

Minutes for June 14, 2023 Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 279 meeting.

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

Guest speaker was Ashley Howe of the Boystown JROTC program. She informed us of their programs and spoke about the challenge coins they have adopted with a passout to members. Terry Voss volunteered to match \$5.00 for the first 50 coins sold and Pete Gill offered \$5.00 for the next 10 coins sold. Outstanding!!

New members: Mike Estey was introduced as a new member to the chapter. Welcome aboard, Mike!!

Sick call: It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of member Ken Melhus. There will be a Celebration of Life on Thursday June 15, at 6 pm at Grace Life Bible Church at 108th and Blondo. The Chapter will present the Veterans Memorial Program. Please there by 545 pm in uniform.

Secretary Report: The report for June 2023 was sent out to the membership via email. Motion to approve as written by Ron Ingram and seconded by Dick Rowe. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report: The report was made available on the table to all members with Treasurer Haase explaining all entries. Motion to approve as written by George Abbott and seconded by Anthony Weathers. Motion carried unanimously. There discussion about carrying too much money in our checking account and Ron Ingram made a motion we move \$10000.00 out of our checking account into another money market account. The motion was seconded by Jim Quick. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills to be paid:

\$202.10 to State Farm Insurance

\$61.25 to Roy Love for mileage

\$196.98 to Pres. Hester for expenses

Terry Voss made motion to approve and seconded by Tom Lundquist. Motion carried unanimously.

There will be a presentation of Honor and Remember recipients on June 16 at 11am at the Willow Lake golf course in Bellevue. There will be 73 names read at the ceremony. All are welcome.

Parades: Papillion Days – June 17 at 10am Meet at 1102 East 1st Street

Ralston Parade – July 4 – this is the big one. We need a big turnout and would need a color guard if possible. We are #1 in the parade. Meet at the senior citizens center where member Ron Wilson will be serving coffee and donuts at 11am. Thank you, Ron, for this grand gesture.

Scholarships: No report

Veterans Home Board: No report

Correspondence Report: VP Mangiamelli led chapter in singing Happy Birthday to Chapter President Hester

Veterans Court: Eddie Nelson reports very high marks for this program.

National Delegate Report: Dottie Barickman reports the up coming national convention will be very important to all members. A lot of decisions will be made as to the fate of our organization.

Nebraska VVA Foundation: George Abbott reports the 2.5 million dollars will be going to the Dept. of VA for the balance of our money towards the Memorial.

Homeless Veterans: No report

Chapter membership: 202 members and 12 associates

POW/MIA: 1579 includes recent discovery of Larry Zich from Lincoln, Ne.

Quilts of Valor: see Mike Steffan for a form

New business: It was suggested that we enter a picture of our trailer loaded with members for the annual VVA calender.

Webpage: nebraskavietnamveterans.com

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 1830 hours, located at the Millard American Legion Post 374

Motion was made by VP Mangiamelli and seconded by Dick Rowe to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.