

Meeting Minutes March 2025

Guests: Daron Grant, Dignity Memorial spoke about free services from funeral homes such as funeral planning and also VA burial benefits.

Meeting opened at 1900 with 17 Members Present.

Officer Roll Call: All officers were present except the Judge Advocate who was excused and the 2-yr Trustee who I later learned was discharged from the VA hospital shortly before the meeting and is considered excused.

New Memberships: 7 Membership applications were read. Larry G. made the motion to accept, 2nd by Marty S. **Motion passed.**

Minutes: As minutes were emailed to all members and spare copies were available, motion to dispense with reading of the minutes was made by Frank D. and seconded by Jim C. **Motion passed.**

Reading of the Bills: None

QM Monthly Report: Accepted subject to audit.

Community Service/Service Officer – Larry Gerlt – Offutt annual Military Exercise 1st week of April! May cause delays getting on base of several hours or more! If you're not signed up for VFW Action Corps email, please consider doing so. Along with the latest status of

Members in Distress: Rich Klinger - recovering

Members Deceased: None

Committee Reports:

Membership - Larry Gerlt: We are now at 101.88% and only need 1 more to achieve 102% and Day of Service to qualify for All American. Next Membership drive is scheduled for April 12th. I will send an email reminder on the Wednesday prior to. If no one responds by 1800 Friday, I skip breakfast and just go alone. If you have any family members, coworkers, neighbors or friends who are veterans and may qualify for the VFW, ask them if I can contact them about joining and pass me their contact info (at least name & phone number, address and email is good to have.) And please remember our Auxiliary – spouses, children 16 or older, parents, grandparents, grandchildren, and siblings are eligible!

Blood Drive/VA & Chaplain Report - Frank Durham: VA hospital new areas still under construction. Had a med appointment during last storm. Most vets did not show for their appointments as they figured Hospital was closed so Frank was in & out in record time because the VA Hospital does NOT close for inclement weather! Frank is now the American Legion District 8 Chaplain and Jim Carmona is now the D8 Commander!

Meeting Minutes March 2025

Surgeon – Jim Carmona: Recommended that everyone should contact a local funeral home and begin initial preparations for the loss of a family member. He said that most funeral homes would complete the planning paperwork at no cost. Planning ahead for the loss of a loved one makes it much easier on the surviving family member(s) who are too often grieving during this time.

POW/MIA - William Guy: DARPA has now reached its 100th Korean War MIA identification.

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/TOTY - Closed for this membership year.

Political Action – Matt Freisen: NR

Webmaster/Facebook/Post Monument - Rick Imgrund: American flag not yet replaced. Pulley at top has to be replaced so he has to arrange for a cherry picker or other lift to get at it.

Women Veterans - Sonja Hosler: NR

We remembered our National Home.

Correspondence – None

Old Business

1. **Subj:** Day Of Service – QM **Content.** The Chief has added a new requirement for All American – participation in “Day-of-Service” on May 3rd. Post voted to do the at the National Cemetery helping family members locate resting place of their loved ones. Marty let us know that there is a kiosk in the main lobby for locating burial sites and paper to record location. He was also contacted by Nat. VFW Communications who will hand publicity for the event. We agreed on 2-hours, 9 – 11 with a show time of 8:45.

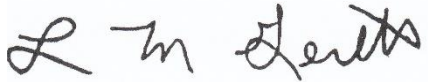
New Business

1. **Subj:** We have been requested to participate in the Council Bluffs Veterans Day Parade on 8 November. They will provide food and fun afterwards at their local Am. Leg. Post. Any time we are “in front of the public” we have an opportunity to increase awareness of the VFW and possibly recruit new members. As it is in November, I will send out an email to see if we have enough members for a Color Guard. After Meeting Addition: The Omaha Patriotic Parade is May 24th at 10 AM. I will include this in the parades email.
2. **Subj:** National Home Donation – QM **Content:** Received a letter from them. They have a donor who will match all donations and all funds go to the Amy Ross Endowment Fund (that’s where we always put our donations). I made a motion we donate \$200. During discussing Marty S. suggested we raise it to \$250 so they would receive \$500. I amended the motion to make it \$250. The motion seconded by Frank D. and passed.
3. **Subj:** April Elections - **Content:** 1st call for Post elections was completed.

Meeting Minutes March 2025

Good of the Order (*All guests should be invited to speak*)

- Mary Carlson will be the guest speaker at Fort McPherson for a Blue Star Memorial dedication on Friday, 28 March.
- District 10 meeting is Sunday, 13 March, 2 PM at Post 2503, 8904 Military Ave.
- Post Membership drive to be scheduled for Apr 12th.
- Bingo at ENVH, Mar 27th, show time 6:15 PM.
- Our next meeting will be Wed., Apr 23rd, 7pm, at the DAV, 4515 F St.
- Meeting adjourned at 2000 hours.



Larry M. Gerlt
Quartermaster