

Minutes for July 10, 2024 Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 279 Meeting

The regular meeting of VVA Chapter 279 was called to order by President Hester at 1830 hours. President Hester led the Pledge of Allegiance. Officers present were: President Hester, Vice President Mangiamelli, Treasurer Haase, and Secretary Halbkat. There were 4 officers and 25 members present. We have a quorum.

Guest Speaker: None

New Members: None

Sick Call: None

Secretary Report: The report was sent out via email to all members. George Abbott made a motion to approve as written and it was seconded by Glen Page. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Haase made the report available to all members on the table. He reviewed all entries with the chapter. A motion was made to approve the report by George Abbott and seconded by Dick Rowe. The motion passed unanimously. Treasurer Haase then brought up the fact that there are times when he has to act on transferring funds, re-investing CD's within our accounts because of interest rates. He proposed that the 4 officers make the decision at the officers meeting what needs to be done with these CD's and market funds. Pete Gill made a motion and it was seconded by Jim Quick that we accept his proposal. The motion passed unanimously. Treasurer Haase then brought forward bills that needed to be paid. \$66.25 to County Treasurer for license on parade trailer and \$152.30 to President Hester for parade mileage. Tom Brown made a motion to pay the bills and Jim Bezoni seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Chapter By-Laws: All by-laws up to date.

Parades: Next parade for the month of July is in Fremont on July 14 and one in Gretna on July 27. President Hester will send out info to chapter via email.

Golf Outing: We have 38 teams signed up but can only have 36. A nice problem to have.

Scholarships: Tom Brown read letters from Metro Community College Foundation and University of Nebraska Foundation concerning the state of our funds and where they are going. Reports are all good and names and amounts were given in the letters.

Veterans Home Board: No report

Correspondence Report: None to report

Veterans Court: Eddie Nelson reports the 2nd Thursday in December is another graduation. He says he would like to see some members at the ceremony.

National VVA Delegate Report: No Report

Nebraska VVA Foundation: Questions were brought up about a write up in The Veteran magazine concerning the grand opening of the Nebraska Veterans Memorial. George Abbott also reported there are some awesome pictures of the helo worth framing.

Homeless Veterans: No report

Chapter membership: President Hester reports 210 members and 12 associates.

POW/MIA: Treasurer Haase reports another brother has come home, which brings the number to 1575.

Quilt of Valor: there are 13 members present that have not received a Quilt of Valor and 16 members present that have received a Quilt of Valor. Please see Mike Steffen for a form.

New business: Aug. 15th is the tentative date for the Bellevue parade. Watch your email for further updates. Contact Cornhusker Hotel for special room rates for the Nebraska Vietnam Veterans Reunion that is coming up soon. It will be held in Lincoln this year. There will be a Salute to Veterans on Nov. 3rd at the Embassy Suites in LaVista starting at 5:30 PM. See Ron for more info. We have run out of Vietnam bracelets. Joe Mangiamelli made a motion to buy another 100 and it was seconded by Glen Page. Motion carried unanimously. The bell tower that is to be erected at the National Cemetery is in question, since our chapter donated \$1000.00 towards the cause. We will look into the progress and report back at next meeting. President Hester is looking into the cost of nametags for the members. Glen Page requested a representative of Neptune Cremation be a guest speaker at the next meeting.

Please check out the chapter website: nebraskavietnamveterans.com

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 1830 hours.

Joe Mangiamelli made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Dick Rowe. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by:

Tom Halbkat, Secretary