

Mike Voth Memorial
Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 5 – Eau Claire
September 6, 2023

AVVA

Attendance – Peg O., Micki R. and Rick T.

Discussion:

- 1- Membership – 31
- 2- Finance – Good Standings (still thinking of fundraising ideas)
- 3- Letter to Veteran Magazine in regards to travel expenses of BOD (membership funds being completely wiped out, due to excessive travel costs.)

VVA

Attendance – 17

Agenda – no changes

Call to Order – Mike Korger

Pledge of Allegiance – Joe Graff

Prayer – Joe Graff

Moment of Silence – Kaye Olson (Gold Star Mother) Funeral at St. John's Lutheran (Sept. 10, 23) 11am.

Deceased members – none

Welcome Veterans and Guests – (new members) Mike Schmidt, Ken Klimek and (returning member) Mike Smith

Reports

Secretary – Dan Zeigler

A motion to approve the minutes as emailed, was made by Joe Heil and seconded by Joe Graff. The motion carried without objection.

Treasurer – Joe Heil

Heil provided the numbers from the past month to those in attendance. He was then "Thanked" for his report.

President – Mike Korger

- 1- Korger spoke of the many veteran funerals slowing down.
- 2- Camp Victory held their open house. Joe G. and Rick T. attended
- 3- Korean War Veteran was returned home, and a funeral was held in Fairchild. The family wanted this to be kept private. Channel's 13 and 18 had coverage.

Vice-President – Ken Piel (absent)

AVVA – Rick A. Talford

- 1- Contact with Pizza Ranch, in order to take part in their community program was attempted again this month. No response has been received.
- 2- Any of the VVA members that would like to join the AVVA as dual members may contact Talford.

Meetings

National – Mike Smith (attended as member of Janesville- Chapter 236)

- 1- Orlando, FL was the location of this years' convention. The main topic was "Dissolution" of the National VVA. The Board of Directors will hopefully have a plan together by the 2027 convention.
- 2- Talford asked if "Veteran's Voices of America" was discussed as the legacy. Smith replied that he did not hear anything regarding them.
- 3- State Councils and Chapters will need to incorporate to save their own funds. Chapters will need to speak with their State's, as they will not be able to continue with the name of Vietnam Veterans of America, after the dissolution. They have (4) years to plan for this.
- 4- There was discussion on whether the AVVA will receive funding to continue forward.

Region 6 – Mike Smith

- 1- A meeting was held in Iowa
- 2- The topic of discussion was regarding VVA members joining the AVVA as dual members.

WI State Council – Joe Heil

- 1- Meeting will be in Waupaca on Sept. 23, 23
- 2- Joe H., Joe G. and Micki R. (AVVA Representative) are planning on attending

Committee

VA/Benefits/Claims – (Need of a Chairperson)

Minority Report – Dave Zien (absent)

- 1- Mike Schmidt provided information sent from Zien
- 2- Grand Opening of Post 305 will be held on Sept. 10, 23
- 3- A list of special programs at Post 305 was also shared.

Membership – VVA 124 AVVA 31

Old Business

Veterans Home – Rory Schutte

- 1- Meetings are held on the third Wed. of each month at the Chippewa Falls VFW
- 2- No further report was given

Highground – Joe Graff

- 1- Sept. 16, 23 will be Legacy Stone placement
- 2- Sept. 21, 23 will be the Day of Peace recognition

VVA/Clothing – Joe Heil (No report)

New Business

VVA Goals/Outreach – Joe Heil (no report)

Fundraising – Joe Heil

- 1- Oct. 4, 23 will be the regular meeting and raffle drawing
- 2- Tickets are still available for members to get out and sell them
- 3- Tickets can be sold right up to the drawing at 8pm (Oct. 4, 23)

Chapter Elections – April 2024

Scholarships – no discussion

Communications – Feed My People sent a letter for donation. Dan Zeigler made a motion to donate \$100.00 to Feed My People. A second was made by Ralph Ottum. The motion carried without objection.

Good of the Order

Mike Korger – Daughters of the American Revolution picnic. A Certificate for Chapter 5 was presented, along with a Challenge Coin and 50th Anniversary flag.

Dan Zeigler – There will be a car show on Sept. 24, 23 at Post 7232, beginning at 8am. The trophies and prizes will be given out at 3pm. (NOTE- canceled due to weather)

Rick Talford – the raffle prize (wooden waving flag) was brought in for all to see. Ken Piel wanted it known that Joe Graff and Rick Talford assisted in the making of the flag.

Joe Graff – a wishing well will be made for next years' raffle prize.

Joe Graff – is there a Chapter for the VVA in the area, where Hawaii had the fire? It was researched and found that one does exist in Kailua, HI (Chapter 858)- no actions taken

50/50 drawing – \$8.00 - 4898 Micki Rumberg (gave back to Chapter)

Closing prayer – Joe Graff

Adjourn 7:30pm

Next meeting – Oct. 4, 23 at 6:30pm (Post 7232)