

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OF
WILLIAM C. MORRIS UNIT NO 36
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations during the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY WILLIAM C. MORRIS UNIT NO 36, INC, DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA.

ARTICLE II - NATURE

SECTION 1. American Legion Auxiliary William C. Morris Unit No 36, Inc. is a civilian patriotic service organization of women that supports the mission of The American Legion.

SECTION 2. American Legion Auxiliary William C. Morris Unit No 36, Inc. shall be absolutely non political and shall not be used for dissemination of partisan principles nor for any promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

ARTICLE III - OBJECT

The object of the American Legion Auxiliary William C. Morris Unit No 36, Inc., Department of Florida, shall be as stated in the Preamble of the Constitution.

ARTICLE IV - ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 1. Membership in the American Legion Auxiliary shall be limited to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of members of The American Legion, and to the grandmothers, mothers, sisters, wives, and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during any of the following periods: April 6, 1917-November 11, 1918; December 7, 1941-December 31, 1946; June 25, 1950-January 31, 1955; February 28, 1961-May 7, 1975; August 24, 1982-July 31, 1984; December 20, 1989-January 31, 1990; August 2, 1990 to the date of cessation of hostilities as determined by the Government of the United States; all dates inclusive or who being citizens of the United States at the time of their entry therein; served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during any of said periods, and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge; and to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

SECTION 2. There shall be two classes of Membership, Senior and Junior.

A. Senior membership shall be composed of members age eighteen (18) and older; provided, however, a member eligible under Section 1 of this article, and who is under the age of eighteen (18) years and married shall be classified as a Senior.

B. Junior membership shall consist of that group under the age of eighteen (18) years, whose activities shall be supervised by the Senior membership. Upon reaching the age of eighteen (18), Junior members shall automatically be admitted into Senior membership with full privileges.

C. Dues for both classes shall be paid annually or for life.

SECTION 3. There shall be no form of membership except for active membership.

SECTION 4. No person may be a member at any time of more than one unit.

ARTICLE V - UNIT OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The Unit shall elect annually a President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian, Sergeant-at-Arms, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms who shall serve until their successors are duly installed or as otherwise provided. (Or a combination of some of these officers.)

ARTICLE VI - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. There shall be an Executive Committee, which shall consist of all officers and three (3) additional Members at Large elected by the Unit. The term of office for members of the Executive Committee shall be for one (1) year.

ARTICLE VII - FISCAL YEAR

SECTION 1. The fiscal year shall be the same as that of the Department.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the members at a regular meeting, provided the proposed amendment shall have been read at the previous meeting.

SECTION 2. Amendments not having been read at the previous meeting may be adopted by the unanimous vote of the members present.

SECTION 3. This Constitution shall be automatically amended to conform to the National and Department Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary.

WILLIAM C MORRIS UNIT NO 36
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. Between meetings, the government and management of this Unit shall be entrusted to the Executive Committee and all Proceedings of said Committee shall be presented to the Unit at the next meeting for approval.

SECTION 2. A vacancy existing in the Executive Committee from any causes other than the expiration of a term shall be filled by a majority vote of the entire Committee. A person so elected shall hold office of the unexpired term of the member she succeeds.

SECTION 3. A quorum shall be five Executive Committee members in attendance at any Executive Committee Meeting.

SECTION 4. Special meetings may be called by order of the President, or on written or electronic request of at least three (3) members of the Executive Committee. Uniform notice of such special meetings shall be given to all members of the Executive Committee; and, except in extreme emergency, shall be given at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. At special meetings only business specified shall be transacted.

ARTICLE II - DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. DUTIES OF THE UNIT PRESIDENT: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Unit and the Unit Executive Committee; to enforce strict observance of the Constitution and Bylaws; to appoint members of the Standing Committees and appoint members thereof as she deems advisable; to perform such duties as custom and parliamentary usage require; to appoint all officers not otherwise provided for.

SECTION 2. DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENTS: The First and Second Vice Presidents in the order named shall, when called upon assist the President and in her absence, perform her duties, and shall succeed her in office in case of death, resignation, or removal.

SECTION 3. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY: It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record the proceedings and the transactions of all meetings of the Units; to act as a custodian of all books, papers and records; to keep a record of names and addresses of the members, showing the source of their eligibility; to send out such notices as directed by the President; to conduct the correspondence of the Unit; to keep on file in comprehensive manner copies of all correspondence sent and received; and perform other duties as shall be required of her by the President.

