****

**Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 1106**

**December 3, 2016**

**9195 E. Mineral Ave., Centennial, CO 80112**

**South Metro Denver Fire & Rescue Building Boardroom**

**Meeting called to order at 9AM by Vice President Bob Easter**

**Board Members Present: Lee White, Paul Seppo, Patti Ehline, Bob Easter, Hazel Simeon, Dave Lyons, Pat Surrena, Milt Omoto, Joe Plant**

**Board Members Excused: None**

**Members Present: John Vargas, John Williams, Mike Messenger, Frenchy Weiner, Marv Lich, Bill Pine, Jerry Leichti, Cathy Nickell, Mark Nickell, John Grace, Bob Rotruck, Jack Hunter, Joe Langran, Jim Marcille, Mike Karsh, Robert Senatore, Larry Majors, Peggy Kelly, Tom Werzyn, Jim Hemphill**

**Associate Member: Barb Rotruck, Dee Lyons, Jim Williams, Chris Omoto**

**Guests Present: Shane Schafer, Brandy Schafer, Warren Harrison**

**Meeting called to order by President Lee White at 9:00AM**

**Pledge of Allegiance by all**

**Invocation and Prayer given by Hazel Simeon**

**Moment of Silence for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and for those who are still MIA**

**Minutes from the November 5, 2016 meeting were motioned to be accepted by Bob Rotruck and 2nd by Jerry Leichi.**

**Special Guest Speaker: Shane and Brandy Schafer and Mark Nickels**

**Paul Seppo gave the Treasures Report and detailed the Poppy Drive receipts.**

**Hazel gave the Scholarship Committee report. We are now giving 4 $1000.00 scholarships. She asked for volunteers to call the schools and get the contact information where the scholarship application to. Scholarship application will be posted to the website on January 1, 2017.**

**Lee Whites Presidents Report:**

* + **VVA National will be forming panels to see where the VVA organization will be going into the future.**
  + **We, as a chapter, will be able to access the Colorado roster of VVA members**
  + **State council meeting will be held on December 10. In Castle Rock**
  + **The Holiday party will be held on December 1, at Golden Corral on Arapahoe Rd and Parker Rd at 11:30-1:30. The cost is $17.22 each.**
* **Honor Bell Foundation is still looking for volunteers for their Honor Guard.**
* **Agent Orange Town Hall Meeting, we need to start thinking about how we are going to do this.**

**Mark Nickels gave a special report on the Englewood High School Veterans Memorial Day Event.**

**Shane and Brandy Schafer are donating a power chair to the chapter. Her dad had been directly sprayed with Agent Orange and he has passed away. She also is a member of Children of Vietnam Veterans Health Alliance. This is a non-profit that tracks the health issues of the descendants of Vietnam Veterans. She informed us of the work that this organization is doing to bring the health problems of descendent before the VA and Congress to make people aware of the issue.**

**VVA Chapter 1106 needs to form an Educational Committee that brings information that can be used if we form a speakers bureau when we go into the public/schools.**

**Patti Ehline gave a report on Veterans Issues that she is involved with in affecting necessary changes at the VA.**

**Hazel Simeon gave the Secretary Report:**

* **We have received the polo shirts as well as the tees. They are available for purchase, polo’s are $30.00 and Tee’s are $20.00.**
* **July 8, 2017 we are planning an overnight trip to Soldier Stone. She needs to know if you are interested in attending to she can make reservations at a hotel in Salida. Email her at southmetrodenvervva@gmail.com.**

**Rob Senatore gave the Webmaster Report.**

**Membership Committee report by Lee White:**

* **We now have 54 members and 18 associate members in our chapter as of the end of September. Dave Lyons will be contacting the MAL members in our area to invite them to our meetings.**
* **Dave Lyons calls MAL’s and invited them to the meeting, one person that he reach attended this meeting.**

**Milt Omoto gave his directors report:**

* **We received a $1000 grant from the Walmart Foundation.**

**Mike Messenger did not have a POW/MIA report.**

**Newsletter Committee report by Bob Rotruck:**

* **Deadline for stories is December 20. Feel free to submit articles to him for enclosure in the newsletter.**

**Veterans Emergency Assistance Program: Nothing new to report.**

**The VVA Chapter 1106 board would like to thank all of those who brought coats, socks, gloves etc. that will be given to veterans in need. Everyone was so generous in their giving and it is very much appreciated.**

**Next Meeting is on January 7, 2017.**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:40 by Vice President Bob Easter.**