



**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA**  
**Chapter 528 Plymouth, MI 48170**  
**General Membership Meeting**  
**1/9/2017**

**MINUTES**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President John Spencer

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

OFFICERS ROLL CALL: John Spencer, Mike Steffes, Clyde Rains, Bob Dew, and Dennis Bielskis  
76 MEMBERS PRESENT (65 VVA, 11 AVVA)

Guest(s): Tony Laperry, Gregory Roe and Drew

**OFFICER'S REPORTS:**

**President**-John Spencer wished everyone a happy New Year and announced that he will not be running for another term as president

**1st Vice President** Mike Steffes, thanked everyone for all they have done to help the chapter and wished a happy New Year everyone.

**2nd Vice President**- Clyde Rains, talked about helping selling tickets for the sportsmen Raffle and wished everyone a happy New Year.

**Secretary-** Minutes approved with correction. Motion by Ron King 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ouch motion carried. Correspondence thank you letters for recent donation that chapter has made.

**Treasurer-** the profit and loss statements for December of 2016, Motion by: Rich Whipple 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al Senath to approve treasure report subject to audit. Motion carried. An explanation of the income from the E.G. Nicks for the Ice festival was given.

**Chaplain:** Rich update on Bear who is in hospital recovering from Heart attack. The Veterans Choice program was talked about. Bill Browning talked about Leslie's Father who is a WW II vet and is 99 years old. He is having medical issues.

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**Old Business:**

- John Fleming reported on the MVF they will be in the new building by January 15. The trip to MVP with clothing will be January 31, 2017, we have spent \$2000. And received about \$9,000 in clothing.
- The salvation Army bell ringing by Chapter raised \$785.00

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**Committee Reports:**

**Chapter By-Laws** - Jim Hodgson N/R

**Membership**- Bob Lamoureux, we currently have 278 VVA members and 83 associate members.

The life membership will remain at \$100.00; AVVA Life Membership will be \$100.00 if 60 or older.

**Color Guard** - Bob Lamoureux, N/R

**Product Sales** - Bill Browning, N/R

**Public Affairs** - Don Dignan: Poker shootout February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**Webmaster/Home-Front Editor**-Tom Brown

- Webpage: [www.vva528.org](http://www.vva528.org)
- Newsletter: all articles, photos and flyers are due on the 22nd of each & every month, more service Photos have been received and added to the site. If you gave one to Tom, he has some to return.

**POW/MIA** - Al Kerbyson, N/R

**AVVA Rep** - Bryan Bentley, AVVA, N/R

**VFW Liaison** - Frank Barkavich: just an update on Wednesday sliders and the Eureka

**VFW Aux.** Patty Brothers N/R.

**A/O & VA Health Chair:** Stu Israel: N/R

**VVA State Council**- Gary Estermyer: gave a report of the National Convention coming up and the State Council meeting will be held at the Ann Arbor VFW/VVA 310 house on Sunday February 12<sup>th</sup>. The State Council is updating the Travel Policy, suggested that Chapter review ours.

**Fundraising** - Bob Dew, Sportsman's raffle in the works. We have the tickets now and flyers for members to sell. The travel site is still going and we are making some money from it.

**Chapter Special Committee Reports**

**Kokomo**- Dale Luebke; 245 days to go and the application for camping sites have not been sent out yet but expected shortly.

**Sportsman raffle**- The date has been set for October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017, we will have 40 prizes again 15 from ABC Warehouse and the rest from Gander Mountain. List of prizes has been compiled, and tickets are in now. Sign-up sheet for selling events will be sent around.

**General Discussion:**

VFW Lounge will be holding its annual Super Bowl party, please bring a dish to pass on Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup>.

February meeting starts the nomination for officers.

**DONATION/MOTION REQUESTS:**

D2016-026

Motion to donate #300.00 for the Piquette House Super Bowl Party

Motion by Terry Wells 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Steffes

Board recommendation: recommended approval by email Membership: approved.

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**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

- Karaoke - 1st and 3rd Friday 8 pm in the Post Lounge
- Live music 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday in the Post lounge
- Please sign birthday book before the meeting located in the Post Lounge
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Next VVA General Membership Meeting: Monday February 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Next Board meeting Tuesday January 24 2017 at 7:00 pm

**Adjourned: 7:55 p.m.**

PRESIDENT    John Spencer

SECRETARY    Dennis Bielskis