

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA – CHAPTER 120

MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – Thursday May 6, 2021

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

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

TREASURER'S REPORT Roger Anderson provided copies of account balances report as of 4/27/2021 and the transaction report for this period. Reviewed the income and expense items on the transaction report provided by Phil Morneault

ELECTIONS Motion made to suspend meeting; seconded and approved. Motion made and seconded for Secretary to cast one vote for following positions Delegates for 2021 National Convention are Paul Barry, Phil Morneault and Gerry Wright .Seeking 2 more positions for Nat'l Convention In addition, Nominating committee elected are Tim Siggia, Ken Lewis, and Frank Mello.

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT –

As of 30 April, we have 15 open claims and 19 appeals:

- Of the 15 open claims, 14 are waiting Compensation & Pension exams. These exams, all VA-contracted exams, are being delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions and the lack of contractor physicians qualified for the specific exams requested.
- Of the 19 appeals, 6 are at the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), 4 are remanded to the Regional Office for further action, and 9 waiting VVA attorney review.
- Due to an apparent software problem at the VA, I have not been able to access veteran client documents since April 22. A trouble ticket was initiated on April 26 and remains open as of this date.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP –No Report

AGENT ORANGE –Gerry Wright gave Chapter an update of the Agent Orange Memorial to be held in Andover Saturday June 5th, 2021 6:00 P.M. He also mentioned of a chopper to be done as a display and Buy A Brick Program

VAVS – NO REPORT

AVVA – NO REPORT

POW/MIA – – NO REPORT

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.

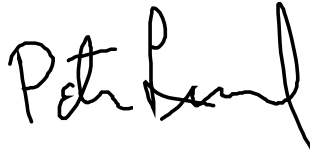
COMMUNITY SERVICE- Chapter board has approved 1500.00 for purchase of coats. This would give Bob Burgess flexibility help to purchase coats at discounted prices and better bang for the buck. In addition, Bob Burgess gave an update about yearly x-mas dance; cancelled due to Covid and a possibility of 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 June newsletter articles is 21 May. 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 May 27; next Chapter meeting is June 3, 2021; next State Council meeting will be held May 16, 2021

Respectively submitted May 6, 2021 by



Pete Lund Chapter 120 Secretary