SECTION 4. DUTIES OF THE TREASURER: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies belonging to the Unit and account for them. She shall pay the bonding fee as determined by the Department Office. She shall maintain two (2) separate funds, namely a General Fund, and Poppy Fund. All Poppy donations shall be placed in the Poppy Fund and be used to assist the Veteran and his/her children. She shall keep an accounting of her receipts and expenditures, making an annual report thereon and such other reports as may be deemed necessary by the Unit Executive Committee. Her accounts shall be audited annually. She shall pay all current bills before transferring all funds, books, vouchers and papers belong to the Unit to her successor.

SECTION 5. DUTIES OF THE CHAPLAIN: It shall be the duty of the Chaplain to offer prayer at the opening and closing of each meeting and to perform such other duties as the President may direct.

SECTION 6. DUTIES OF THE HISTORIAN: It shall be the duty of the Historian to compile historical records of the Unit and to make a report to the Department.

SECTION 7. DUTIES OF THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms to preserve order at all meetings of the Unit; to prepare the meeting room with items necessary to conduct the meeting (bell, gavel, alter and Preamble); and to be in charge of the Unit colors. She shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the President.

ARTICLE III - DUES

SECTION 1. The annual Senior membership dues of the Unit shall be as stated in the Standing Rules which shall include the Department and National per capita. The annual dues of the Junior membership shall be as stated in the Standing Rules to include the Department and National per capita.

SECTION 2. A member failing to pay annual dues, including the Unit, Department, and National assessments by January 31, shall be classified as delinquent and shall be suspended from all membership privileges. Payment of back dues, after suspension, shall reinstate such member to active membership. Any member delinquent to December 31 of the year of delinquency shall automatically be dropped from the rolls and may be reinstated by only paying back dues or by re-establishing eligibility and making application as a new member.

ARTICLE IV - UNIT MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The regular scheduled meeting of American Legion Auxiliary William C. Morris Unit 36, Inc. shall be held as stated in the Standing Rules. An Executive Committee meeting shall be held as stated in the Standing Rules.

SECTION 2. The number of members of a Unit that shall constitute a quorum at any regular scheduled meeting of the Unit shall be as stated in the Standing Rules.

SECTION 3. Special meetings of the Unit may be called by the President, by a majority of the Executive Committee, with the President notified, or upon written request of three (3) members of the Unit.

ARTICLE V - ELECTION

SECTION 1. Elections shall be held annually. In order to participate in the election of the Unit Officers, a member shall have paid her dues for the current fiscal year within which the election is held.

SECTION 2. Elections shall be by ballot, and a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary with the nominee declared. If there is only one person nominated for an office the ballot may be dispensed with and that nominee declared a winner.

SECTION 3. All Officers and Executive Committee members shall be elected at a meeting duly called for the purpose not more than ninety (90) days prior, nor less than fifteen (15) days prior, to Department Convention.

SECTION 4. The Unit shall notify the Department Secretary of the names and addresses of such newly elected officers, not less than ten (10) days prior to Convention, certification to be made on forms furnished by the Department.

SECTION 5. Vacancies in office between annual elections shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 6. Delegates and Alternates to District Constitutional Conference, or Department Convention shall be elected not less than two (2) weeks prior to the Conference or Convention. Alternates shall have priority in the order of their election.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. The Unit shall have the following Core Committees: Americanism, Children & Youth, Constitution and Bylaws, Membership, National Security, Audit, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, and such other mission and member/organizational support committees as provided in the Standing Rules.

ARTICLE VII - TRANSFERS

SECTION 1. Transfer of membership from one Unit to another in the Department of Florida shall be upon application of the member to, and acceptance by, the other Unit, in conformity with National and Department Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII - DISCIPLINE

SECTION 1. For any violation of the Unit, Department, or National Constitution, or for conduct improper and prejudicial to the welfare of the Auxiliary or The American Legion, any member may be expelled from membership or any officer may be removed from office by a two thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote at a Unit meeting duly called for that purpose, said expulsion or removal to be binding only in the event said member or officer shall have been given at least fifteen (15) days' notice in writing by the Unit Secretary of the charges and the hearing thereon. Either party may have the right to appeal to the Department Executive Committee, and their action thereon shall be final. The expenses of the said appeal shall be borne by the appellant.

SECTION 2. No member, or group of members, shall subject this Unit to liability without authorization of the Unit.

