

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA – CHAPTER 120
MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – Thursday Nov 1, 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, Bob Burgess, Bill Chiodo, Peter Galgano, and Frank Zizzamia.

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 10/31/2018 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 October, we have 9 open claims and 41 appeals. We have 4 Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) hearings scheduled for this month.

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 some encouraging news on update of HR 299 which is still in committee. He is working with new member Gerry Wright in moving this Blue Water Bill forward

VAVS – No Report

AVVA - No Report

POW/MIA – Pete Lund was to read a report from Mary Beaulieu's email: Number of missing from Vietnam War is 1,592 - identifying of remains continues at a good rate especially for WWII missing. Id's of the 55 returned Korean POWs is going at a slower pace but 3 families have been notified of the return of their family member. Need POW chairperson.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS – Tim Siggia mentioned the President appointed 4 judges to help out the VA Board of Appeals. Tim also reported 30 State Attorneys asked CFPB (Consumer Financial Protection Board) of concerns about Media reports and protection of service members.

GOOD AND WELFARE – No report

OLD BUSINESS- No report

NEW BUSINESS – Bob Burgess reported monies needed for Coat purchases. Paul Barry made a motion to Board of Directors thru e-mail; motion seconded by Peter Galgano. Motion approved unanimously.

COMMUNITY – Bob Venti had mentioned of several events to be held locally for the veterans. Manchester Parade step off on American Legion Drive to Manchester Hospital; color guard with colors and Banner on Nov. 11, 2018. Manchester Road Race Nov. 22 will be dedicated for these Veterans. He also mentioned of Flag placing at Hillside Cemetery Nov. 3rd. Paul also mentioned of Fallen Star Project; there will be an event at Goodwin College instead of Pratt Hangar Nov 17th. Time to be determined; more info to follow. In addition, he also mentioned of Veteran's Event at Goodwin College with Chapter providing a table with Chapter Banner on Nov.8, 2018 from 9 to 11. Ken Lewis and Leigh Lovering reported on Wreaths of America usually 3rd Saturday of Dec. every year; this year is Dec. 15th. There will be events at State Cemetery Middletown, East Hartford, and South Windsor. In addition, Leigh reported there will be an event at State Capital Dec. 10th, 12 noon.

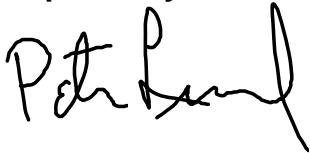
Annual Dance is Dec. 1st. Caterer all set as reported by Bob Burgess. **Please share with your friends for a good turnout.**

NEWSLETTER – Cutoff for the November newsletter articles is 19 November. Email any articles and/or photos to ctchapter120@aol.com

Product Sales – Need a representative.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion made to adjourn at 8:02. The motion was seconded and passed. The next Chapter Board meeting will be Nov. 29, 2018. The next Chapter membership meeting will be held Dec. 6, 2018. The next State Council meeting will be held Nov. 18, 2018.

Respectively submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Lund". The signature is stylized with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Pete Lund
Chapter 120 Secretary