

Minutes for May 10, 2023 Vietnam Veterans 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, Secretary Halbkat. Treasurer Haase was absent. There were 30 members and 3 officers present. We have a quorum.

The secretaries report for May was sent out via email to the membership. Motion to approve as written by George Abbott and seconded by Tom Lundquist. Motion carried unanimously.

The treasurer's report was made available on the table. Motion was made by Vice Pres. Mangiamelli and seconded by George Abbott to accept. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion followed that we have too much money in our checking account and it would be wise to invest in another CD. Member Ron Ingram made a motion that we invest in a CD of \$10000.00 from Core Bank. The motion was seconded by Pete Gill. Motion carried. The chapter was reminded that since our previous treasurer, Howard Ball is deceased, the only officers that are approved to make such a transaction are: Pres. Hester, Vice Pres. Mangiamelli, and Trea. Haase.

Sick Call: Tom Brown is having surgery. We know he will bounce back. Ken Melhaus is suffering from cancer. We wish him "God's speed."

Parades: The Memorial Day parade will be May 27<sup>th</sup> downtown Omaha. Let's have a big turnout. There are 8 more parades scheduled for this summer and Terry will send out email to the members.

Scholarships: No report

Veterans Home Board: No report

Correspondence: Vice Pres. Mangiamelli read a nice thank you card from the JROTC members of South High School for being a sponser of their club. All members signed the letter.

Veterans Court: Eddie Nelson reports court is moving along swiftly with some members to graduate very soon.

National VVA Delegate Report: Dottie Barickman reports National convention coming up shortly. She also urges all members to contact J.R. at Bellevue College to be interviewed for the Nebraska Memorial.

National VVA Foundation: George Abbott reports construction to start soon.

Homeless Veterans: No report

Chapter Membership: Pres. Hester reports 201 members and 12 associate members

POW/MIA: Ron Haase reports 1579. That number reflects the recent discovery of Larry Zich.

Quilts of Valor: See Mike Steffan for a form.

New Business: Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, Omaha will be celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Memorial Park. Pres. Hester will lay a wreath and we will have a table set up and the tiger cage will be on display. On June 5<sup>th</sup> Larry Zich will be laid to rest at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in Lincoln, Ne. The Ne. National Guard will be in charge of the ceremony. Pres. Hester will send out info on these 2 events via email. Our new golf outing flyers will contain a QR code for payment. Should make it easier for the golfers. Pres. Hester requested \$5000.00 for advance payment to golf course. Ron Ingram made motion to pay and was seconded by Ed Boller. Motion carried.

Since we have a guest speaker, Bill Williams of Patriotic Productions, we will devote the rest of the Meeting to him. All agreed.

Next meeting will be June 14, 2023 at 1830 hours at the Millard American Legion Post 374.

Mike Steffan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Dick Rowe. The motion carried unanimously.

Secretary,

Tom Halbkat

