

**DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, 5 ALAMO
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

The 21 January 2025 Executive Committee meeting was held via Zoom platform.

Meeting Opened: Commander, Joseph Harrison, Jr. opened the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Officers present:

- Commander, Joseph Harrison Jr.
- Sr. Vice Commander, Keven Lomax
- Adjutant, Kathleen Kaberides
- Treasurer, Gwendolyn Thompson
- Judge Advocate, Gwendolyn Thompson

Officers excused: Jr. Vice Commander, Karla Jordan, Sergeant-at-Arms, Rickey Vasquez

Officers absent: Officer-of-the-Day, Donald Smith, Chaplain, Clyde T. Bragg, Jr

Others present: Women Veteran Advocates Co-Chairs- Priscilla Mayfield and Donna Nious; Lead Chapter Service Officer, Larry Whatley; Chapter member, Jim Volstad

There was a quorum for conducting business.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Commander's Vision

Veterans have timely direct and/or indirect assistance from DAV Alamo 5.

- Financial
- Physical
- Emotional

2. Commander's Mission

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ATTRACT<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activities to promote membership.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recruitment certificates• Membership recruitment numbers• Public acknowledgement• Women Veterans events• College campuses• Fundraising events• Social media posts• Community events• Invites to meetings• Claim Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ATTACH<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All new members, transfers guests and visitors<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Receive follow-up phone call• Thank you for attending meeting• Thank you for joining chapter• At least three-chapter event invites• Current members<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make a list of at least 5 members• Text or call for welfare check• Outings outside of meetings• Invites to chapter events
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- **ENGAGE**
 - Create a catalyst calendar to track upcoming events.
 - **Catalyst calendar**- promotes an engagement rhythm
 - Line officers and members
 - All ages and abilities
 - Proactively sync their calendars
 - Best day and time to participate in scheduled events
 - For any amount of time available
 - Create fiscal year calendar populated with events to attract, attach, engage, and align

- **ENGAGE**
 - CLAIMS DAY- CSOs
 - MEMBERSHIP DRIVES- all members
 - PUBLIC SPEAKING EVENTS- line officers
 - COMMUNITY EVENTS- all members
 - Walk-run events
 - College events
 - Church events
 - Homebound veteran visits
 - Unaccompanied veteran memorials
 - FUNDRAISING EVENTS- all members
 - Forget-Me-Not at Sam's Club
 - Military Appreciation Day at Golden Corral

- **ALIGN**
 - Connect people to a common purpose- taking care of veterans
 - What is the psychological feature that arouses members to action toward a common goal?

- **ALIGN**
 - **Sense of purpose**- connect to a cause you care about.
 - **Personal growth**- learn new skills, build friendship, form networks.
 - **Community engagement**- feel a sense of pride and identity and contribute to a greater sense of civic responsibility.
 - **Improve mental health**- acknowledging there are less fortunate veterans that you can give hope to.
 - **Self-confidence**- feel more confident and have higher self-esteem.
 - **Fulfillment**- feel a sense of accomplishment and have fun with the camaraderie.
 - **Personal goal**- volunteer for a cause you are passionate about.

3. Commander's example of attract, attach, engage, and align calendar.

Example of Catalyst Calendar

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
Attract –Dept Conference; Claims Day	Attract - Chapter meeting; Claims Day	Attract –Chapter meeting; Claims Day	Attract – Chapter meeting; Claims Day	Attract - Chapter meeting; Claims Day	Attract – Dept Convention; Claims Day
Attach - follow-up calls to new, guests, visitors, and current members	Attach - follow-up calls to new, guests, visitors, and current members	Attach - follow-up calls to new, guests, visitors, and current members	Attach - follow-up calls to new, guests, visitors, and current members	Attach - follow-up calls to new, guests, visitors and current members	Attach - follow-up calls to new, guests, visitors and current members
Engage - Forget-Me-Not fundraiser				Engage - Mental Health Awareness Month events	
Align - Homeless Standdown Women Veteran care package delivery (11 Jan); Unaccompanied Veteran Memorial (18 Jan); Mobile Food Distribution (25 Jan)	Engage - Women Veteran Bingo (22 Feb) Align - Mobile Food Distribution (22 Feb); Claims Day	Engage - Women History month celebration guest speaker Align - Mobile Food Distribution (22 Mar)	Engage - Forget-Me-Not fundraiser (2 and 22 Apr) Align - Unaccompanied Veteran Memorial (16 Apr)	Align - Memorial Day events at Veteran Residential Homes (26 May); San Antonio Honor Flights (2-4 May)	Engage - Align - Claims Day

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4. Commander’s example of SMART objectives.

S-M-A-R-T OBJECTIVE	
ALIGN: Connect people to a common purpose. Taking care of veterans through donations to DAV Alamo5.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific • Measurable • Achievable • Relevant • Time-Bound 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S- Increase contributions to DAV ALAMO 5 at Sam's Club fundraising events by 5% through SQUARE point-of-sale system. • M- The number of Square donations at Sam's Club fundraising event per total donations for FY2025. • A- During Golden Corral fundraiser, cash donations were \$960 and Square donations were \$313, total \$1,273 . Square donations were 25% of the total. At Sam's Club, cash donations were \$410, and Square donations were \$22, total \$432. Square donations were 5% of sales. • R- Sam's Club fundraising events have the potential to receive greater amounts of donations because currently people state, "I don't have any cash on me." A proactive campaign of awareness, efficiency, and availability of Square point of sale option could increase donations. • T- By the end of FY2025, Square donations will be increased by 5% of fundraising donations at Sam's Club.

4. COMMITTEE STATUS UPDATE AND WAY FORWARD:

V. G. Clark Cancer Relief Fund- There were a total of four veterans referred to the committee. There are two remaining veterans. The committee, along with the members, will need to re-engage veteran organizations for continuing candidates.

Veteran Assistance Committee- The Chair had to resign due to personal reasons. The commander asked for recommendations. Larry Whatley recommended E.G.Mais.

Benefits Protection Team Leader- Increasing participation on legislative acts, supported by DAV, is imperative. This past December two important legislative acts were approved by Congress.

Women Veteran Advocates- The co-Chairs outlined a plan for a women veterans gathering in February. They will also recognize women veterans in March for Women’s History month.

Lead Chapter Service Officer- Larry expresses concern that CSOs were not submitting monthly veteran claim interactions as required to maintain continuity of service.

5. COMMANDER’S CLOSING COMMENTS

Commander Harrison set a deadline of Friday, 31 January 2025 for all line officers to submit one goal for the rest of FY2025, using SMART objectives, and including the mission modes of operandi: attract, attach, engage and/or align.

Next Meeting: **Monday, 3 February 2025 @ 6:45 pm via Zoom.**

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Kathleen Kaberides
KATHLEEN KABERIDES
Adjutant, DAV Alamo Chapter 5

Date 28 January 2025

Joseph Harrison Jr
JOSEPH HARRISON JR.
Commander, DAV Alamo Chapter 5

Date 28 Jan 2025