

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA – CHAPTER 120

MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – Thursday Oct. 1, 2020

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

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

TREASURER’S REPORT Roger Anderson (absent) provided copies of account balances report as of 10/1/2020 and the transaction report for this period. Reviewed the income and expense items on the transaction report.

ELECTIONS Motion made to suspend meeting; seconded and approved. Motion made and seconded for Secretary to cast one vote for following positions. President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Elected by cast of one vote were President, Bob Burgess; Vice President, Phil Morneault; Treasurer, Phil Morneault; Secretary, Pete Lund. Phil Morneault volunteered for Treasurer with understanding that only for this election. In addition, Nominating committee elected are Tim Siggia, Ken Lewis, and Frank Mello. Elected for Board of Directors, Paul Barry, Pete Galgano, , Frank Zizzamia, Leigh Lovering, and Roger Anderson.. Elected for State Council are Paul Barry, Bob Burgess, Frank Zizzamia, Ken Lewis, and Phil Morneault.

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT – As of 30 September, we have 13 open claims and 24 appeals:

- Of the 13 open claims, 11 are waiting Compensation & Pension exams. These exams are being delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Of the 24 appeals, 10 are at the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), and 14 waiting VVA attorney review. VVA National attorneys have a backlog of 2,500 appeals to review and provide briefs to BVA.

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 – Pete Lund read an email from Mary Beaulieu as following: Trump signed into law the National POW/MIA Flag Act - the flag now should fly on all Federal properties. All field operations to find remains have been put on hold in all countries due to Covid-19 Need POW chairperson.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS – Tim Siggia gave Chapter several updates including: new ID cards getting issued to retirees.

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 – Stand-down Chapter Board of Directors approved \$500.00 for Stand-down in September.

COMMUNITY SERVICE- Chapter board has approved 1500.00 for purchase of coats. This would give Bob Burgess flexibility help to purchase coats at discounted prices and better bang for the buck. In addition, Bob Burgess gave an update about yearly x-mas dance; cancelled due to Covid and a possibility of a dance to be held in spring 2021. He also mentioned of Chapter possibility participating in Manchester Veteran's Day Nov. 11th; a 100th Anniversary for Manchester Memorial Hospital. Next meeting in November, Chapter will decide.

NEWSLETTER – Cutoff for November newsletter articles is 23 October. 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 Oct. 29th; next Chapter meeting is Nov. 5th; next State Council meeting will be held Nov. 15, 2020

Respectively submitted Oct. 25, 2020 by



Pete Lund Chapter 120 Secretary