

Mike Voth Memorial  
Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 5 – Eau Claire, WI  
September 1, 2021

AVVA Meeting

Attendance – Peg Ottum, Marilyn Mayenchein, Rick A. Talford

Discussion-

- 1- Membership numbers have continued to decrease nationally, as the region and state have stayed stable.
- 2- Finances are in great standings for the chapter
- 3- National convention is still planned to be in person. Rick Talford will not be attending the convention due to health issues at this time. Talford will make contact with the National Secretary and ask if live streaming of the general session is possible, for those not attending in North Carolina.
- 4- Pizza ranch has not yet approved the starting of fundraising at this time, due to covid remaining to be present.
- 5- Prayer request was asked for by Talford for Julia and Mac McBee.
- 6- Afghanistan – Talford requested a letter be drafted and sent to all WI State Representatives in regards to the leaving of Americans in Afghanistan, when the pull out happened. This was agreed to by members present.

VVA

Attendance – 18 (4 guests)

Agenda – no changes

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer – Joe Graff

Moment of silence – 13 service members killed in Afghanistan

Welcome Veterans and Guests

Reports-

Secretary – Jim “Mac” McBee (absent)

The emailed reports were sent and a motion to approve by Dan Ziegler was made. Rory Schutte provided the second, and the motion carried w/o objection.

Treasurer- Joe Heil

Everything is in good standing was reported, and Heil was thanked for his report.

President – Mike Korger

Korger provided information on the 100<sup>th</sup> Centennial Celebration in Augusta at the American Legion Post 291 on September 11, 2021. Everyone is invited to come enjoy some food.

Vice-president – Kenny Piel  
No report

AVVA – Rick A. Talford  
Talford requested that a letter be penned to every representative in the State of WI. This letter will explain our feelings on the recent events in Afghanistan. The fact that Americans were left behind is disturbing and not acceptable. A motion to approve a draft letter be written was made by Joe Graff and seconded by Kenny Piel. The motion carried without objection, so Talford will put together a draft letter and bring to the next meeting for review.

National Meeting – Joe Heil  
No updated information to share – November 2-6<sup>th</sup> in N.C.

Region 6 Meeting – Joe Heil  
No information received as to any meeting date being set.

State Council Meeting – Joe Heil  
September 18<sup>th</sup> will be the meeting in Waupaca. (Joe Heil, Mike Korger and Joe Graff attending)

VA/Benefits/Claims – Dave Mayenchein  
Camp Victory held and event and raised nearly \$15,000.00 after expenses.

Minority Report – Dave Zien (absent)

Membership – Joe Heil  
VVA 123 AVVA 26 (1 new member should be added)

Old Business

Veterans Home – Rory Schutte  
There will be a meeting held on January 1<sup>st</sup>. There are restrictions starting to be enforced once again at the home, due to the covid variant becoming more active.

Highground Report – Joe Graff  
Women Veterans Retreat is set for September 12<sup>th</sup>, Working Dog and Legacy Stone laying on September 18<sup>th</sup>, Bake Sale on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Logo/clothing – Joe Heil  
The chapter currently has two dozen VVA glasses on hand, and they will be brought to the next meeting for members to purchase. There will also be an agenda item next month to talk about the remaining shirts from the Vietnam Wall in 2016.

New Business

Goals and outreach – no update information

Fundraising – Joe Heil

There is only a month left to sell tickets, so please get out there and sell them. In order to continue providing the scholarships and annual donations, we need members to be active in selling the raffle tickets each year.

Chapter Elections – April 2022

Committee – Joe Heil

The scholarship for the Augusta student was given to Alexis Kaeding in person at the meeting. The scholarship for CVTC will be provided to the Tech School in November.

Newsletter deadline – September 21<sup>st</sup>

Communications – none

Under the good of the order-

Joe Heil – The possibilities of fundraising at pizza ranch will be checked into again. Sturgeon Fest has been set up for attending Sept. 3-6<sup>th</sup>. Country Jam and Festival in the Pines are being looked into for scheduling in 2022 for raffle ticket sales as well. The Gold Star Mothers have requested a donation and a motion to give \$100.00 was made by Dan Ziegler and seconded by Al Weix. The motion carried without objection. A suicide prevention program will be held at post 305 on September 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.

Joe Graff spoke of the similarities of the Afghanistan Veterans and Vietnam Veterans. He asked that everyone pay attention and reach out to these veterans, as many areas are very similar to the way things happened and ended in Vietnam.

50/50 drawing – Rory Schutte \$9.00

Closing prayer – Joe Graff

Adjourn – 7:35pm