

**VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA – CHAPTER 120**  
**MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – Thursday Jan. 3, 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 Bob Burgess, Bill Chiodo, Peter Galgano, and Frank Zizzamia. Paul Barry was absent and excused,

**READING OF THE MINUTES** – Chapter members read minutes. Motion was made by Ken Lewis to accept, seconded by Bob Venti; motion carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT** – Roger Anderson provided copies of account balances report as of 12/31/2018 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** – As of 31 December, we have 7 open claims and 41 appeals. Twenty-four (24) of those appeals are at the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), with 2 waiting for hearings. No hearings after June.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP** – Frank Mello reported that the chapter has a total of 250 VVA members; of which is 22 individual members, 4 permanently hospitalized members, and 224 life members. Frank reported that AVVA has 19 members.

**AGENT ORANGE** – A discussion was held on Resolution drafted by Gerry Wright and approved by State Council. Pete Lund to get this to State Senators and State Congressman with an additional comment thanking for their support and to reach out to those who haven’t as suggested at the meeting by Kathy LeChausse.

**VAVS** – No Report

**AVVA** - No Report

**POW/MIA** – Reported out by Mary Beaulieu email as follows: FIRST - Happy New Year to you both and I hope it is a good year for all of us. Nothing new to report - John's newsletter articles have been good with info. Still a steady identification of POWs from WWII and Korea. Finally starting to warm up here in Florida - weather has not been too bad in CT from what I read every day - hope it stays a fairly mild winter. **Need POW chairperson.**

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS** – Tim Siggia mentioned several articles such as Veterans Affairs Chairperson Phil Roe urges Senate to pass Blue Waters Navy Vietnams Act of 2018 Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. Sec. of Defense James Mattis to leave and Agent Orange stopped in Senate by one vote.

**GOOD AND WELFARE** – Lots of coats dropped off in 5 communities; coats and gifts delivered to Hartford Vet Center.

**OLD BUSINESS** – No report

**NEW BUSINESS** – Pete Lund mentioned of National Convention is held this year at Spokane Washington; start thinking if you want to be a delegate for election to be Early April.

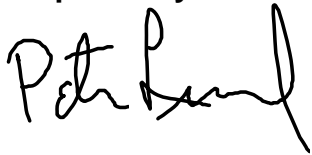
**COMMUNITY** – Bob Venti had mentioned of several events held locally for the veterans. He mentioned a successful event at Manchester Elks to support Women Veterans Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>; Manchester Race generated approx. \$9,500 sent to the Dinda House. A huge donation of provisions from an event at Army Navy Club picked up by Frank Mello and Bob Venti to be delivered to Dinda house and Hartford Vet Center.

**NEWSLETTER** – Cutoff for February newsletter articles is 25 January. Email any articles and/or photos to ctchapter120@aol.com. Congrats John Cutler; 26 years of top shelf in being our Newsletter Chairperson!

**Product Sales** – Leigh Lovering volunteered to be the chair for this position. He gave Chapter some good ideas in going forward in sales and had a sale reduced prices on existing inventory. A great thanks for volunteering for this position!

**ADJOURNMENT** – Motion made to adjourn at 8:05pm. The next Chapter membership meeting will be Feb. 7, 2019. The next State Council meeting will be held Jan. 20, 2019.

**Respectively submitted by**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pete Lund". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Pete Lund  
Chapter 120 Secretary