ARTICLE IX - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION 1. The unit organization shall be governed by "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" on all points not covered in National and/or Department Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. These Bylaws may be amended by two thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the members present at a regular meeting, provided the proposed amendments shall have been read at a previous Unit meeting.

SECTION 2. Amendments not having been previously read may be adopted by the unanimous vote of the members present.

SECTION 3. These Bylaws shall automatically be amended to conform to the National and Department Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary.

THIS CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS WERE READ, VOTED ON AND APPROVED AT OUR
REGULAR UNIT MEETING ON MARCH 4, 2018.

X Pamela Forast
Unit President

X Gene N. Lathrop
Unit Secretary

X Pamela Forast
Unit Constitution and Bylaws Chairman

X March 7, 2018

X Salvica L. Senne
Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

APPROVED MAR 10 2018

Date Approved

STANDING RULES

1. The regular scheduled meeting of American Legion Auxiliary William C. Morris Unit 36, Inc. shall be held every four (4) weeks on Sunday after the Auxiliary Breakfast, unless otherwise specified and shall be called to order at 1:00 p.m.
2. Five (5) members of this Unit shall constitute a quorum at any regular scheduled meeting of the Unit.
3. A member attending a Unit meeting may bring a beverage with them, but may not leave the meeting and return with another beverage. A member may not be served at the bar during such time there is a regular meeting of this Unit.
4. The annual Senior membership dues of the Unit shall be \$40.00 to include Department and National per capita. The annual dues of the Junior membership shall be \$5.00 to include the Department and National per capita.
5. In addition to the Core Committees listed in the Bylaws, the Unit shall have the following Committees: Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF), Community Service, Education, Girls State, Cavalcade of Memories, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Past Presidents Parley, Poppy, and Public Relations.
6. Additional committees may be appointed by the President as she or the Unit shall deem necessary.
7. The Chairmen of the Standing Committees shall make annual reports in written form to the Unit and to their respective District Chairman. Any additional reports requested by the District or Department Chairmen should be her duty also. These Standing Committees may be combined, but if combined, separate reports must be sent to District Chairman.
8. An Audit Committee composed of three (3) members with the chairman appointed by the president and two members elected for the floor, for the purpose of auditing the Treasurer's accounts at the close of each term, making a report of the audit to the Unit.
9. Unit elected Officers, consisting of the President and the Treasurer are authorized to sign checks for disbursement of funds from the Unit treasury. All checks MUST have these two signatures.
10. All members responsible for Unit funds shall be bonded through the blanket Fidelity bond and the Unit will pay the annual premium to Department Headquarters.

11. A Budget Committee composed of three (3) members, with the Chairman appointed by the President and two members elected from the floor, for the purpose of presenting a budget for the ensuing year.
12. A Nominating Committee composed of three (3) members shall be elected from the floor for the purpose of presenting a slate of officers for the ensuing year.
13. The outgoing administration shall contact the Unit for the date of their installation so the Unit may plan their installation to coincide. The Unit President shall appoint a Committee to assist the Unit in Installation plans.
14. No gift shall be presented at the Installation except the President's Pin and the Unit gift to the Installing Officer.
15. The last meeting before Installation shall be the annual meeting at which time the President and the Chairmen shall read their yearly reports. The Treasurer shall also give her report at this meeting.
16. Expenses as described in ARTICLE V, SECTION 3 of these Bylaws shall be voted on by the membership at the time of election of Convention Delegates. These monies should be in accordance with the distance and room cost. Whenever possible, delegates should room together to share the cost.
17. Expenses shall be voted on by the membership at the meeting prior to Fall Conference.
18. A donation to the Department Scholarship Fund shall be sent for all deceased members, not to exceed Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) unless voted on by the membership. For deceased family members of a Unit member, a sum not to exceed Ten Dollars (\$10.00) shall be sent to the Department Scholarship Fund.
19. Flowers or a gift not to exceed Forty Five Dollars (\$45.00) shall be taken or sent to a hospitalized member. If the member has not yet paid her yearly dues, the Unit shall pay such dues in lieu of flowers or a gift.

THESE STANDING RULES WERE READ, VOTED ON AND APPROVED AT OUR REGULAR UNIT MEETING ON MARCH 4, 2018.

X Pamela Frost
Unit President

X Gene N. Lathrop
Unit Secretary

X Pamela Frost
Unit Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

March 7, 2018

X Stacia J. Deane
Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

APPROVED MAY 10 2018

Date Approved