

Secretaries Minutes for October 2021 Meeting

Regular meeting of Ne. VVA Chapter 279 called to order by Pres. Hester at 1830 hours.

Pres. Hester led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers present were: Pres. Hester, VP Mangiamelli, Sec. Halbkat, Trea. Ball, and Asst. Trea. Haase.

There were 12 members and 5 officers in attendance. We have a quorum.

At this time the chapter welcomed Duane Holmes as a new member of the chapter.

The chapter was informed that member John Roweland is on sick call after surgery.

A motion was made by Joe Mangiamelli and seconded by Glen Page to accept September's minutes. The motion carried.

The Trea. Report was reviewed. The chapter saw income of \$10,828.00 from our golf outing after expenses of roughly \$6300.00. Bills to be paid were reviewed and Trea. holds the receipts for same. Motion was made by Walt Love and seconded by Glen Page to accept the report. The motion carried.

Asst. Treasurer Haase reports the Chapters CD has doubled it's interest thru Veridian Bank and he will check again in 18 months and report back to chapter. This was approved at the Sept. meeting.

In other business, there will be a food drive for Victory Apartments and all members are asked to bring canned goods, paper towels, toilet paper, etc. to next meeting.

Because 2 of our officers will be gone for the Nov 4 meeting it was suggested that we change the Nov. meeting to Nov. 11. A motion we made by Glen Page and seconded by Ed Boller that we move the meeting to Nov. 11. The motion carried.

While our golf outing was a tremendous success some suggestions were made by Jim Kjosa and Ron Wilson that we need more volunteers at the registration desk to get team members names and emails. Ron Wilson made a motion that we move more volunteers to this desk and Richard Luth seconded. The motion carried.

Our backpack program for the Sienna House was brought up for homeless veterans. Last year we gave \$500.00 to the program. Roy Love made a motion that we continue with the \$500.00 donation this year and Glen Page seconded. The motion carried.

Veterans Day will be celebrated at Memorial Park on November 11, 2021. This year Omaha's Medal of Honor recipient's sister will lay a wreath at the Memorial. American Legion Post 1 will be handling the ceremony.

Joe Mangiamelli reports the booster shots are now available at the VA. He also reports there is new information about VA burials, debt collection, and agent orange contacted in Guam, Thailand, and Okinawa. He also reports only a few veterans left to graduate in the Veterans Court program.

Dottie Barickman reminded the chapter that the National Convention is Nov. 1 through Nov.6.

The VVA Foundation will be holding the ground breaking on Veteran's Day 2022 for the new Memorial.

DJ's Dugout has become another sponsor of our Memorial.

Ron Haase reports still no change in POW-MIA numbers. Still holding at 1584. All states are now required to fly the POW-MIA flag at all governmental offices.

On May 28, 2022 there will be a Patriotic Production Parade in Omaha.

A letter was read by Pres. Hester from the VVA home office congratulating the chapter on our 35 years of service.

Pres. Hester wanted to explain to the members about the chapters direction in regards to Cpl. Page funeral in Omaha. Since the family requested no special ceremony we should honor him in our own way. The Marines were in charge of casket bearers and airport ceremony. The previous week the VVA honored Cpl. Page at a football game in Omaha.

On a side note, 5 years ago when a soldier from Afghanistan was brought home to Omaha. There was no pomp or circumstance. Pres. Hester has a friend that he gave 4 tickets to a Nebraska football who gave them to the family of this brave man. These tickets were donated by our chapter member, George Abbott.

The chapter gave Pres. Hester standing kudos for the outstanding job on this years golf outing.

Next mtg to be held Nov. 11 at 1830 hours at VFW Post 8334.

Ed Boller made motion to adjourn and seconded by Jim Kjosa. The motion carried.