

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA – CHAPTER 120
MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – Thursday Sept 6, 2018

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by President Frank Mello at 7:05 pm at the IAM Union Hall, 357 Main Street, East Hartford leading with the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence. Officers present: President Frank Mello, Vice President Phil Morneault, Treasurer Roger Anderson, and Secretary Pete Lund. Board of Directors present were Paul Barry, Bill Chiodo, and Frank Zizzamia. Absent and excused were Bob Burgess and Peter Galgano,

READING OF THE MINUTES Chapter members read minutes. Motion was made to accept, seconded; Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT Roger Anderson provided copies of account balances report as of 8/31/2018 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: As of 31 August, we have 11 open claims and 32 appeals. And again, we are not accepting new veteran clients since we plan to shut down our program by June 2019. Our Return on Investment for this fiscal year to date is 305 to 1, meaning that for every dollar we spend on our program, we win \$305 for our veterans. We are starting to receive appeals decisions from the Board of Veterans Appeals. After waiting five years, one of our Afghanistan War veterans received a BVA decision for a 100% rating. The veteran received a retroactive payment of over \$115,000.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP – Frank Mello reported that the chapter has a total of 257 VVA members; 33 individual members, 4 permanently hospitalized members, and 220 life members. Frank reported that AVVA has 19 members.

AGENT ORANGE – Paul Scappaticci gave an update of HR 299, a Blue Water Sailor's bill. Passed House; stuck in Senate. Gerry Wright spoke of his 6 weeks trip to raise Agent Orange Awareness. Looking for help in writing a resolution to be prepared for VVA National.

VAVS – No Report

AVVA – No Report

POW/MIA – No Report

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS – No Report

GOOD AND WELFARE – No report

OLD BUSINESS- No report

NEW BUSINESS – No report

COMMUNITY SERVICES Bob Venti had mentioned of several events to be held locally for the veterans. Manchester Road Race will be dedicated for the Veterans. Paul Barry mentioned of an event at Rocky Hill at 10 A.M. Sept. 15th for a presentation on Suicide Awareness. Stand Down will be held at RHH Sept. 21st. with Chapter Donation and participation. Paul also mentioned of Fallen Star Project; there will be an event at Pratt Hangar Nov 17th. Time tbd; more info to follow. **Annual Dance is Dec. 1st. Please share with your friends for a good turnout**

NEWSLETTER –John Cutler reported: Cutoff for the October newsletter articles is 21 September. Email any articles and/or photos to ctchapter120@aol.com

PRODUCT SALES – Need a representative.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion made to adjourn at 8:15. The motion was seconded and passed. The next Chapter Board meeting will be Sep. 27, 2018. The next Chapter membership meeting will be held Oct. 5, 2018. The next State Council meeting will be held Sept 16, 2018.

Respectively submitted by 

Pete Lund Chapter 120 Secretary