



★ ★ ★ USS Oklahoma City Base ★ ★ ★

Mailing Address: 3201 Bishop Rock Place
Yukon, OK 73099-3357



Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2025

Location: American Legion Post 73
5000 S.E. 24th St.
Del City, OK 73115

Attendance:

Chuck Hladik – *Base Commander*
Todd Holmes – *Base Vice*
Cmdr; Webmaster
Jim Owen – *Base Treasurer*
W. Becket Bircher – *Base Chaplin*

Ken Box – *Chief of the Boat*
Donald LeBlanc – *Base*
Quartermaster
Gabe Long
Bob Zahrn

Officers Absent:

Dale Sanders –
Base Secretary

Visitors:

none

1. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 0901 by Base Commander Hladik. A quorum was present. In absence of the secretary, Todd was asked to keep minutes.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Gabe led base members in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Previous Minutes – Jim read the minutes from May. Ken motioned to approve the minutes as read, Becket seconded, minutes approved.
4. Treasurers Report – Jim provided a report of a balance of \$2,501.²⁴ on deposit, and petty cash again of \$95.⁰⁰. Detailed records are available upon request. Don motioned to approve the report, Bob seconded, report approved.
5. OKC Subvets Website and Facebook page (Todd) –
 - a. Photos from the Armed Service Day Parade have been posted on the website and Facebook page.
 - b. Information from the news on the SSN 723 Memorial Park has been added to our Facebook page.
6. USS Oklahoma City SSN 723 Memorial Park (Steve) – No new information
7. USS Oklahoma commissioning (Don) –
 - a. Hats and buckles are currently out of stock
 - b. No update on the boat's schedule.
 - c. Currently crew members are being promoted and/or riding other boats for qualification. Some members of the crew are expected to be in OKC in September.
8. LibertyFest Parade Friday July 4, 2025 –
 - a. Our entry form has been submitted.
 - b. Plan to muster by 7:45 am (Parade begins at 9 am). The parking lot where we normally stage is being resurfaced, so information on the new staging area will be provided once available.
9. July Membership Meeting – This would normally take place one day after the parade. After a brief discussion, Don motioned to cancel the July meeting, Becket seconded. MOTION CARRIED.
10. USS Batfish Memorial Donation (Jim Owen) –
 - a. The state of Oklahoma's budget allocated \$4 million for the relocation to the Three Forks Harbor.
 - b. Based on this, Ken motioned to table the previously approved donation. Don seconded. MOTION PASSED.

11. Signup for State Veteran's Benefits - ALL OKLAHOMA VETERANS need to complete this new online registration. Even if you previously had state recognition, this registration is needed to maintain state benefits and ensure prompt notification of any future benefits. Website is oklahoma.gov/veterans/registry. QR Code is also provided in the photo on the back page.
12. New Attendees share Naval Experiences – None present, skipped due to time.
13. Liberty Fest Parade – Duplicate item. See 8. above.
14. New Business –
 - a. Todd is to order at least 25 hats.
 - b. Reminder that Chuck learned that Post 73 is holding a “Fair” in the large room on October 4th. He will be out of town on that date but suggested that we consider getting a booth and sell things for a fundraiser. Gabe agreed to take the lead on this. We will need products to sell, which will be discussed in August.
 - c. Future activities to work on:
 - i. Ask Captain Keilty to have his replacement meet with us. Continue to work with Del City NJROTC cadets and supporting teachers.
 - ii. Reach out to enhance cooperation with the Batfish base.
 - iii. Remember to do outreach through Submarine magazine.
 - iv. Coordinate with City Councils, especially Del City who has reached out to us.
 - v. Create a USSVI-OKC Pamphlet
 - vi. Meet with the Oklahoma State Veterans Council
 - d. Becket agreed to take the lead on the Presentation/Powerpoint for Kaps-4-Kids.
15. Concerns and Open Discussion – None
16. Tolling of Boats – Becket and Gabe led us in the tolling of the boats for June.
17. Closing Prayer – Becket led a closing prayer.
18. Depth Charge – Todd won the Depth Charge drawing and donated his portion.
19. Adjourn – Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.

★ ★ ★ **Liberty Fest Parade – July 4, 2025, 0745, location TBD** ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ **Next Business Meeting – August 2, 2025 @ 0900** ★ ★ ★

