance Officer	Absent	William Kaufman	EC Members		
Service Officer	Present	Arthur Loretti		Present	Brent Diaz
Asst VSO	Excused	Chris Carter		Excused	Jamie Brewsaugh
				Excused	Jay Charland
				Present	Ron Giscombe

All Opening Ceremonies were Completed.

I. Commander

- The Commander called the meeting to order at 1800 hours.
- The previous meeting minutes were presented and read. Brad Johnson Motioned to accept the minutes as read, Dee Beckham seconded. Motioned passed unanimously.

II. First Vice

- Post membership is currently at 102% of our goal.

III. Second Vice

Big weekend coming up Memorial Day.

- Auxiliary distributing Poppies on 23rd of May you might want to check I they need help.
- Flags to Fountian head on the 24th.
- One Blood will be at the post on Saturday May 21nd. and Comedy night on the 24th.
- Memorial day 9:30 at Bethesda Turkey Creek with the color guard performing ceremony. 12 o'clock ceremony at the flag. Hot Dogs and Hamburgers come by and say hello. Queen of Hearts is still on.
- June most of us at convention 14th early bird LRC -21st Senior Prom 7pm to 11pm
- July 4th Dunk Tank and Kill a Keg \$10. Karaoke in the evening
- July 5th Free Juke Box a new game Sticks and Stones more about how to play it and the rules are online at ALRP394.org



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- IV. **Service Officer** in the past 3 years I have spoken too and helped out 4,567 veterans get their benefits including myself.
1. **New Third Vice:** Upon conducting a full inventory, several items were identified that did not meet the desired standards.
 1. **Riders Report:** This month, we rode over 2500 miles along the Florida Coast, visiting Jacksonville twice. We attended an event in Jacksonville that raised over \$120,000 for Project Vet Relief and other charities. On August 30th, we have an Overdose Awareness ride planned. We will donate 50% of the funds to a Veteran Addiction Organization and Brevard Inc. Harley is supporting with five stops, aiming to raise significant funds for these causes.
- V. **Chaplin:** Carl Fortenberry's burial will be at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery tomorrow at 10 am. 8 am wheels up for Rider Escort.
1. **Historian:** Needs pictures within 2 weeks to complete the book.
- VI. **Seargent at Arms:** 20 members present. No special guests. Need someone or the door on Friday night. Frank volunteered. Dave to work kitchen.
- VII. **EC Board:** No report
1. **Finance Report:** Raul Santiago is in the process of organizing and itemizing all financial details and establishing the necessary arrangements with the bank.



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VIII. Election Results:

- Commander Victor Cotto
- Everyone else ran unopposed.
- Motion to accept the results of the election. Ivan made the motion John Seconded

Commander	Elected	Victor M Cotto	Chaplain	Unopposed	Dee Beckham
Adjutant	Assigned	Louis Coutermash	Sgt-at-Arms	Unopposed	James Lance
1 st Vice	Unopposed	Daniel D Martin	Asst SGT at Arms	Unopposed	James Lee
2 nd Vice	Unopposed	Arthur Loretto	Historian	Unopposed	Brad Johnston
3 rd Vice	Unopposed	David Luzader	Judge Advocate	Assigned	John Burke
Finance Officer	Unopposed	Raul Santiago			
Service Officer	Assigned	Arthur Loretto	EC Members	Unopposed	Brent Diaz
			EC Members	Unopposed	Karl Burtzloff
			EC Members	Unopposed	Jay Charland
			EC Members	Unopposed	Ron Giscombe

The Adjutant made a motion to unanimously vote all the positions. Dee Beckham Seconded.

IX. Department Convention: the 12 thru the 15 of June

Delegates are:

Victor Cotto

Daniel Martin

Lou Coutermash

Dave Luzader

James Lance

Arthur Loretto

We have 6 delegates.

If you want to attend any classes at the convention, get with Dan Martin.



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They are changing Judge Advocate Class to a two day class.

They are updating the Constitution and bylaws being voted on at the convention.

Department Officers can be reprimanded and relieved from office. Also District and Post.

- **Keg Cooler:** has arrived and will be installed. May members donated money. Ron Giscombe donated \$1,400.00 toward cooler.
- It cost us \$4,400.00 or this cooler which saved us \$ 2,200.00
- **Committee Chair people required.** 1 to 20 different committees. Form needs to be turned in before September 1st so you have time.
- **Chamber of Commerce: Greg Karl and Dutch** Presented the president with a letter of appreciation for the Golf Tournament. We are on the Brevard County and Palm Bay Chamber of commerce website. Brevard School System FYI 70,000 kids, 86 schools ,and 14 charter schools 8,000 employees, 10 million miles of buss service, 10 million meals 67 districts in the state 37 schools with grade A. Graduation rate was 87.2 % now its 89.7%.
- Mortgage financing voted on at last meeting and was approved we have to get him our minutes. We want to make an adjustment to the amount and add \$30,000.00 so we can make a kitchen. Brent Diaz made a motion to increase the amount of the mortgage. Discussion put in an oven and a gas line, permits, putting in a hood, suppression system in the end we want to start doing food here and good dinners. Do stuff here to make money for the post. With no further discussions motion passed.
- We are complete across the board at department for our CPR our addendums and officer reports. We are one of the 5 posts in the district that are good to go.
- Blood Drive at post had over 112 pints of blood which saved 366 lives this past year. If you can give blood please do this Saturday. We are working toward next year.
- Kitchen permit was \$50 or the review waiting for her to send it back
- Sink has been put in for hand wash next to 3 sink. I you wash fruits and vegetables do it behind the big sink behind the bar.
- There is a bottle of perfume behind the bar to raise money for boys state \$ 5 per ticket. We paid \$ 2,960 to send boys to Boys State we only raised about \$ 1,300 next year before we send anyone we are going to make sure we raise the right amount. We have until January to do it so we are going to put up a couple of scratch off boards to raise money.

- X. **Old Business:** Motion was made last time to put speakers in Hall. They are in. Did not cost \$ 300 less that that around \$ 260.



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XI. New Business:

- Raul -we have been looking at refinance and purchasing the building and funds that have been coming in and out. We are kind of making ends meet so we are asking for this meeting and future meetings we have a 3 to 6 month moratorium on asking for funding from one non-profit organization, us, to another organization so we can get a handle on what access we have to make sure we are in the black. Looking at where we are at it's going to take about 2 months to get a handle on where we are at and where we need to be. When we asked Dan how much the building is for \$600,000, we have about \$3,300. The motion was seconded Discussion we need more fund raisers from all organizations. More than 50/50's were discussed. Suggested 2 50/50 on July 4th and a weekly 50/50. Motion passed.
- Motion to include in house rules the canteen will be secured to all post 394 Legion members during the general meeting. Post 394 Legion members will not be served during the general meeting is in progress. Discussion ensued Motion passed 19 for 2 against.
- Frank from Color Guard and Honor Guard need new members. They meet 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 5:30 to 6:30pm. You get a uniform paid for by the post.
- Motion was made to nominate Daniel Martin for Department Commander by Karl Burtzloff. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

I. May 24th Car show at Harley.

I. Good of the Legion.

- Since we hit 100% Coins and pins were given to Victor Cotto, Adjutant, and Arthur Lorette.

II. Motion made to adjourn by Arthur Lorette. Seconded by floor. Passed

III. With no further business to come before this assembly, all closing ceremonies were completed.

Meeting was adjourned at 1959 local.

Minutes Submitted by:

Victor M Cotto
ID# 204202347035
Vice Commander Post 394

Minutes Approved by:

Daniel D Martin
ID# 205157799
Commander Post 394