



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
Chapter 528 Plymouth, MI 48170
General Membership Meeting
4/11/2016

MINUTES

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

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

OFFICERS ROLL CALL: John Spencer, Richard Waldecker, Mike Steffes, Bob Dew, and
88 MEMBERS PRESENT (73 VVA, 13 AVVA & 2 guest)

Excused: Bob Dew

Guest(s): Charles Welch and Joe McCarthy. Congressman Trott presented Vietnam Veterans pins and took the time to answer questions. Debora Davis of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented the Chapter with an appreciation certificate.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

President-John Spencer, N/R

1st Vice President - Richard Waldecker, update on Agent Orange bills, the house has 188 and the senate has 44.

2nd Vice President-Mike Steffes stated that during his retiree meetings that he talked about the upcoming Agent Orange Town Hall.

Secretary- Minutes approved with correction.

Treasurer- No report given

Chaplain: Rich Whipple, Clyde Rains wife passed away from Cancer. Joy Rd Cleanup was completed with a good turnout.

Chapter Historian: Rich Waldecker,

Old Business:

Motion by Bob Lamoureux to cast a unanimous vote of all officers running unopposed except the board. 2nd by Al Dorey passed

Election of Chapter offices.

Following are the new officers for the calendar year of 2016-2017

- **President:** John Spencer
- **1st VP:** Mike Steffes
- **2nd VP:** Jeff Yoshikawa
- **Treasure:** Bob Dew
- **Secretary:** Dennis Bielskis
- **2 years Board Members:**
- Don Dignan, Gary Pritchard, Gene Spurgess, Ron King
- **1 year Board Members:**
- Mike Dicker, Pete Glasgow, Joe Tebor, Rich Whipple

- **State Council Delegate:** Gary Estermyer
- **Alt State Council Delegate:** Dennis Bielskis
- **Election Committee:**
- Dean Bell, John Fleming, Dale Luebke
- **AVVA Rep:**
- Bryan Bentley

Committee Reports:

Chapter By-Laws - Jim Hodgson N/R

Membership- Bob Lamoureux, we currently have 277 VVA members and 79 associate members.
The life membership will remain at \$100.00.

Color Guard - Bob Lamoureux, no activity

Product Sales - Bill Browning, update on items that have come in

Public Affairs - N/R.

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,

POW/MIA - Al Kerbyson, N/R

AVVA Rep - Bryan Bentley, No report

VFW Liaison - Trivia Night presented by the IAAV \$50.00 at the door per person, Clyde Rains needs help with the poppy Sales on May 5,6,7, 2016

A/O & VA Health Chair: Stu Israel: Detroit VA Golden Age Games looking for volunteers, Front Entrance to the Ann Arbor VA Hospital is under construction

VVA State Council- Gary Estermyer absent VVA State Convention June 3, 4 and 5th 2016 in Saginaw, MI. John Riley has been appointed to National Board for the VVA, update on membership

Fundraising - Bob Dew, N/R

Chapter Special Committee Reports

- **Agent Orange Committee** - Rich Waldecker, Program to take new direction with conference call from Vietnam. Dr. Wayne, who has spent 20 years researching Agent Orange and others, will be involved in a video conference for the Town Hall.
- **Kokomo**- Dale Luebke, as of today we have 155 days and a wake up till next time. So far everything seems to be going along.

DONATION/MOTION REQUESTS:

2016-001

Motion to donate \$500.00 to "VA Detroit Hospital; For National Veteran Golden Age Games.

M/Jim Hodgson SEC/ Rich Mazurkiewicz

Board Recommended: Failed to approved

Membership Approval: approved

ANNOUNCEMENT:

- Karaoke - 1st and 3rd Friday 8pm in the Post Lounge
- Please sign birthday book before the meeting located in the Post Lounge
- Euchre every Wednesday at 7:00 pm, last game will be May 4th
- Veterans Traveling Golf League starts in April, 2016 every Monday
- Blood Drive April 25th,
- Car Cruises start on May 11th, 2016
- Wayne County Fishing Derby
- Fish on for Freedom June 24th, 2016

Next VVA General Membership Meeting: May 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Next Board meeting April 26, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Adjourned: 8:50 p.m.

PRESIDENT John Spencer

SECRETARY Dennis Bielskis