

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA CHAPTER #423

MEETING MINUTES

DATE:09/10/2023 TIME START: 14:02 TIME END: 14:59 ATTENDANCE: 21

☒ G. DELOS SANTOS JR.-PRES. ☒ S. PENNINGTON-VP ☒ C. YOUNG-TREAS ☐ G.LACOMBE-SEC

☒ S. PENNINGTON-STATE DEL. CHAIR ☒ B. CORRELL-STATE DEL ☒ E. SHAFER-STATE DEL.

OFFICERS REPORT:

PRESIDENT REPORT-Greg Delos Santos Jr.

- Meeting called to order; Pledge of Allegiance cited.
- Reported two (2) Plots at Floral Hill are still available at Floral Hill at a substantial discount to veterans. Contact Greg Delos Santos or Steve Pennington for contact information.

SECRETARY REPORT-Jerry LaCombe (on vacation)

- July meeting minutes were introduced, motion to accept as written, Seconded and approved by voice vote.

TREASURES REPORT-Chris Young

- Bank Account Balances
 - Checking Account Beginning Balance **\$23,586.82**
 - Donations and Membership funds \$15.00
 - Chapter Expenses (2024 Picnic Resv) (\$225.00)
 - Chapter Vet Expenses (\$1990.79)
 - \$1000 Vets With Hammers
 - \$650 Michael Reagan
 - \$340.79 Misc Other
 - Checking Account Ending Balance **\$21,386.03**
 - Debit Card Balance **\$1,000.00**
 - Savings Account Beginning Balance **\$1,218.50**
 - Interest earned. \$0.52
 - Savings Account Ending Balance **\$1,219.02**
 - **TOTAL \$\$\$ ASSETS** **\$23,605.05**
- Reported next Poppy sales event scheduled for November 3, 4, (5)
 - Fred Meyer Shoreline
 - Fred Meyer, 164th
 - Fred Meyer, 196th
 - Lake Stevens Safeway
 - J. Mathison suggested a certificate of appreciation be presented.
 - Approved by unanimous voice vote.
 - **Action Item-President provide certificate of appreciation when appropriate.**
 - **Action Item-Chris Young-follow-up clarification on poppy sales on the Sunday the 5th**
- Motion to approve treasurers report, seconded and approved by voice vote.

STATE DELEGATE CHAIRMAN-Steve Pennington

- No new activity to report.
- Region 8 President Francisco Ivarra.
 - The National Convention was held in Orlando Florida with over 700 delegates present.
 - Region 8 had 36 delegates in attendance.
 - Topic of dissolution of National Organization in 2028
 - NO SPECIFIC DATE DEADLINE is required.
 - Elections Convention were held with the following results.
 - President-Jack McMannus (Existing)
 - Vice President-Tom Burke (Existing)
 - Secretary-Bill Meeks (Existing).
 - Treasurer-Wayne Reynolds (NEW).
 - Blue Water Navy Designation for Vietnam Agent Orange (Currently set at 12 Mile)
 - Discussion with federal representatives to increase the limit for Vietnam Veterans.
 - Statewide Membership is increasing as well as National membership.
 - 90,000+ members.
 - Rated #1 in Vet Service Organizations (VSO) bringing benefits to the state.
 - New VSO started in Bellingham WA.
 - Working on a new VSO in the Tri Cities underway
 - VVA Wa State Council will be held Oct 28th, 2023, at the Pancake House in Snoqualmie Wa.
 - **Francisco was awarded the highest accommodation for a Vietnam Veteran at the National Convention and thanked all the support he has received and was an honor to serve his fellow veterans.**
 - Regional Leadership Conference will be held in Reno Nevada next year 2024.
 - The Next National Convention will be held in 2 years in New Orleans Louisiana.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE-Chris Young
 - Reported current membership of 108.
 - Pending applications should bring membership up to ~115-120.
 - Called national on status of new members applications.
 - Signed ~5 new members from attendance at Mustang Car Show
 - Signed ~5 new members from Veterans at Large Show.
 - New Members introduced:
 - Jim Chambers -Air Force 1970-1974, (defense language institute).
 - Scott Robertson -US Navy, Vietnam 1972 (8-9 mo. Deployment), Transferred in as a "member at large"
 - VVA member Frank Martinize is at Swedish Hospital Rm 611., Get Well Card distributed for signatures.
- VETS WITH HAMMERS-Earl Shafer
 - Vet Assistance Project (X-Marine Vet Nick)
 - Approved \$500.00 to assist recovery of vehicle and repairs.
 - \$289.11 paid towing bill.
 - \$210.89 remaining
 - Church is assisting with donations for repairs. \$1,000.00

