

Secretaries Minutes for May 2021 Meeting

Regular meeting of NE. VVA Chapter 279 called to order by President Hester at 1830 hours.

President led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers present were: Pres Hester, VP Mangiamelli, Assistant Trea Ron Haase Dick Rowe took minutes for Sec. Halbkat

3 officers and 16 members were in attendance.

Justin Thompson from Operation 22 Till Freedom was there to accept a \$1000 check donation and spoke to the group. They raise money for Veterans and last year donated about \$20K.

Current Treasurer Howard Ball is still on sick call and will be there for another 2-3 weeks. He is getting better. Ron Haase is the assistant Treasurer.

Dick Rowe made motion to accept Sec. Minutes. Glen Page seconded. Motion carried.

Ron Wilson made motion to accept Trea. Report. Anthony Weathers seconded. Motion carried.

Joe Mangiamelli talked about Board Of Directors and Officers. Delegates to State Council. Had approval of Delegates.

National Convention coming up and approving \$1500 per person. Chapter gets up to 4 delegates. Joe Mangiamelli, Glen Page(maybe). If anyone else is interested can go on the dates of 11/2-11/6.

Gold Star Family Parade will be 5/28/2021. This will honor gold star families. Starts at 6:30 down town at 12th and Jackson. Short ½ mile walk.

Nebraska Vietnam Veterans Reunion is 8/12-8/15 in Lincoln at the Cornhusker Hotel. Chapter will have a table at the Convention.

Chapter Golf Outing is Monday September 27, 2021 at Pacific Springs Golf Club. Start getting gift cards now and avoid the rush.

LB261 that provides that county service officers can be notified and can get the markers for the grave sites is coming up soon and hopefully will be voting on in the near future.

Veterans Affairs: Dottie and Tom Brown get involved in long meetings as B.O.D on the Finance committee and VVA. The National VVA gets about a staff of 50 paid individuals talks about contracts.

Veterans Court: Joe had 3 vets who graduated last week. 3 left and got 4 new ones. Time spent on each one is 18-24 months. Court sessions run about 2-1/2 hours.

National VVA Foundation – Working on Helicopter. 10 people meeting on restoration of copter. Moving it from Bennington to Iowa Western College & they are going to work on it there. Hope to be done by Sept/Oct. Hopefully.

Tom Brown has nothing to report on Homeless Veterans.

Chapter Meeting time change has been tabled for now.

Chapter Memberships is 188 members and 10 associates.

Ron Haase reports POW/MIA numbers are the same as last month of 1584. 3 teams have found some remains and will let us know later on what they have found about these remains.

Honor and Remember Flags had their event at the Revelent Church in Elkhorn on Monday May 3rd. There were 56 families honored and flags handed out. 14 of those honored were Vietnam Veterans.

Dottie and Tom talked about the National Convention at Greensboro, South Carolina.

Insurance – at officers meeting there needs to have Fiduciary Insurance brought up as a security for the chapter. There were some amounts brought up as to cost and one was for \$100K would cost \$229 and another for \$100 would cost \$191, both subject to under writers. Continue at next meeting and get more quotes and information.

Ralston Parade is back on for July 4th. We have no vehicle anymore. At next meeting need to discuss vehicles and honor guards in parade.

Flags & Honor Guard Poles – 4 flags and 4 poles with stands that are the same need to be purchased and retire the ones we have that are badly used and look terrible. Officers and B.O.D members need to address this problem and get new ones for our chapter. Holders are in bad shape also. Need to decide something and get back to our chapter so we can vote on this and get some new items.

Check out the new Chapters website: nebraskavietnamveterans.com

Glen Page made motion to adjourn. Seconded by Anthony Weathers. Motion carried.

Next meeting June 3, 2021 at 1830.

Secretary , Chapter 279

Tom Halbkat