

## **VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA – CHAPTER 120**

### **MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – Thursday Feb. 3, 2022**

**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, Vice President/Treasurer Phil Morneault Secretary Pete Lund. Board of Directors present were Roger Anderson, Paul Barry, Peter Galgano, and Frank Zizzamia. Leigh Lovering absent and excused.

**READING OF THE MINUTES** Chapter members read minutes. Paul Barry 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 12-2-2021 and the transaction report for this period.

#### **Newsletter**

Cutoff for March newsletter articles is 18 February. Email any articles and/or photos to [ctchapter120@aol.com](mailto:ctchapter120@aol.com).

**Service Rep Report.** John Cutler reported by email Feb. 3, 2022:

As of 31 January, we have 7 open claims and 13 appeals:

- Of the 7 open claims, 4 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 13 appeals, 5 are at the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), 7 waiting VVA attorney review and submittal of attorney briefs, and 2 remanded to the Regional Office for further adjudication.
- Connecticut VVA service reps have won over \$605,000 for veterans in Calendar Year 2021, with an 89 percent win rate.

#### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP** – Dec. 2021 rosters were emailed to the State Council on 24 Jan. 24 2022. Total membership stands at 682, an increase of one member as compared to the previous month. Chapter membership is 239.

**AGENT ORANGE** –No report

**VAVS** – No report.

**AVVA** – No report.

**POW/MIA** Mary Beaulieu reported by email Feb. 3, 2022 as follows: Nothing new - number of missing still the same as last month.

If you are interested there is a new book on the issue A LEGACY OF CHAINS BY PHILIP KRASKE

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS** – Tim Siggia excused; no report.

**GOOD AND WELFARE** – Chapter Elections for 2022 discussion. This year, the following positions are available. President, Vice-President, and Secretary. 5 Board members, and 3 for Nomination Committee. In addition for State Council. Accepted nominations: President-Bob Burgess, Vice-President-Open, and Secretary-Pete Lund. 5 Board members- Roger Anderson, Paul Barry, Pete Galgano, and 3 for Nomination Committee. In addition for State Council

**OLD BUSINESS** None

**NEW BUSINESS** –Coats to local community to be sorted out after meeting and distributed. Rolling Thunder asking for participation; ride from New Jersey to the Capital. Discussion of upcoming Election. Nominations


**COMMUNITY SERVICE-** Chapter will participate on Monday May 30, 2022

**NEWSLETTER** Cutoff for March newsletter articles is 18 February 2022. Email any articles and/or photos to [ctchapter120@aol.com](mailto:ctchapter120@aol.com)

**PRODUCT SALES-** Leigh Lovering absent and excused. No Report

**ADJOURNMENT-** Motion made to adjourn at 7:48. motion seconded and approved. The Next Board meeting is Feb. 23, 2022; next Chapter meeting is March 3, 2022; next State Council meeting will be held Mar. 20, 2022

**Respectively submitted Feb. 3, 2022. by**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Lund". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pete Lund  
Chapter 120 Secretary