

# MINUTES OF THE BELLAVITA VETERANS MEETING

## OF JULY 17, 2019

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Invocation by Commander

Commander called the meeting to order at 1900 hrs.

New Members – Charles Malinak, US Army and David Purtee, US Navy were welcomed.

Our newly appointed Veterans Organization liaison to the Board, Merlin Mohr, was invited to introduce himself. He gave us an update of some of the issues that could impact us and he explained how he felt we could work together. We are looking forward to having Merlin as our voice to the Board

Commander's Report – (1) The Flag component of the three May-July Holidays went well...to the point where, even with some data issues, we had the fewest misses this year; (2) We had back-to-back sellout events. Memorial Day went well, and the issues were technical; (3) The Fourth of July Parade was well planned and executed...lots of neighbors helping neighbors; (4) The Fourth of July indoor program...not so much, and the issues were personal; (5) We are well on our way to making changes that will make being a member of a Flag Team possible for a lot more BellaVitans.

Reading of the Minutes – Motion was made to waive the reading of the minutes as posted; motion was seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report – Tom was not present so a motion was made to waive the reading of the report until he returns; motion was seconded and passed.

Flag Report – Steve stated that: (1) the shelves in the guard building are almost full, but we have lightened the weight in the trailer; (2) That space will make access to the flags easier and safe; (3) We will be replacing the metal poles with PVC pipes; Texas flags will be the first to be replaced; (4) With reduced costs and weight, we will be able to put more flags up; (5) The service flags in front of the clubhouse will remain on metal poles and be put up 2 days before a flags up date and taken down 2 days after the flags down date; (6) Steve will be inventorying everything in the guard building and posting the inventory list; if for any reason you need to get into the guard building, he, Bill and the front desk have a key to

get in; (7) Flag team captains are to check houses for low hanging branches and report those to Steve for trimming or moving of the receivers.

Flag Analyst – Wilbur was not present.

New Business – (1) The Houston VA is in great need of **NEW** underwear for both men and women. Motion was made and seconded that whatever the community donates, the veterans will match up to \$500.00 for the first month. After that we will make adjustments – motion passed; (2) We need more volunteers for flag teams, preparing food and cleanup; (3) Motion was made and seconded and passed that if no one volunteers to prepare a meal, we will cater that meal. A concern was raised about the cost of catering a meal so the motion was tabled until the commander can get more information on cost; (4) Olga advised the group that a nominations committee for officers for next year should be appointed. She stated that if anyone is interested in serving as an officer that they make their wishes known; (5) Charles stated that he would like a committee formed that will look into how we can make improvements to the community. There is already talk by the Belles of getting a canopy to cover the path from the sidewalk to the door; our share of the cost would be \$2800.00 and the Grounds committee has suggested that the shrubs out by the entry tower be replaced; our share of the cost would be \$4500.00. Charles is working on getting someone from these clubs to come to our meeting and give us a presentation about what they are planning and the cost of each endeavor. If anyone is interested in joining this committee please let Charles know.

Meal – The meal was provided by the Men’s club. No volunteers needed for next month.

Flag Duty – Thanks to Ruben and Bill for last month’s flag duty. Next month’s volunteers are Charles and Charles Malinak.

Jackpot Winner – Mario Saladino

Adjourned – 2032 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Olga V. Vasquez

Recording Secretary