



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
Chapter 528 Plymouth, MI 48170
General Membership Meeting
9/12/2016

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

67 MEMBERS PRESENT (58 VVA, 9 AVVA)

Guest(s): Bill Grisamer, Desert Storm Veteran, did a brief presentation on the 25% refund of real estate sales commission for veterans, active military, Police and Fire personnel.

Mack Gaut, wants to help young vet's with vocational training in auto mechanics, he is a former teacher now retired and works at a repair facility located at 32120 Executive Dr. in Westland and would conduct the training at this location M-W from 4p-6p.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

President-John Spencer went into detail about the Veterans Seminar that he attended at the Westland City Hall, this is a new location for the for the seminar a lot of good information was presented and veteran service officers were present to help anyone wanting to make a claim for benefits.

1st Vice President Mike Steffes update on joint VVA/VFW picnic saying that we had 42 people attend and lots of good food. This events needs to get larger, we need more members to attend.

2nd Vice President- Clyde Rains, had no report as he us still using training wheels.

Secretary-, Minutes approved with correction. Motion by Gary Estermyer 2nd by Clyde Rains approved by membership by verbal vote.

Treasurer-, the profit and loss statements for August of 2016, Motion by: Roger Schlee 2nd by Dale Luebke to approve the treasure report subject to audit. Passed by membership.

Chaplain: Rich Whipple, Tom Browns fathers memorial service was held last Saturday; Tom wants to thank those who went to the service. Road Cleanup is scheduled for October 8, 2016, meet at the UAW parking lot on Joy rd. We will have donuts.

Old Business:

- Fall Festival car show and sales tent, wrap up We grossed 2900 and net profit after expenses \$2380.00 The car show did ok.
- Florida Cruise raffle, we sold 200 tickets with a gross income of \$2,000. After expenses split was \$847.00 to the VVA and VFW.

New Business:

- Splitting of the Sportsman Raffle proceeds with the VFW as we have done in the past. Motion by Gary Estermyer 2nd by Don Dignan to split the proceeds with the VFW. Motion passed.
- Salvation Army bell ringing will again be at the Sam's Club as in past years. John Fleming will have a signup sheet started shortly.
- US Air Force Birthday was celebrated with singing of the Air Force songs and cake for all.

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Committee Reports:

Chapter By-Laws - Jim Hodgson N/R

Membership- Bob Lamoureux, we currently have 273 VVA members and 77 associate members.

The life membership will remain at \$100.00; AVVA Life Membership will be \$100.00 if 60 or older. Drawing for life member was drawn again and Reid Camalary won.

Color Guard - Bob Lamoureux, no activity

Product Sales - Bill Browning, n/r

Public Affairs - N/R.

Chapter Historian: Rich Waldecker September 12, 1962 President Kennedy stated to the world that we will put a man on the moon.

Legislative / Government Affairs: Rich Waldecker the toxic bill has moved out of committee and will be put on the docket for the full house.

Webmaster/Home-Front Editor-Tom Brown

- Webpage: www.vva528.org
- Newsletter: all articles, photos and flyers are due on the 22nd of each & every month, again thanked everyone for the prayers and to those who were at the memorial service for his dad.

POW/MIA - Al Kerbyson, POW/MIA ceremony at Oak Hill Cemetery is set for Friday September 16th, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

AVVA Rep - Bryan Bentley, AVVA, N/R

VFW Liaison - Tuesday Horseshoes on going, Golf outing is set for September 24th, Live music on the 2nd and 4th Friday each month, Karaoke is the 1st and 3rd Friday each month Euchre is set to start up in October on Wednesday at 7:00 pm.

VFW Aux. Judy Thomason, announced patriot pen, and voice of democracy essay contest and she has applications and that Taco night is back again once a month except December.

A/O & VA Health Chair: Stu Israel: He attended the VAVS meeting and has provided a written report that will be attached to the minutes.

VVA State Council- Gary Estermyer provided a report that will be attached to the minutes.

Fundraising - Bob Dew, Sportsman's raffle in the works.

Chapter Special Committee Reports

Kokomo- Dale Luebke, leaving tomorrow

Sportsman raffle- The date has been set for October 8th, 2017, we will have 40 prizes again 15 from ABC Warehouse and the rest from Gander Mountain. List of prizes will be compiled for the next meeting by the committee members that will go to both location and pick out the prizes. The License has been applied for with the State of Michigan.

DONATION/MOTION REQUESTS:

2016-011

Motion to donate \$300.00 to the Michigan Wood Carvers Association

Motion made by Roger Schlee 2nd by Dennis Bielskis

Board of Directors recommended approval Membership: approved by membership

ANNOUNCEMENT:

- Karaoke - 1st and 3rd Friday p.m. in the Post Lounge
- Please sign birthday book before the meeting located in the Post Lounge
- Veterans Traveling Golf League every Monday, let Don Dignan know you are golfing
- Kokomo September 15th - 18th, 2016
- POW/MIA Day September 16, 2016, Ceremony to be held at Oakland Hills Cemetery located at 12 mile and Novi Rd.
- Trunk or Treat October 23rd, from 1 P - 3 P here at the post
- Post Blood Drive October 24th
- Salvation Army bell ringing on Saturday December 10 At Sam's Club on Ford Rd Canton, MI.

Next VVA General Membership Meeting: Monday October 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Next Board meeting Tuesday September 27, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Adjourned: 8:47 p.m.

PRESIDENT John Spencer

SECRETARY Dennis Bielskis