

Mike Voth Memorial
Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 5

July 2021

AVVA Report

Attendance – Eric and Sally Johnson, Peg Ottum, Rick A. Talford

Membership – Nationally-10,075, Region-6 1,017, WI-332

Finances – The acct. is in good standing – a donation was made in the amount of \$125.00 towards Project Friendship. Another cost this month, was for flowers in memorial of Fred Howard in the amount of \$44.84. The amounts reflect the AVVA's half of the total expenses for Chapter 5.

Next meeting – August 4, at 6PM (Post 7232).

VVA Report-

Agenda – No changes

Call to Order – Mike Korger

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer – Joe Graff

Deceased Member – Fred Howard (June 11, 21) also noted – Commander Dan Doughty (7 year POW Camp)

Welcome Veterans and Guests – none

Reports –

Secretary – Mac McBee – absent

There has not been a newsletter, so the minutes have been provided by email. They were approved.

Treasurer – Joe Heil

All accounts are in good standing, with approval for Heil to purchase a Sam's Club card renewal, as well as provide donations to the WI State Patrol (\$200.00) for bike purchases at the NWSF (motion by Dennis Wood and seconded by Joe Graff) and \$320.00 in stamps (motion by Dennis Wood and seconded by Joe Graff). Heil was thanked for his report.

President – Mike Korger

Korger reported that he was unable to attend the state meeting. He also told everyone the NWSF has been set up and help could be used in selling tickets.

Vice President- Kenneth Piel (Absent)

AVVA – Rick A. Talford

Donations have been made for project friendship and flowers for Fred Howard. The National Convention is still planned to be held in person.

National meeting – no update (convention set for the beginning of November)

Region meeting – no information at this time.

State Council meeting – There is a new President in place after Linbeck stepped down. Mike Demske has taken the seat. There is talk that the Minnesota VVA is shutting down. The State funding for the convention is ready, and the June meeting has been moved to the 4th Sat. (June 22, 22) so it will not interfere with father's day any longer.

VA/Benefits/Claims – Dave Mayenchein (absent)

Minority – Dave Zien

Zien provided information on Kerm Morgan, who is fighting stage 4 cancers. There is push for Morgan to be placed into the UW Hall of Fame. Also noted was the fact that Commander Dan Doughty, who was a POW for 7 years, did not get the respect of Gov. Evers in the lowering of the flag, yet a state senator did. Zien spoke of the Hmong, and informed everyone that they have not responded in regards of the plexi over the legacy sign.

Membership – VVA 123..AVVA 27

Old Business

Veterans Home – Joe Heil

Heil explained the home is allowing some visitors. They are requesting visitors provided vaccination proof to be kept on record. You must wear a mask, except while in the room visiting. The committee will resume meetings in January. There was also discussion on the fact those living at the home were not allowed to attend the Altoona Veterans Tribute on Memorial Day. There is also some concern that a resident is not being allowed to make donations to staff that were terminated due to covid.

Highground – Joe Graff

July 9-11 is the Men's Retreat

July 17 is the Persian Gulf stone-laying

July 30-1 is the 37th annual Ride for Heroes (bicycle)

Logo/Clothing – no report

New Business

Goals and Outreach – no report

Fundraising – Joe Heil

Everyone should be trying to sell raffle tickets, as the funding for our scholarships and annual donations will come from those funds being raised.

Chapter elections – April 2022

Committee- Joe Heil

The Nursing Scholarship will be paid in November. We will need to work on getting information out sooner to the schools, so students have the ability and time to get what we are asking for.

Newsletter – Due Date is July 18, 2021

Communications –

A Thank You card was received on behalf of the Fred Howard family.

Good of the Order-

Joe Heil – A change in the meeting time was discussed. Both the AVVA/VVA will begin ½ hour earlier. Motion made by Dennis Wood and seconded by Ralph Ottum. The August meeting will start at 6pm for the AVVA and 6:30pm for the VVA.

Joe Heil – Another scholarship application was received by an Augusta student with a 3.89 GPA. She will be attending UW Stout and did her interview with VP Kenneth Piel. Continued discussion came about in regards to guidance counselors not wanting to provide students the applications from VSO's. There are currently meeting being held for this year's High School to Heroes event. There is also a sub-committee being created for the Veterans Tribute as things are getting set up. A letter needs to be put together for the Prestige Auto event before August 1st.

Dennis Wood- Wood spoke of the Family Outreach Group (FOG) that he has been part of for 40 years. They will be a 501 C (3) within two weeks. You will be able to locate them through VVFOG.org online. This will be a veteran's voices site.

Joe Graff – Prayers are needed for Tom Neuenfeldt, as he has had a tough time lately with surgeries. Graff also asked for prayers for Bob McRoberts.

Joe Heil – Heil explained a finance officer is a MUST, and is looking for someone to learn what he does.

Doug Farmer – Farmer spoke of ancestry research, and the work that goes into all of it. He has been researching family from WWII and the Civil War.

Meeting attendance – Jarold Odegard (Absent)

50/50 drawing – Doug Farmer

Closing Prayer – Joe Graff

Adjourn 8:40pm

Next meeting – Post 7232 at 6:30pm.