

Minutes of the 22 April 2025 JWV Post 135 Meeting at Temple Shir Shalom

Commander Schenk called the meeting to order at 1900 Hours. In attendance were Alan Agauas, Larry Berry, Michael Breshgold, Ted Gittleman, Steven Haas, Donald Schenk, and Lee Schostak. The Minutes of the 23 March 2025 meeting were approved as previously sent to the membership without reading or correction per approved motion. Cdr. Schenk then reviewed the 23 March 2025 JWV Department of Michigan Minutes. He noted that the National Foundation does have financial assets which is used to support several JWV activities.

QM Berry gave the QM report, noting that, as of 31 March 2025, the Post remained solvent with no known liabilities. He then reviewed our 2025-26 budget noting that our upcoming Poppy Drive is our key fundraising source and we should all be "in." (Schenk concurred.) He emphatically explained that our current Poppy Drive policy expects us each to send out at least ten letters to our friends/family members who we solicit. You are to e mail Senior Vice Commander Breshgold your list of names who you will be soliciting by early May. You will then be provided letters from Post Commander Schenk to include with your solicitation which you are encouraged to personalize, a poppy, and a return envelope for each solicitation. The solicitation of pennies also continued at the meeting. Quartermaster Berry remains interested in any other thoughts that you may have for fundraising. His e mail address is shown elsewhere in these minutes. Our Post budget will be finalized at the Post get together at Comerica Park mentioned below. Since our last meeting, several of us gathered at Temple Beth AHM for a jazzy concert by Jewish composers. Cdr. Schenk mentioned the progress of the JWV-MI Charles Kaye Scholarship creation. The student must be Jewish and have a connection to a Jewish veteran. Its foundation has been incorporated with the state of Michigan, it is a 501(c)(3), and it has been funded - so far - by a generous donation from the Kaye family, Post 135, and other echelons of JWV-MI.

UPCOMING EVENTS – Note this is always the JWV busy season!

- 27 April – Yom HaShoah at ZHC - 2:30 PM – with a JWV-MI processional. Wear full uniform
- TBD in May – Flagging of graves at Machpelah and Oakview cemeteries
 - 10 May – International Armed Forces Dining-Out @ Windsor Yacht Club - \$80 per person
- 18 May – No JWV Post 135 or Department meetings as we will be participating in the "8 over 80" event at Congregation Shaarey Zedek – 11:30 AM - with the JWV-MI Color Guard
- 25 May – 10:30 AM - Machpelah Memorial Day ceremony
- 25 May – 1:00 PM – Hebrew Memorial ceremony for Memorial Day – Clinton Township
- 26 May – 9:00 AM – Royal Oak Parade
- 27 May – 6:40 PM Post 135 outing and Budget Approval meeting at Comerica Park during Jewish Heritage Baseball game. F R E E to us!!! Get your name, number of tickets needed, mobile number and e mail address to Schenk now!
- 29 June – Shoot, Shmooze, and BBQ at Island Lake (Brighton), details forthcoming
- July 4 – Independence Day parade, Oak Park - details forthcoming

Seven members remain past due in their dues. If that, even remotely, includes you, contact Commander Schenk or Quartermaster Berry to correct this error. Adjutant Haas also has the list of the "forgetful" seven should you prefer to contact him. Schenk updated us on the flag boxes at temples/synagogues and distributed revised trifold for those shuls. Our headcount is now 57 Members, nine Patrons and one who is in-process. He then reviewed the recent and forthcoming birthdates of 135 members. He again reminded us to subscribe to the JWV-USA newsletter from bgarick@jwv.org and that the Honor Guard needs members to honor our dead.

He then turned to the election of Post 135 Officer for 2025-2026, an event for which we had all held our breath. Per the requirements of our Bylaws, Past Post Commander Gittleman conducted the election. Commander Schenk and Senior Vice Commander Breshgold's names were placed in nomination to re-up for their current position. No other names were placed in nomination. So, the two of them were voted in by all seven of us. Congratulations to them! Schenk then reported that Agauas, Lebovic, Berry and Haas have agreed to serve in positions shown in the lefthand margin of these minutes. Gittleman formally installed the new Officers. Cdr. Schenk reported that the JWV-USA Annual Convention will occur on 17-22 August and there are three candidates vying for the Vice Commander position.

After a couple of (off color) jokes from the floor during Good and Welfare, Commander Schenk adjourned the meeting at 7:44 PM by a motion from Berry, seconded by Gittleman.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve

Steven Haas, Adjutant