

Minutes for the September 14, 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 chapter in the Pledge of Allegiance. Officers present were: President Hester, Vice President Mangiamelli, Treasurer Haase, Secretary Halbkat.

There were 21 members and 4 officers present. We have a quorum. Dick Joy was our guest as a prospective member.

Sick call: Anthony Weathers is recuperating at home. Ken Muller was informed he has cancer. We wish well. .

Secretary Report: The minutes of the August 2022 meeting were sent in advance to the membership via email. Motion to approve as written by Dick Rowe and seconded by Glen Page. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Golf outing: Time is short. Just 2 weeks left. Need volunteers for the registration, sell raffle tickets, sell mulligans, sell tickets on hole 1 and hole 10, stuffing goody bags for the carts, etc. There will be a signup sheet on table after the meeting We need you from 7am to around 930 am .

Parades: Pres. Hester believes he has secured a storage spot for the parade trailer.

Scholarships: Tom Brown has nothing to report.

Veterans Home Board: Tom Brown has nothing to report.

Correspondence: Joe read the dates and place for the 2023 Ne. Vietnam Veterans Reunion. Will be 8-10-23 thru 8-13-23 held at the Omaha Marriott. Make reservations now.

Veterans Court: Eddie reports 5 graduates coming up and a terrific report in the paper and TV coverage concerning the efforts put in by our chapter. Great job guys.

Ne. VVA Foundation: Tom Brown and George Abbott report that D J's Dugout has pledged \$150,000.00 over the next 3 years. The Helo will be unveiled on November 3, at Iowa Western college and the event will be covered by KETV news. The helo will be kept at the Iowa Western College workshop at the airport in Council Bluffs.

Homeless Veterans: Tom Brown has nothing to report.

Chapter Membership: Pres. Hester reports that we have 196 members and 12 associates.

POW/MIA: Ron Haase reports 2 of our fallen have been re-patriated bringing our number down to 1582.

Old business: Treasurer Haase reports that one of our CDs matures on 9-31-2022 and made a motion to renew it for another 12 months. Pete Gill seconded and motion carried. The Treasurer also reports \$259.57 in bills to be paid. Joe Mangiamelli made motion to pay bills and Jim Quick seconded. The motion carried.

New Business: Friday, September 16 at 11AM a wreath will be laid by one of our members at the POW/MIA memorial in Memorial Park. On November 3 at 6 PM another wreath will be laid at the shrine in Memorial Park and be lighted all night.

On a lighter note: On Veterans Day there will be a National Vietnam Veterans parade in Hawaii. There will be 32 ROTC Cadets from the OPS schools in Omaha representing the state of Nebraska. On Oct. 9 these cadets will each be walking 20 laps around the track at NW school. Joe Mangiamelli made a motion that the chapter pledge \$1.00 per lap for each cadet for a total of \$640.00. Pete Gill seconded the motion, but after discussing the motion, it was felt that these young people are our future and we need to get behind them in their endeavors. Leroy Christenson amend the original motion of \$640.00 to \$1280.00. Jim Quick seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. They are also having a pancake feed on Jan 15 at Benson Post 2503.

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

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

Submitted by:

Tom Halbkat, Secretary