

Minutes for November 8th, 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, and Treasurer Haase. There were 4 officers and 26 members present. We have a quorum.

Guest Speaker: None

New Members: At this time we would like to welcome new member – Dan McFarlin –welcome aboard, Dan.

Sick call: Dick Rowe is still recuperating from surgery and Ron Dupell is still fighting his battle with cancer. Get well soon, gentlemen.

Secretary Report: Sent to all members via email. Glen Page made a motion to approve as written and it was seconded by Andy Dosa. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Report is on the table. Sid Howard made motion to accept and it was seconded by Andy Dosa. Motion carried. Treasurer Haase brought up the fact that our money market fund with Core Bank is up for renewal and we need to follow up. George Abbott made a motion and Jim Kjosa seconded that the Treasurer renew the fund. Motion carried. It was also brought up that we should follow up on our yearly pledge to the 4 county service officers that we continue with our \$1000.00 per county gift cards for needy veterans. Joe Mangiamelli made motion to approve and Ed Boller seconded motion. Motion carried.

Golf Outing: Next outing will be September 30, 2024.

Scholarships: Tom Brown reports we currently have 3 recipients taking advantage of the VVA Chapter 279 college scholarships. One each at UNK, UNL, and UNO. He also read an appreciation letter from the University of Nebraska CEO for our involvement in the program.

Correspondence Report: Joe Mangiamelli read letter from the Vice President of Advancement of Bellevue University. He was thanking us for our donation to help with the backpack program that will be handed out to homeless veterans at the November 10th Veterans Day to be celebrated at the Siena Francis House.

Veterans Court: Joe Mangiamelli and Eddie Nelson report early graduations next year.

National VVA Delegate Report: No report

Nebraska VVA Foundation: Tom Brown and George Abbott report a tentative completion date of May 28, 2024.

Homeless Veterans: No report

Chapter Membership: President Hester reports a membership of 209. This our largest EVER!!

POW/MIA: Ron Haase reports number still holding at 1578.

Quilts of Valor: See Mike Steffen for a form.

New Business: Anthony Weathers has invited the Chapter to “Home for the Holidays” event to be held at his church. It was developed to honor minority Vietnam Veterans in the Omaha area. It will be held at the St. Johns African American Methodist Episcopal Church December 9th at 11 am. A light lunch will be served. Terry will be sending out reminders via email to the chapter.

Please check out the chapter’s webpage: nebraskavietnamveterans.com

December Meeting: Will be a potluck with the spouses. A very short meeting, then “chow time.”

Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 13, 2023, at 1830 hours at the Millard American Legion Post 374.

A motion to adjourn was made by Andy Dosa and seconded by Andy Nudelman. Motion carried.

Submitted by,

Tom Halbkat, Secretary