

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, LT. RALPH TALBOT CHAPTER 65
POST OFFICE BOX 890300, E. WEYMOUTH, MA 02189-0005
May 17, 2021**

**Membership meeting held Monday May 17, 2021, at the Weymouth, American Legion, Bean Post.
Luncheon at 12:00 noon and meeting started at 1:00pm.**

Minutes of the Meeting are as follows:

a. Presiding Officer: Commander, Genie Boland

Started meeting with Pledge of Allegiance followed with Opening Prayer by Chaplain Ron Evans.

b. Officer Roll Call : In attendance: Commander “Genie Boland”, Senior Vice Commander “George Pontes”, Junior Vice Commander “Arthur Sharp”, Adjutant “Vinnie Burdziuk”, Legislative Chairman “Buzz Smith”, Chaplain “Ron Evans”. ABSENT: Treasurer “Steve Hendricken”, Chapter Service Officer “Dan Meehan”.

c. Committee Reports

(1) MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING : N/A

(2) COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: N/A

**(3) TREASURER’S REPORT: Steve Hendricken’s Treasurers Report same as last report.
Balance in the checking account is \$2541.51. \$116.00 in petty cash. Certificate of Deposit of \$6,000.44
All Federal and State filing requirements have been met.**

OFFICERS WE HAVE FOR INSTALLATION: George Pontes (Commander), Arthur H. Sharp (Sr Vice Commander), Genie Boland (Jr Vice Commander), Warren (Buzz) Smith (Benefits Protection Team Leader and Membership Chairman), Steven M. Hendricken (Treasurer), Wieslaw (Vinnie) Burdziuk (Adjutant & Judge Advocate), Daniel E. Meehan (Chapter Service Officer), Ron Evans (Chaplain).

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT: N/A

NEW MEMBER(S): N/A

SICKNESS & DISTRESS: Dave DeAmato is still out with no changes in his health and will not get better.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: No Correspondence

NEW BUSINESS: No New Business

OLD BUSINESS: Buzz Smith talked about the Military Order of the Purple Heart planning ceremony at the Navy Yard on July 24th this year. We don’t have a time yet as we are still dealing with the National Parks Service. Hopefully we’ll all be invited. We will keep you advised on that.

On the Military Order of the Purple Heart Towns. I know George Pontes is working on it for the Town of Weymouth. I’ve got (5) towns. Halifax, Hanson, Plympton, Carver and Pembroke. We will be doing a ceremony at the Purple Heart Towns and we are working with the State Commander as well.

K2 Bill (Burn Pit Toxic Exposer) We are working with Congressman and Senator who will fast track the Bun Pit Presumptives. It will include all the places that had Burn Pits. All respiratory diseases would become presumptive if you were exposed to Burn Pits.

Money Appropriated (Buzz Smith & George Pontes) said at the State Level money was appropriated for the Soldiers Home in Holyoke. The Senate Passed another \$200 million for other locations across the State. The House has not voted yet to up the \$400 million to \$600 million. They are advocating you contact your Representatives to add the \$200

million to the \$400 million so they can consider locations such as the Naval Air Station, Camp Edwards, etc. instead of the smaller units housing around 15 Veterans per unit.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: (George Pontes) Memorial Day is coming up with several events.

May 23rd at 11:00am Wreath Laying on the waters of North Weymouth. Final Rifle Salute and Playing of Taps by (2) High School kids.

May 26th Lay Wreath with Rep Murphy at Medal of Honor Plaques at the Veterans Memorial Wall also recording for Weymouth of all those we lost over the last year. Then we will visit the Vietnam Memorial, Korean War Memorial and the Fog Library to read the names of Weymouth Veterans we lost in combat.

May 31st Rifle Salutes at the different Cemeteries led by Commander Durfey and Armed Guard from the American Legion Post #79. Then between 10:15-10:45am we will be assembling at Weymouth High School for the Rolling Parade. That completes our Memorial Day Observance.

Purple Heart Community: Weymouth will be joining the Purple Heart Community. The Proclamation will be read June 7th at the Town Council. We will be sending out invitations on a Zoom attachment for anyone who would like to be there and weigh in. It would be nice to people from different Veterans Organizations attending. We need to contact as many Purple Heart recipients as we know so we will have some Gravitas there with the ceremony.

Agent Orange Dedication August 10th: at the Vietnam Memorial Wall for those (4) Veterans from Vietnam who passed away due to Agent Orange over the last 18 months in Weymouth. It will be at Sunset 7:00pm so families can come and attend after work.

BOW OUR HEADS IN SILENCE FOR A FEW MINUTES for our Veterans who have passed away.

OFFICER INSTALLATION CEREMONY: by Past Commander Warren Buzz Smith Oath was Administered to George Pontes (Commander), Arthur Sharp (Sr Vice Commander), Genie Boland (Jr Vice Commander) , Buzz Smith (Benefits Protection Team Leader and Membership Chairman), Vin Burdziuk (Adjutant and Judge Advocate), Ron Evans (Chaplain).



Veterans Luncheons: Commander Pontes discussed how we should restart our Monthly Veterans Luncheons.

Food Service: Discussed Food for Vets Program.

Volunteer: Discussed how to volunteer at the USS Cassin Young at the Navy Yard.

Discussed other groups that help Veterans

IN CLOSING: Closing Prayer by Chaplain Ron Evans, Salute to the Flag. Meeting adjourned 1:40pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Vinnie Burdziuk, Adjutant