

Mike Voth Memorial
Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 5 – Eau Claire, WI
February 5, 2020

NOTE- Meeting held at VFW Post 305

Attendance – 20 members and 1 guest

Call to order – Mike Korger

Pledge of Allegiance – Joe Graff

Prayer – Joe Graff

Welcome Guests – Jim Prybylski

Reports

Secretary – James “Mac” McBee

A motion to approve the minutes received through email was made by Joe H. and seconded by Joe G. The motion carried without objection.

Treasurer – Joe Heil

Heil provided information on the chapter accounts. He spoke of the expenses for the month that included the final payment of \$2,500.00 to the Tribute Trail, \$500.00 for the Legacy Stone being placed at the Tribute, that is being shared with the AVVA (each paying \$250.00), \$500.00 donation to Trinity Equestrian, \$500.00 to Denise W. for the service dog training program and a \$250.00 donation to the Vietnam Veterans Day event being held March 21, 2020. Heil informed members that there is a designated funds amount of just over \$7,900.00. He then asked for approval to purchase a case of paper for printing needs of the chapter. A motion by Billy B. to approve this expense, and a second by Rory S. was made. The motion carried without objection. Heil then provided information on the suggested purchase of a stone for the Tribute. He had spoken with the Foundation and received approval of placement at the Tribute. He will continue to attempt communication with the company to find out the cost of the stone that provides recognition for those lost after the war, due to their service. Heil was thanked for his report.

President – Mike Korger

Korger told members about the continued meetings by the Vietnam Veterans Day Committee. The event will be held on March 21, 20 at the Eagle Club in Lake Hallie. He then explained the fundraiser and scholarship committees will begin working, and volunteers are always appreciated. He spoke of the recent fundraiser held in Marshfield for the Highground retreat programs. Six chapter members attended, with five of those bowling and one helping out with the raffle ticket sales. Approx. \$4,000.00 was collected for the event. Korger concluded his report asking for members to consider the upcoming election. A vice-president and assistant for the treasurer are both needed.

Vice President – Larry Wrycza – Absent

AVVA – Rick A. Talford

Talford provided information on the membership growth in the AVVA. He then provided the results of the most recent Pizza Ranch fundraising (\$214.12 in donations, \$173.00 in sales percentage and \$96.00 in poppy sales = \$483.12).

National Meeting – no information

District Meeting – no information

State Council Meeting – The next meeting will be held on March 21, 2020 in Waupaca. There is currently no representative from chapter 5 attending, due to the Vietnam Veterans Day event being scheduled the same day. The Election meeting will be held in June at Camp Victory in Willard, WI.

VA/Benefits/Claims – Dave Mayenchein – absent

Minority – Dave Zien – absent

Membership – VVA 126 AVVA 22

New Business

Veterans Home – Rory S.

The next meeting will be held on Feb. 19, 2020

Highground – Joe Graff

The Board of Directors is holding interviews for the Executive Director position that is open. They are currently down to three candidates. The learning center has a display titled “The Vietnam Veteran Experience” that will be up through April.

New Business

Logo/Clothing – Joe H., Mike K. and Ralph O. will set up a meeting in Colby to begin work with the company that will begin producing the chapters clothing.

Fundraising – A meeting will be held on Feb. 19, 2020 at the Eagle Club, to begin the discussion on items to use for this year’s raffle. The drawing will be held on Oct. 7, 2020 at the monthly meeting. There will be no meal at the event.

Elections – If you have any interest in running for an officer or board of director position, please contact Mike K. or Joe H.

Committee – The Scholarship application needs to be updated and sent out this month.

Newsletter – The deadline is Feb. 21, 2020

Communications –

A thank you letter was received from Trinity Equestrian for the \$500.00 donation that the chapter provided them. The letter noted that they have serviced over 5500 hours since 2009.

Good of the Order

Rory S. and Joe H. spoke of the "High School to Heroes" program. It will be held on April 29, 2020 at the Mill Run Golf Course. A motion to sponsor three tables (\$250.00 each) was made by Joe G. and seconded by Rory S. The motion carried without objection.

Joe H. provided information on the Vietnam Veterans Day event. It will be held on March 21, 2020 at the Eagles Club in Lake Hallie from 10am-3pm. The speakers will be WDVA Mary Kohler, Lao Veteran Capt. Xiong, VA Health Scientist Ron Bach, Key Note Dr. Dan Cavanaugh and Veterans Center Representative Wes Porter. There will be a meal available (2 soup and 2 sandwich choices) for \$6.00 a person.

Joe H. – Veterans Tribute Update was discussed. An open house was held to provide updated information to the public. There was a nice attendance with many legacy stone sales made. There was plenty of media in attendance also. Phase 1 will begin in June with the groundbreaking, with hopes of completion in the fall. The cost for phase 1 will near \$750,000.00. The entire project will be in four phases, and the foundation will only proceed with each phase once they reach the needed funds. They will not go into debt to complete any phase. There will be a flag setting event held in April for a Gander Mountain size pole and flag to be placed. The pole will be fitted with a motor to assist with the raising and lowering of the enormous flag. Mike K. added that he was interviewed by WQOW 18 at the open house.

Drawings

Attendance - \$20.00 Richard Goth – absent

50/50 - \$10.00 #4396 – Thomas Lee

Wine - #4390 Billy Buss

Pen/tool - #4389 Pat Moore

Closing Prayer by Joe G.

Adjourn – 8:10pm

The next meeting will be held on Mar. 4, 2020 at post 7232 (7pm) as long as they have completed construction to the meeting area.