

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA – CHAPTER 120
MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – THURSDAY, June 1, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Frank Mello at 7:10 pm at the IAM Union Hall, 357 Main Street, East Hartford, CT, leading with the pledge of allegiance, followed by a moment of silence. Officers present: President Frank Mello, Vice President Jerry Blum, Treasurer Roger Anderson, and Secretary Pete Lund. Board of Directors present: Bill Chiodo, Pattie Dumin, Frank Zizzamia. Peter Galgano and Paul Barry and Peter Galgano were absent and excused.

READING OF THE MINUTES

Chapter read minutes. Motion made to accept minutes, seconded by; passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Roger Anderson provided copies of account balances report as of 5/25/17 and the transaction report for this period. He reviewed the income and expense items on the transaction report. President Frank Mello thanked Roger for his report.

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT –John Cutler reported the following:

As of 31 May, we have 49 open claims and 43 appeals, for a total caseload of 92. Of the 43 appeals, 20 are at the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA).

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP – Frank Mello reported that the chapter has a total of 261 VVA members, 39 individual members, 4 permanently hospitalized members, and 216 life members. +2 from last month. Frank reported that AVVA has 15 members, 5 individual and 10 life members.

AGENT ORANGE – No Report

VAVS – No Report

AVVA – Joanne Blum to represent Chapter at Nat'l Convention to be held in August.

POW/MIA – No Report

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS – Tim Siggia reported that military payraise being worked; DoD submitted a pay raise request of 2.1 percent.; he also reported that Medal of Honor Recipients of getting a payraise to \$3000 from \$1300. Tim also reported that a new Supreme Court Decision has serious implications for ex-military spouses; a recent decision ruled in favor of a veteran does not owe his exwife 20% of that pay. Tim also reported that Sen Tim Kaine introduced legislation to protect Gold Star Children from Pay cuts. Tim also reported that VA Secretary Shulkin announced establishment of Accountability Protection to protect whistle protection.

WOMEN VETERANS – No report.

GOOD AND WELFARE – Bob Venti had reported on the following: he participated in FLAG BURNING at Manchester Elks lodge, also participated in poppy drive at Stop and Shop. He also mentioned Manchester VFW is looking to someone who would take charge of this program. He also mentioned of event at South Windsor Memorial Park July 16 at 10 AM. Free admittance to any veteran/family and some sort of ID needed to indicate a veteran. Roger Anderson mentioned of participation and recognition of Chapter by himself and Donna Anderson at the yearly celebration of veterans at South Windsor Never's Park.

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OLD BUSINESS No report

NEW BUSINESS Frank had mentioned he'd be interested in participation burning ceremony as other organizations have had.

COMMUNITY SERVICES Chapter participated at Shad Derby in Windsor with great participation of Chapter 120.

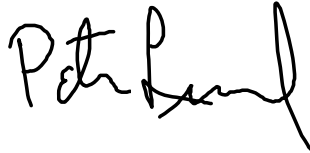
NEWSLETTER – John Cutler reported Cutoff for July/August newsletter articles is 7 July. Cutoff for the September newsletter is 18 August.

PRODUCT SALES – No report

ADJOURNMENT- Motion made to adjourn at 7:50. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

The next Chapter Board meeting will be Aug 1, 2017. The next membership meeting will be held May 4, 2017. The next State Council meeting will be held June 11, 2017.

Respectively submitted by



Pete Lund
Secretary Chapter 120