THE AMERICAN LEGION • DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND

Damascus Post 171 | PO Box 171 | Damascus, Maryland 20872

Kevin O'Neill, Commander • 2026–2027 • Toby Zellers, Adjutant

MEMBER'S MEETING MINUTES — DRAFT

12 October 2026

ATTENDANCE

Executive Committee (EC)	Present	Absent
Commander: Kevin O'Neill	X	
1st Vice Commander: Chuck Nguyen	X	
2nd Vice Commander: Mike Wright		X
Adjutant: Toby Zellers	X	
Finance Officer: Treena Wetsel	X	
Judge Advocate: Fred Mitchell (PPC)	X	
Sergeant at Arms: Jason Peterson	X	
Elected Member: Obed Pellegrino	X	
Elected Member: Dennis St. Jean	X	
Elected Member: Paula Gill	X	
Elected Member: Anita Trotter (PPC)	X	

Other attendees: Nicholas Middendorff, Jim Serritella, Sam Baughman (PPC), and others.

There were 25 members, a quorum (8), present. The Commander called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. The meeting took place at Post 171

The Chaplain opened the meeting with prayer.

Commander Acknowledged Past Commanders: Bill Raab, Tony DeShiro, Fred Mitchell, Sam Baughman, Anita Trotter

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

- Report Provided and made available

ADJUTANT'S REPORT

- Welcome Nick Middendorff, District 8 First-Vice Commander. Nick is a member of Thumont Post 168.

1ST VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

- MEMBERSHIP: 235 members paid, 79.66%, 1st in District, 3rd in State. Goal is 295.
- New Members- Chris Clarke & George Margelos – both Transfer, Motion passed to vote them in.

2ND VICE COMMANDER'S REPORT

- Absent.
- For Veteran's Day Post Event- Platoon 22 Executive Director Nikki Calzon to speak. Damascus Chorus will sing. Mike Wright has lead in organizing.

JUDGE ADVOCATE'S REPORT

- An oral report was given

SERVICE OFFICER

- Veterans Resource and Career Fair in Frederick November 7th, 1000-1630

SERGEANT AT ARMS' REPORT

- No report.

COMMANDER'S REPORT

- September minutes were posted to the website and provided in hard copy. The minutes were accepted.
- District 8 Meeting at Mission BBQ Oct 25th
- Commander asking for more pictures of events. Please share with Sean or news@legionpost171.org

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BINGO

- Oral report received.

BASEBALL

- An oral report was provided. Looking for a Coach for the Spring. Planning a banquet for Spring Player.

BOYS STATE & GIRLS STATE

- No report will be made until the application process open in Spring 2027.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

- No actions reported.
- Anita solicited input for projects that could be done by Home Depot Germantown Volunteers

ORATORICAL

- Sean Egan is proposing 2/6/27 (2/13/27 weather date) as the date for the Oratorical Contest.
- Need new lead for Oratorical Program.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

- No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, NEW BUSINESS, AND FOR THE GOOD OF THE POST

- Next Member Meeting November 12.
- Red Cross Blood Drive, Friday, November 6th.
- Opportunity to participate at schools on Nov 11th. Will Trotter is asking for volunteers to present. Gibbs ES Germantown has a program on Nov 10th will start at 9:45 (arrive by 9:30). Damascus ES on 11/11 at 9:30 (arrive 9:15). Hallie Wells Middle School asked for volunteers to visit classrooms on 11/11. Rockwell ES has a program at 2:15pm-3:00 on 11/11 for Parents, especially veterans, and Legion Members. Possibly other school on Nov 12th if needed.
- 25 folks attended Fire Pit Cookout on 10/10
- Next Lorien Assisted Living Presentation- October 14th at 10:30 – Steve P to present on Veteran's Day
- Anita was contacted by a student about painting a mural on the back of Post Building
- Amber Linde asked if there are Musicians or singers who would be willing to visit shut-ins during the holiday
- Thurmont Post 168 is hosting a Veteran's Day Military Ball on November 14th, 4pm-Midnight. See Post 168 Facebook Page.

The Chaplain closed the meeting with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 2024 hours.

Submitted by: Toby Zellers, Adjutant, Post 171