



**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
Chapter 528 Plymouth, MI 48170
General Membership Meeting
8/8/2016**

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, Bob Dew, and Dennis Bielskis

Absent: Jeff Yoshikawa

64 MEMBERS PRESENT (53 VVA, 11 AVVA)

Guest(s): Heather Browning, Amy O'Neil

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

President-John Spencer explained about the need for special election to replace former 2VP. .

1st Vice President Mike Steffes update on joint VVA/VFW picnic

2nd Vice President- Open

Secretary- Minutes approved with correction. Motion by John Riley 2nd by Al Sneath approved by membership by verbal vote.

Treasurer- the profit and loss statements for July of 2016.

Motion by: Gary Boucher (Ouch) 2nd by Rich Whipple to approve the treasure report subject to audit. Passed by membership.

Question about profit and loss report reference to \$108 for Cruz 528, it was explained that this was the cost for printing of ticket for Florida Raffle.

Treasure announced winner of the cash card from the Home health care of \$50.00 who was Rick Popa. (Photo taken)

Chaplain: Rich Whipple, Al Kerbyson is out of the Ann Arbor VA Hospital CLC unit. Gordy and Barb Bardeleben where involved in a serious car accident Barb took the impact to her side and had severe injuries; she is doing well and is home. Tom Browns father is having a very bad time not sure of the outcome.

Old Business:

- **Fall Festival** car show and sales tent, signup sheet out and everything is on schedule
- **Join Picnic VVA/VFW**, handled by 1 VP Mike Steffes under his report; signup sheet and items that are being brought to picnic please let Mike know.
- **Purchase of Equipment for Fishing Derby**, Dennis Fuelling donated \$50.00 to offset the cost of the equipment. Gene Spurgess purchase gloves, fish scale, and measuring board. It will be keep at the VFW with other equipment of the VVA

New Business:

- **Roger Schlee-** talked about the Michigan Wood carvers and showed his new cane that they made for him. He is going to make a donation request to send money to them to help offset the cost for the Wood Carvers. Roger is currently building Flag cases for veteran burial flags; he is donating two cases for members who passed away.
- **Election for replacement of 2 VP.** Clyde Rains and Ron King were both nominated for the 2VP. A runoff election was held. Clyde Rains won the election and was sworn in by John Riling State Council President.

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Committee Reports:

Chapter By-Laws - Jim Hodgson N/R

Membership- Bob Lamoureux, we currently have 273 VVA members and 75 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, no activity

Product Sales - Bill Browning, update on new items that have come in; he has a member jacket for Rick who ordered it.

Public Affairs - N/R.

Chapter Historian: Rich Waldecker 1955 Air Force academy opened

Legislative / Government Affairs: Rich Waldecker nothing has changed on the toxic bill.

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, AVVA, N/R

VFW Liaison - Last car show 9.7.2017, Westland is having a hazardous waste drop off.

VFW Aux. Judy Thomason, announced patriot pen, and voice of democracy essay contest and she has applications.

A/O & VA Health Chair: Stu Israel: VAVS meeting is set for September 15 so he has no update for this meeting, Front Entrance to the Ann Arbor VA Hospital is under construction, and they have relocated the entrance to the parking garage to the lower level.

VVA State Council- Gary Estermyer and John Riley went to the leadership meeting in AZ. Gary learned a lot about being the new State Council secretary. It was attended by over 300 members from all over the country. The next meeting of State Council will be August 21, 2016.

Fundraising - Bob Dew, we have a raffle going for condo in Florida the 2nd week of December 2016. Tickets are \$10.00 each. Sportsman's raffle first meeting is set for August 23 at 5 pm, food will be provided.

Chapter Special Committee Reports

Kokomo- Dale Luebke, as of today we have 33 days and a wake up till Kokomo. So far everything seems to be going along as planned.

DONATION/MOTION REQUESTS:

2016-011

Motion to donate \$500.00 to the Canton Community Foundation 7th Annual Veterans support program on September 30th, 2016

Motion by Bob Dew 2nd by Richard Waldecker

Board of Directors recommended approval

Membership: approved by membership

ANNOUNCEMENT:

- Karaoke - 1st and 3rd Friday 8 pm 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
- Car Cruises every Wednesday from 5p - 8p
- Music Fest 4 Vets August 13&14, 2016 at Bova-246th Engr VFW Post
- Blood Drive August 22, 2016
- Fall Festival September 9,10 & 11 2016, Car Show and Sales Tent
- Kokomo September 15th - 18th, 2016

Next VVA General Membership Meeting: Monday September 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Next Board meeting Tuesday August 23, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Adjourned: 8:47 p.m.

PRESIDENT John Spencer

SECRETARY Dennis Bielskis