

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA – CHAPTER 120

MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – Thursday Aug. 5, 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 Peter Galgano, and Frank Zizzamia, Roger Anderson and Leigh Lovering. Vice President/Treasurer Phil Morneault and Paul Barry absent and excused

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

TREASURER’S REPORT Phil Morneault provided copies of account balances report as of 7-29-2021 and the transaction report for this period. Pete Lund read summary provided by Phil Morneault in his absence.

SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT – As of 31 July, we have 17 open claims and 19 appeals:

- Of the 17 open claims, 5 are waiting Nehmer review for the 3 new Agent Orange presumptive conditions (bladder cancer, hypothyroidism and Parkinsonism). The Nehmer court case requires VA to readjudicate previously denied claims that are related to presumptive diseases caused by Agent Orange exposure. Veterans and their families may receive disability and death benefits, retroactive to the date VA received the original claim.
- Of the 19 appeals, 8 are at the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), 1 remanded to the Regional Office for further action, and 10 waiting VVA attorney review and submittal of attorney briefs.
- Since January of this year, we have won \$503,455 in compensation and pension for our veterans.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP –No Report

AGENT ORANGE – NO REPORT

VAVS – NO REPORT

AVVA – NO REPORT

POW/MIA – – Mary Beaulieu provided John Cutler and Pete Lund report; Pete Lund read e-mail report as follows: “Don't know if there is a meeting this Thursday - if so I will not be able to attend - as for a POW report - the only and best thing happening is that there has been MASSIVE returns of remains from the Korean War and WWII - COVID has restricted a lot of recovery efforts but things are starting to begin again - still missing from Vietnam are 1,584 patriots!!”

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS – Tim Siggia reported on several subjects such as

Leaders of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform urged the National Archives this week to digitize its records to help with a large backlog of records requests from veterans who need personnel information to secure government benefits.

HASC-MP Approves FY2022 NDAA

The House Armed Services Military Personnel Subcommittee marked up its portion of the House version of the FY2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA-H.R.4350). Key provisions in the subcommittee markup include:

- No new TRICRE fee increases;
- Prohibiting any reduction or realignment of military medical staff at Military Treatment Facilities (MTF);
- Providing an annual active duty pay increase that keeps pace with civilian pay increases (2.7 percent)

Veterans Affairs faces a deadline to implement its GI Bill.

The Senate Armed Services Committee's proposed 2022 defense policy bill contains a provision that would require women to register for the draft, officially known as the Selective Service System.

Female Vets in Congress Decry Proposal to Disband Pentagon's Advisory Panel on Women

GOOD AND WELFARE – NO REPORT

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS –None

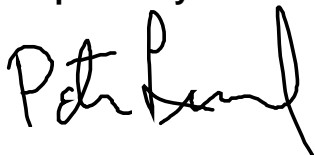
COMMUNITY SERVICE- Goodwin College providing a 9-11 Ceremony to commemorate lives lost due to attacks on United States 9-11-01. To be conducted Sat. 9-11-21 at 10 A.M.

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

PRODUCT SALES- NO REPORT

ADJOURNMENT- Motion made to adjourn at 8:10. Motion seconded and approved. The Next Board meeting is Aug. 26, 2021; next Chapter meeting is Sept. 2, 2021; next State Council meeting will be held Sept. 19, 2021

Respectively submitted Aug. 25, 2021 by



Pete Lund
Chapter 120 Secretary