



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
JEFFERY S. HOLMES POST 84

October 10, 2024  
MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was brought to order at 1815 hours by Commander Dennis Brown (after guest speaker left the room).

Excused absence: Sam Zucker

**Guest speaker:** Wren Parker from HHS who attended Girls State this year. She spoke about her experiences and how much she appreciated the opportunity to attend. Her future plan is to go into politics, although not the candidate perspective.

Roll call by Chaplain Luther Johnson (Sam Zucker out). Present were: Commander and Judge Advocate Dennis Brown, First Vice Commander and Historian Howard Bixby, Second Vice Commander Penny Johnson, Adjutant and Finance Officer Scott Holmes, Chaplain Luther Johnson, Past Commander Charles Patch. Visiting guests were Wren Parker (HHS Girls State Attendee) and Patti Holmes.

**Meeting Minutes:** Minutes of the September 5, 2024 meeting were read by Adjutant Scott Holmes. Motion to accept by Charles Patch and seconded by Luther Johnson. All in favor.

**Order of Agenda:** Starting the budget process was mentioned.

**Finance Report:**

1. Finance Officer Scott Holmes reported that all bills have been paid.
2. Golf tournament brought in \$4,963.65 and monies have been deposited.
3. The report was accepted and filed for audit.

**Service Officer:** None

**Membership:**

1. Same as September 2024.
2. There is ongoing membership recruitment.

**Americanism:**

1. Route 5 flag contract is good til November 2025.
2. Route 5 flags will be taken down on November 16 (weather permitting).
3. In May 2026 would like to add 6 more flags; 4 around the round-about, 1 at Cloverleaf Jewelers, and 1 at intersection of Routes 4 & 5. The dismembered flag on the bridge will be replaced. Additional straps should be purchased to make a more secure attachment to poles. Ted Mock from Waters Excavation will help with the 1 flag bracket change out on the bridge.
4. Banners: The Selectboard approved 6:1 to extend current banners till November 12.
5. Family Day 2025 – TBD.

**Athletics:** No further news from Dylan Spencer on baseball team putting on tournament; seems to be off the table at this point.

**Legal:** None.

**Publicity:** None.

**Service Officer:** None.

**Children and Youth:**

1. Commander Dennis Brown will send a thank-you note to Wren Parker for coming to the meeting to report her participation at Girls State.
2. Patti Holmes will be in contact with The Haven regarding this year's Christmas party. As this moves forward, Patti would like a check in December for Toys for Tots to cover the cost of toys.

**Report from Vets Council Meeting:**

1. Flags will no longer be stored at the VFW and have been donated to Post 84. Scott Holmes will go through the flags and keep the good ones for use on Route 5.
2. Rifles; someone is checking on where they actually came from and a decision as to what to do with them will be made at a later date.
3. Flag retirement ceremony in June; need a new location?

4. Flags from the cemeteries can be picked up after November 11. Leave the sticks as we use them to identify where to place them the next year. Bring markers to mark those graves with no flags so flags will be added next year.
5. Veterans Day ceremonies will be held on November 11 beginning at Maple Street Cemetery at 10:30am and will conclude at the bridge.
6. The Veterans Day Ceremony at the VA Hospital will be on November 12 at 12:00 hours.
7. Fogg's/Ace Hardware donated \$200 for cemetery flags.

**Commander Brown's atta-boy/girls:**

1. Scott Holmes for his work with baseball and on the golf tournament.
2. Charles Patch for spearheading the golf tournament.
3. Penny and Luther Johnson for their continued maintenance of the Blue Star Memorial.
4. Patti Holmes for getting permission for the bin to collect flags at HPD/HFD for retirement.
5. Everyone who volunteered at the golf tournament.

**Old Business:**

1. Golf

- a. Everyone was in agreement that the tournament went well this year.
- b. Charles Patch will put a thank you in the October 19 edition of the Valley News at the cost of \$375, which will come out of tournament funds.

2. The date of September 20, 2025 has been chosen for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament to be played at Montague. Charlie Patch will be in touch with Jeff at Montague to confirm.

### **New Business:**

1. The Chairperson of the Banner Committee, Dennis Brown, is working with the town to have them be the committee's fiscal agent. Dennis reported there will a flyer to hand out to ask for donations. He is asking if anyone wants to help with this. Some private building owners are interested in hanging banners on their buildings.
2. Patti Holmes mentioned there will be a Tree of Warmth displayed by the Vermont American Legion Auxiliary (Patti is a member of the Aux Post 31) at the VA Hospital on November 12 & 13 from 9am-2pm. To help Veterans and families in need, they are looking for donations of hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, socks of all sizes, lap blankets and neck pillows. If you would like to make a donation, please contact Patti at [hbird.holmes@gmail.com](mailto:hbird.holmes@gmail.com) and she will arrange to get them and make sure they arrive at the VA.

**Comrades in distress:** Joyce Perkins and Sam Zucker

### **Correspondence:**

1. The Fall Conference will be held at Post 14 in Vergennes, VT, on October 19.

2. State Commander's Fund Project will help cover many different projects. Literature on this is available if you would like more information.

The meeting adjourned at 1930 hours.

Next meeting, Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 6:00 PM, at WRJ VA, Freedom Building (formally Building 44), Room 103a.

Respectfully submitted,

Patti Holmes (Guest)