

Minutes for the October 12, 2022 Vietnam Veterans Chapter 279 meeting.

The regular meeting of VVA Chapter 279 was called to order by President Hester at 1830 hours.

President Hester led the Pledge of Allegiance. Officers present were: President Hester, Vice President Mangiamelli, Treasurer Haase, and Secretary Halbkat.

There were 27 members and 4 officers present. We have a quorum.

We have 2 new members tonight: Michael Steffen and Larry Ash. Welcome aboard gentlemen!!!

Sick Call: Anthony Weathers is now home after surgery and starting rehab, Terry Voss is recovering from jaw surgery, and Dennis Speick's wife, Sue, is recovering from a stroke.

Secretaries Report: The minutes of the September 2022 meeting were sent in advance to the membership via email. Motion to approve as written by George Abbott and seconded by Ed Boller. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report: The report was made to members in hard copy. Motion to approve as presented by Joe Mangiamelli and seconded by Jim Kjosa. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills to be paid: \$3043.00 to Pacific Springs golf course for golf outing and \$19.80 to President Hester for thank you cards sent to golf outing participants. Joe Mangiamelli made motion to pay bills and was seconded by George Abbott. Motion carried unanimously.

Golf outing: It was the best ever. Great weather, great golfers, great ceremony, and most of all—GREAT VOLUNTEERS. A big THANK YOU to all who helped. We couldn't have pulled this off without the team effort of all the Chapter combined. Our final profit should be close to 5 figures.

Parades: Ron Ingram has given Pres. Hester some info on storage of our parade trailer. We will know at the next meeting. The Millard Days parade committee has awarded our Color Guard with a certificate for our participation in their parade. We received 2nd place.

Scholarships: Tom Brown reports an increase in scholarships from Metro College

Veteran Home Board: Tom Brown reports the meeting will be held in Lincoln later the month and will give a report at next meeting.

Correspondence Report: Joe Mangiamelli reports we have been invited to be in the Defenders of Freedom parade in Bellevue on Nov. 5. He suggested we send a thank you note stating the chapter has prior commitment. All agreed. Nov. 3 is the Shine On event held at Memorial Park. Lots of dignitaries, laying of wreathes, lighting the trees, and speeches. All are encouraged to attend. Bellevue University is having their annual Backpack for Vets program again. Last year we donated \$500.00. Tom Brown made a motion that we increase the amount to \$1000.00 and it was seconded by Jim Quick. Motion carried.

Joe also outlined some of the new parts of the Pact Act that just recently was passed. On Oct. 26 at 10am there will be an information meeting at the Bellevue Vets Center concerning the new bill.

Veterans Court: Eddie Nelson reports there will be another graduate next month.

National VVA Delegate Report: Dottie Barickman reports that the VVA is always the first service organization to testify in Congress on any bill involving veterans. She also emphasized contacting her to get interviewed for the Nebraska National Memorial.

Nebraska VVA Foundation: George Abbott reports we have received the first \$1,000,000 from the State of Ne. Ground work will begin in 10 days.

POW/MIA: Ron Haase reports the number is now 1582.

Our guest speaker for the Nov. meeting will be Megan Spath or Heather Shelley. They will speak on VA volunteers.

Our next meeting will be November 9, 2022 at 1830 hours at the Millard American Legion Post 374.

A motion was made by George Abbott to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Dick Rowe. The motion carried.

Submitted by:

Tom Halbkat, Secretary

Just an FYI----The December meeting will be our Christmas potluck dinner. Remind your wives NOW!!