

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

### **MEMBERSHIP MINUTES – Thursday March 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, Leigh Lovering and Fran Zizzamia.

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

**TREASURER’S REPORT** Phil Morneault provided copies of account balances report as of 2/22/2022 and the transaction report for this period. Kathie Lechasse has volunteered to perform Treasury Position for cost to Chapter \$1.00 yearly. Welcome Aboard! Report to be monitored monthly.

**Newsletter** Cutoff for April newsletter articles is 25 March. Email any articles and/or photos to [ctchapter120@aol.com](mailto:ctchapter120@aol.com)

**Service Rep Report** As of 28 February, we have 10 open claims and 14 appeals:

- Of the 10 open claims, 3 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 14 appeals, 6 are at the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), 6 waiting VVA attorney review and submittal of attorney briefs, and 2 remanded to the Regional Office for further adjudication.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MEMBERSHIP** - VVA and AVVA Membership Rosters for January 2022 mailed by John Cutler Feb. 11, 2022. Total Connecticut VVA membership is currently 687, an increase of two (2) members as compared to last month. 100% of VVA members are now Life members.

**AGENT ORANGE** –No report

**VAVS** – No report.

**AVVA** – No report.

**POW/MIA** Mary Beaulieu reported by email: Nothing new.

**GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS** Tim Siggia reported as following: Veterans Toxic Bill passes Senate. In addition, another bill needs to pass; temporary funding needed to keep Government running until March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**GOOD AND WELFARE** – Paul Barry had mentioned Member Bob Venti in Manchester Hospital. In addition, he expressed importance in getting affairs in order wills etc.

**OLD BUSINESS** None

**NEW BUSINESS** –Coats have been distributed to 3 local communities. Rolling Thunder asking for participation; ride from New Jersey to the Capital. Discussion of upcoming Election. Roger Anderson mentioned that Chapter will receive \$1500.00 from National for Household Goods program

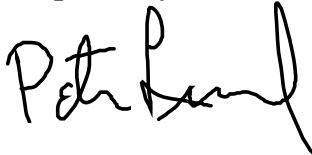
**COMMUNITY SERVICE-** Chapter will participate in E.H. Memorial day parade Monday May 30, 2022 .6 miles long from Willow Street to the Fallen Star. 6 speakers.  
South Windsor Patriotic Commission to sponsor Armed Forces Day Saturday May 21, 2022 afternoon. Followed by Fireworks display. Some Military organizations will supply vehicles for display

**NEWSLETTER** Cutoff for April newsletter articles is 25 March 2022. Email any articles and/or photos to [ctchapter120@aol.com](mailto:ctchapter120@aol.com)

**PRODUCT SALES-** Leigh Lovering mentioned he would have Product Sales catalogue at next meeting

**ADJOURNMENT-** Motion made to adjourn at 7:55 Motion seconded and approved. The Next Board meeting is March 31, 2022; next Chapter meeting is April 7, 2022; next State Council meeting will be held March 20, 2022.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Lund". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Pete Lund  
Chapter 120 Secretary