**August 3, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Vietnam Veterans of American Chapter 1106.

Location: South Metro Denver Fire and Rescue Building, 9195 E. Mineral Ave., Centennial, CO 80112

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM, August 3, 2019 by President, Lee White

Board Members Present: Milt Omoto, Dave Lyons, Tom Werzyn, John Vargas, Ron Smith, Joe Plant, Patti Ehline, Glen Payne

Members Present: Gary Bentzen, Donna Chaney, Robert Crago, Bob Easter, Sonny Gorsuch, Dan Graham, Dan Green, Ted Hanfelder, Warren Harrison, Dennis Homrighausen, Jack Hunter, Mike Karsh, Peggy Kelly, Roger Lanphier, Bob Larson, Ernest Ledvina, Richard Lewis, Marvin Lich, Jerry Liechti, Larry Majors, Bob Mallin, Jim McGrevey, John McMaster, Tony Nickerson, Bob Palmi, Jack Paulsen, Edward Phillips, John Powell, Norman Pozner, Jay Quiring, Clarence Rebolledo, Steve Robertson, Bob Rotruck, Carl Sanchez, Rob Senatore, John Sheadel, Mike Sizemore, Karl Stegink, Garry Turks, Dan Wagle, John Williams, Darryl Wright

Associate Member: Desiree Dayton, Kari Liechti, Michelle Mallin, Kyrsten Nelson, Litta Plant-Schaper, Barbara Rotruck, Suzanne Sigona, Leann Stelzer, Jim Williams, and Alexis Winemiller.

Guests and New Members Present: Elsie DeHerrera, Claudia Hunter, Detlef Schaper, Clyde Wallace, Gwendolyn Wilson, and David Yates.

Invocation and Prayer given by VVA1106 Chaplin Garry Turks.

Pledge of Allegiance by all

The Sgt At Arms, Rob Senatore, conducted the POW/MIA ritual, followed by a Moment of Silence for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and for those who are still MIA

Minutes from the July 6, 2019 VVA Meeting were approved. Motion: Dave Lyons; 2nd by Tony Nickerson

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

VA Mission Act presentation: by Tony Nickerson

What the Mission Act means to you as a Veteran? Eligibility is the same Priority Groups for current VA Health Care. New part is Veteran ability to go to VA in-network Urgent Care Centers for minor illnesses. https://vaurgentcarelocator.triwest.com/Locator/Care

Check for co-pays.

Recap/Review VVA Convention: by Dave Lyons - VVA Chapters are likely to be changing their names and Charter status in the future.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Lee White

1. John Vargas has returned to the Board, and we are glad to have him back.

2. The membership had no objections to moving Dave Lyons to the Vice-President role.

3. Joe Plant would like to retire as Chapter Treasurer, so if anyone would like to be in training for the Treasurer role, please see Joe or Lee.

4. If anyone would like to be an active Board Member, please let Lee know.

5. Promotional Items: Leanne Stelzer is organizing promotional items nowadays, and she is circulating a yellow VVA1106 Shirt order form—see her to indicate your desired shirt. $40 for Polo type shirt; $30 for T-Shirt.

6. We will have a Poppy-Drive in November with four locations committed. We have assigned location team leaders, and we will need many of you to assist at each location.

7. We now have a Standing Committee contact list so you can reach the members involved when you need something done.

8. Michelle Mallin has agreed to assist us with internet and social media marketing.

TREASURER’S Report – Joe Plant: The Financial Report was read and approved.

Veterans Assistance Program: So far this fiscal year, we have spent about $5000 to assist veterans for things like: utility bills, building ramps for wheelchairs, rent, deposit on apartment, application fees for housing to get off the streets, etc.

SECRETARY Report—Glen Payne

We try to keep you informed of coming events through email, so please let me know if you change your email address. The Chapter Meeting Minutes are also a way to keep you current with the services of VVA Chapter 1106.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – (3 minutes or less)

1. Membership – Dave Lyons We now have 138 Members and 132 Associate Members for a total of 170 members in VVA CHAPTER 1106. Please ask about some business cards we have so when you meet Vietnam era veterans at Wal-Mart or other places, you can invite them to our chapter meetings.