- **Action Item-Chris Young determine additional funding required to complete vehicle repairs and present to committee for consideration.**
- Vet-Handicapped, 70% disabled living in trailer in need of access ramps.
 - Start of Project-Donors closet initial contact with Vet and contributed wheelchairs, employee-electrician brings Earl on project for help.
 - BIG PROJECT
 - The kitchen is a disaster, electrical and plumbing dysfunctional.
 - Roof Leaking
 - Plumbing Plugged
 - Home Depot will contribute all materials for outside trailer repairs.
 - Home Depot and Habitat are limited to not being able to assist with “Inside trailer repairs” leaving large gap for assistance.
 - Special Mention
 - Earl Hammers-working inside trailer repairs
 - Richard Bianchin
 - Jim Cornwell
 - Ron Foster
 - Jerry LaCombe
 - Home Depot to Sponsor long wheelchair ramp providing material, labor assist, debris dumpster. Scheduled for same weekend as poppy sales-more to follow.
- Debit Card was established for “Veterans with Hammers” projects as a separate account for funding approved Veteran projects.
 - Currently funded with \$500.00.
 - Debit Card Authorized Signatures-Chris Young & Earl Shafer
 - **Action Item-GL prepare a procedure outlining roles and responsibilities for establishing requirements for Capital Improvement Projects.**
- WEB PAGE & FACE BOOK-Bob Correll
 - Face book had 700+ likes with ~2,000 followers on our web page.
 - Thanked the membership for get-well card following his tragic fall resulting in a fractured jaw.
- COMMUNITY AFFAIRS-John Henderson (On Vacation)
 - 2024 BBQ Honoring Purple Heart Recipients has been set for August 11th at Camp Patterson.on Silver Lake.
 - End of Year Dinner – tentative dates either Friday Jan 19th or Saturday Jan 20th.
 - Check your calendar and provide comments.
 - Location Northlake Christian Church (Same as last year).
 - Planning committee in discussion on event particulars, menu etc.

OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS:

08-13-2023

- Greg Delos Santos investigate assist for Francisco Ivara with out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of VVA.
- ~~Earl Shafer- Prepare proposal for Vet Trailer Home Project for approval.~~
- Earl Shafer- Report potential projects with Home Depot as Sponsor
- ~~Chris Young- Reimburse John Henderson for funds reserving Camp Pendelton for the 2024 BBQ~~
- John Henderson start planning for 2024 Camp Pendelton BBQ.
- Chris Young/John Henderson-Investigate BECU funding for 2024 BBQ in support of purple heart recipients.

- Jerry LaCombe-Report on requirements associated with the VVA 423 being listed as a “Charitable Organization” vs “Non-Profit” i.e.

09-4-2023

- Jerry LaCombe-Develop procedure for Capital Improvement Projects.
- Chris Young-Determine additional funding requirements for Marine Vet. Nick and present to committee for consideration
- Chris Young-provide clarification whether poppy sales will be held on Sunday November 5th.
- Greg Delos Santos-Provide certificates of appreciation to supporting stores hosting our annual poppy sales events.
- John Henderson-Provide update on end of year dinner event