

Secretaries Minutes for January 2022 Meeting

Regular meeting of Ne. Chapter 279 called to order by Pres. Hester at 1830 hours. Pres. Hester led the chapter in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers present were: Pres. Hester, Vice Pres. Mangiamelli, Trea. Haase, and Sec. Halbkat

There were 20 members and 4 officers present. We have a quorum.

Sick call reported that Richard Luth has been diagnosed with Leukemia of the spine. He is scheduled for treatments and is in good spirits. Our prayers and good wishes go out to Richard.

VP. Mangiamelli brought to the chapter's attention that because of the change of our meeting place, we must make an amendment to the chapter's by-laws. The amendment was read and will be voted on at the February meeting.

Due to the passing of Howard Ball, the chapter's treasurer, a motion was made by Jim Quick and seconded by Dick Rowe that Asst. Trea. Ron Haase be promoted to Treasurer. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ed Boller and seconded by Andy Dosa to approve the December 2021 minutes. The motion carried.

Treasurer Haase reviewed the Treasurer's report and the bills to be paid. Only one to be paid was to the State Council for \$409.00. VP Mangiamelli moved and George Abbott seconded that we approve the report. Motion carried.

Along with the Treasurer's report it was brought up that because of Howard Ball's death, we had to make a name change to the chapter's CDs. Motion made by VP Mangiamelli and seconded by Ed Boller to make the change. Motion carried.

At this time of the meeting, the Post Commander of American Legion Post 374 spoke to the chapter thanking us for using their Post and explained about some of the regulations. After he left the meeting, Pres. Hester paused the meeting for personal introductions by each member. We learned a short bio—of each member including branch of service, how long served, locations, etc., etc. It was a fun filled 45 minutes and well worth every minute.

At this time, VP Mangianelli read some correspondence to the chapter one being a thank you letter to the Commander of VFW Post 8334 for letting us be their guests for our monthly meetings of the past year. The other one was from the founder of Guitars for Vets for our donation of \$500.00 when he was a guest speaker 2 months ago. VP Mangiamelli also drafted a Donation Request Policy stating that requests will be considered and voted on at the next meeting. That request received unanimous approval from the chapter, after a motion by VP Mangiamelli and a second by Anthony Weathers.

Eddie Nelson and VP Mangiamelli report that Veteran court members are attending meetings both by ZOOM and personal attendance and there are 2 veterans ready for graduation.

George Abbott reports the NE. VVA Foundation has received donations from Goggle for \$75,000.00 , one from Howard Ball for \$7,000.00 and one from James Martin Davis for \$1,000.00.

Our chapter membership is now at 196 members and 10 associates.

Ron Haase reports still 1584 POW/MIA. Cannot move forward until COVID is under control. He also reported that there are 4025 souls buried at the Omaha National Cemetery.

In new business, George Abbott reports that rotor blades have been found for the display helo at the Memorial. They will be put on at Iowa Western where the helo is now located.

Jeff Smith reported on the Afgan withdrawal. There are some 1000 families coming to Omaha under Lutheran Services and they are in need of anything that can be donated. They left with virtually the clothes on their back.

Pres. Hester reported that the Kentucky VVA Council is reaching out to chapters for a \$500.00 donation to help with relief from the tornadoes that ripped through their state. George Abbott made motion to send donation and Andy Dosa seconded. Motion carried.

Ron Haase reported that the script for the memorial service for Howard Ball was so well accepted that it has been sent out to members via email. If this is something a member would like please contact a chapter officer.

Jim Quick made a motion to adjourn and Dick Rowe seconded. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 1830 hours at American Legion Post 374.

Secretary----Tom Halbkat