2. Voices for Veterans – Warren Harrison: The VA Voices for Veterans meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month.

3. Grants/Fund Raising – Milt Omoto:

-At the Rockies game on July 14, Tony and the Color Guard looked sharp while presenting the colors on the field to open the game. Milt has a video of the event. Many of the VA in-patient PTSD current patients attended the game with us.

-VA Household goods pick-up services are available to you. Please use this service. They collect clothing and household items.

-Thanks to Donna Chaney, Suzanne Sigona, and Leann Stelzer for collecting clothing and other things for veterans today.

4. Speaker’s Bureau –Tom Werzyn: We currently have eight members who have volunteered for the Speaker’s Bureau. As opportunities arise will call these members to speak.

5. Newsletter—Bob Rotruck: The September/October newsletter is about to be finished. Let me know if you have any comments to add.

6. Agent Orange—Patti Ehline: We have several Agent Orange diseases being considered for addition to the “Presumptive” diseases list. Contact your federal Representative and Senators to push for approval.

7. Events Committee—Lee, Michelle Mallin and Ron Smith: Michelle keeps a running list of coming Veteran events on our website in which you could participate. Please check that list often. We have several Veteran Stand-downs or Veteran Fairs planned to give resources to veterans, especially homeless veterans. Brighton, CO Veteran Fair Aug. 31. Aurora Veteran Fair on Oct. 24th.

8. Social Committee –John Vargas: Chapter Picnic will be on August 10th with a western theme at a great, new location. We have 2 chefs, western music, and fun activities.

--Michelle Mallin described the Dragonman’s Military Museum in Colorado Springs. We are planning a VVA Chapter 1106 trip to Dragonmans’s on Sept. 18th!!

https://www.dragonmans.com/content/military\_museum\_dragonmans\_colorado\_springs

Contact Mike Karsh to plan to attend this trip.

9. Women Veterans—Patti Ehline: Please encourage women veterans to join our chapter. At the VVA National Convention, Gen. Wesley Clark spoke about his great health care by the men when he was injured in Vietnam. Pattie found him after the speech to remind him of the women nurses in Vietnam.

10. Color Guard: Tony Nickerson

-On August 9-10-11 the Color Guard presented the Colors at the Jefferson County Fair.

-On September 7th the Color Guard will present the Colors at a High School football game, to which you are all invited.

-We need additional new Color Guard members. Contact Tony or another Color Guard member to express interest.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

--Joe Plant told us that Zillow Group is now paying for donuts for our meetings! Thanks!

--Thanks to Alexis Winemiller for arranging our coffee and donuts this morning! Thanks

--Tom Werzyn told us about a C-Ration cookbook.

--Jack Hunter reminded us to see Claudia to get pictures taken or revised pictures taken. He also reminded us to verify our email addresses on the sign-in sheets.

--Michelle Mallin told us the schedule for Fort Logan services for burial of veterans who have no family, or no one has claimed the body. On the second Saturday of even numbered months at 11 AM at Fort Logan, such veterans will be laid to rest. You and the public are invited.

--Jim Williams suggested we have an AVVA member on the Board.

--David Yates invited us to join the Older Veterans Engagement Team which is a function of the local VA Geriatric Research Education and Clinical Center (GRECC).

--John Vargas encouraged us to have conversations to get to know each other.

MEMBERS IN SICKNESS OR DISTRESS

--Jim Bishop is or has been in the VA Rehab center a few weeks.

Meeting Adjourned by: Lee White at: 10:34 AM

BREAK TIME – 10:30 – 10:50 AM - ENJOY A COFFEE REFILL AND SOCIALIZE

NEXT SCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING: SATURDAY, September 7, 2019.

LOCATION: SOUTH METRO FIRE & RESCUE BUILDING, 9195 E. MINERAL AVE., CENTENNIAL, CO

THANK YOU ALL!!!!

Submitted by:

Glen Payne, Secretary, VVA Chapter 1106