



★★★USS Oklahoma City Base★★★

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



Meeting Minutes for August 1, 2026

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

Attendance:

Todd Holmes – *Base Cmdr;*
Webmaster
Dale Sanders – *Base Vice Cmdr*
Jim Owen – *Base Treasurer*
Conor Lembeck – *Base Secretary*
Ken Box - *Chief of the Boat*
"Gus" Hawkins
Chuck Hladik – *Past Base Cmdr*
Donald LeBlanc – *Base*
Quartermaster

Gary Palmer
Bob Zahn
Gary Lee
Alan More
Stanley Smith

Officers Absent: :
Michael Skaggs - (Incoming
Webmaster)
W. Becket Bircher – *Base*
Chaplin

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 0900 by Base Commander Holmes. A quorum was present.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** (Ken) – Ken led base members in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Introductions** – Current members reintroduced themselves.
4. **Previous Minutes** (Conor) – Conor read the minutes from July. Gus motioned to approve the minutes as read, Ken seconded, minutes approved.
5. **Treasurers Report** (Jim) – Jim provided a report of a balance of \$ 3,090.06 on deposit, and \$ 90.00 petty cash. Detailed records are available upon request. Motion to accept by Gus seconded by Dale.
6. **Status of 2026 Dues** – 1 person reported as late on dues by Jim. Alan More paid local dues, and is a local member now.
 - a. Dues are \$50 year, unless you are a National Life member (still owe \$10 local dues). Make checks to OKC Subvets.
7. **OKC Subvets Website, Facebook Page, and USSVI Website** (Todd) -
 - a. OKC Subvets website has been updated with Liberty Fest pictures, and website is up to date.
 - b. Minutes have been uploaded, all minutes are up to date.
 - c. Go Daddy Website still requires 2 factor authentication to edit, Dale was able to sign in to edit as a second person.
 - d. Michael Skaggs turnover issues regarding editing permissions, once sign in is finished and Michael returns from funeral leave turnover will be completed.
 - e. We are still waiting on National Website information to bring website up to compliance if needed. Changes are in progress.
 - f. No scams or major issues with facebook page, up to date.
9. **Facebook Advertising Status** (Todd) - Michael Skaggs absent due to immediate family member's funeral. Tabled by Todd until Michael returns.

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8. **Storekeeper Items** (Don) – T-Shirt update has been held off as Don's immediate family is having health issues. Don requested a temporary storekeeper position as family issues are likely to continue and help is needed. Dale offered to step in for 6 months to help.
9. **USS Oklahoma City SSN 723 Memorial Park updates** (Steve and Todd) - Steve sent information to Todd regarding park update. Children's portion of park is completed, with half of park now completed. USS Oklahoma City Memorial is fenced off and under construction. USSOKC.org has updates.
10. **Letter to Senator Armstrong** (Dale) – Dale requested permission to send formal letterhead to Oklahoma City representative to follow through on getting information. **ACTION:** Dale. Motion made to accept by Don, seconded by Gus. Motion accepted.
11. **USS Oklahoma commissioning** (Don) - Crew of USS Oklahoma came to Oklahoma City and Tulsa recently. A new COB has been appointed. Discussion had to reach out to new COB to have a visit from some of the crew of the USS Oklahoma. The launch is projected for fall, and the commissioning next year at the USS Arizona memorial. Discussed asking the USS Oklahoma to send a couple members to both ceremonies. Additionally, a request for what items were in the USS Oklahoma's ship inventory to buy.
12. **Float Speakers**(Todd and Gus) – Discussion was held regarding who the point of contact would be for obtaining new speakers. Gus volunteered to look at and purchase the approved speakers.
13. **Czech Festival Parade** (Todd) – Discussed attending the Czech Festival this year. Motion made by Dale, seconded by Gus. Motion approved. Discussed shifting October's meeting from October 3rd to October 10th to deconflict meeting with Czech festival if American Legion can support. Motion made by Connor, seconded by Gus. Motion approved. Todd will contact American Legion to check availability.
14. **Midwest City Parade** (Todd) - Discussion tabled by Todd until next meeting.
15. **"Rust" Insurance** (Todd) - Todd said he would follow up with USSVI national on if it is required. Tabled by Todd until next meeting.
16. **Upcoming USSVI Elections** (Todd) - Discussion tabled by Todd until next meeting.
17. **New Business** –
 - a. Discussed upcoming Czech Festival parade in October.
 - b. Discussed formalizing membership position with Beckett. Also discussed revamping dues monitoring.
 - c. Dale discussed possibility of a USS OKC Base life membership option. Multiple meetings will be required according to constitution and will be prorated. Membership agreed in support of Dale pursuing research of lifetime membership and creating a future proposal.
 - d. Connor discussed creating a membership program to send USSVI cards to members we find out are having severe health issues, immediate family member difficulties/lose, etc. Members discussed speaking with Base Chaplain about potentially creating program. Tabled by Todd until Beckett returns from surgery recovery.
18. **New Attendees share Naval Experiences** – Sea stories were shared by Alan, Todd, Chuck, Gus, and Jim.
19. **Concerns and Open Discussion** –
 - a. Beckett donated his kidney to a friend, both are doing well and recovering.
 - b. Michael Skaggs recently lost father or immediate family member and is presently spending time with family.
 - c. An update for Mark Holland was provided.
 - d. Steve is absent to be with his son for his 50th birthday.
 - e. Chuck Hladik discussed the prospect of contacting organization that hosts Navy ball for Oklahoma. 400 – 500 people typically attend. Membership discussed getting a table for subvets. Navy ball is held at the National Cowboy museum by the Navy League.

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- 20. **Tolling of Boats** - Chuck read the tolling of the boats.
- 21. **Closing Prayer** - Bob led a closing prayer.
- 22. **Depth Charge** - Jim won the Depth Charge drawing and donated his portion back to OKC Base.
- 23. **Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn was made by Gus, seconded by Ken. Meeting was adjourned at 10:30.

★ ★ ★ ***Next Business Meeting – September 5th, 2026 @ 0900*** ★ ★ ★