

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA – CHAPTER 120
MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – Thursday March 5, 2020

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order by Vice 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: Vice President Frank Mello, Treasurer Roger Anderson, and Secretary Pete Lund; Board of Directors present were Paul Barry, Peter Galgano, and Frank Zizzamia. President Phil Morneault, Board Member, Bill Chiodo and Bob Burgess absent and excused.

READING OF THE MINUTES Chapter members read minutes. Bob Burgess made motion to accept minutes as written, seconded by Peter Galgano; motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT Roger Anderson provided copies of account balances report as of 02/29/2020 and the transaction report for this period. He reviewed the income and expense items on the transaction report. Vice President Frank Mello thanked Roger for his report.

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT – As of 29 February, we have 5 open claims and 32 appeals. Of those 32 appeals, 7 are at the Regional Office level, 9 at the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), 9 waiting VVA attorney review and 7 remands. On March 3rd, the VA Secretary stated that “VBA is on track to eliminate its NODs and substantive appeals inventory by July.” I also have a bridge I’d like to sell.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP – Frank reported that the Chapter has a total of 248 VVA members; of which is 10 individual members, 4 permanently hospitalized members, and 234 life members. Frank reported that AVVA has 18 members.

AGENT ORANGE –NO REPORT

VAVS – NO REPORT

AVVA – NO REPORT

POW/MIA – NO REPORT **Need POW chairperson.**

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS – Tim Siggia gave Chapter several updates including: Jerry Moran senator from Kansas named chairman of Senate Vets, congressmen are demanding White House to stop blocking VA from helping agent orange exposed vets, House passes joint resolution to start pilot program for veteran dental care and also discussion on a Coast Guard memorial to be set up.

GOOD AND WELFARE – Paul Barry brought Chapter an update on Bill Chiodo’s hospital stay. He is in Hartford Hospital and expecting more treatments and recuperation. Prayers are with you Bill.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS – Elections- Pete Lund mentioned elections coming up in April for Chapter officers, State Council delegates and Chapter Nomination Committee. Phil mentioned if you are considering running, please let Chapter know at next elections

COMMUNITY SERVICE- Chapter volunteered help to 200 coats given by Ocean Job Lot. Chapter participated for gifts to be given to 3 families picked by Hartford Vet-Center. Chapter also distributed approx. 126 coats to 4 local communities as done in past. Bob Warner and Ken Lewis explained more coats available.

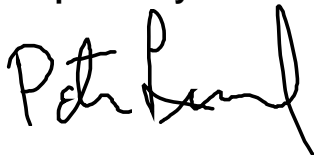
Ken Lewis mentioned of veterans update at Senior Center at 9 am. A Spagetti Dinner at American Legion Feb. 22nd at 6 pm. There will be a Veterans appreciation at Manchester Memorial Hospital April 6th at 6pm.

NEWSLETTER – Cutoff for April newsletter articles is 20 March. Email any articles and/or photos to ctchapter120@aol.com

PRODUCT SALES- Leigh Lovering updated Chapter on several articles of Products such as hats, jackets and sweatshirts.

ADJOURNMENT- Motion made to adjourn at 8:10. Motion seconded and approved. The Next Board meeting is March 26th; next Chapter meeting is April 2nd; next State Council meeting will be held March 15, 2020

Respectively submitted March 5, 2020 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