



**Vietnam Veterans of America
Northern Warriors Chapter 941
17 December 2012
Kelly Inn-3800 Main Ave., Fargo, ND
1900 Hours**

Meeting called to order at 1900 by President Larry Nicholson

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence for POW's and MIA's

Prayer by . Ray Branstitir

Members present: Victor Wolter, Joe Vallevand, Les Bakke, Joe Bennett, Cory Bennett, Ron DuRand, Russ Stabler, David Caswell, Larry Kessel, Ed Ahonen, Paul Hyndman, Steve Paradis, David Brunsvold, Jim Nypen, Larry Nicholson, James Clemenson, Helda Helfter, Mark Helfter, Ray Branstitir, Steve Kruger, Wayne Ellefson and Larry Reed.

Introductions/Announcements: New members and visitors introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda:

Bakke/Stabler moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report:

Stabler/DuRand moved to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: **Beginning Balance \$8,899.68**
Ending balance \$8,097.57

Reed/Stabler moved to accept. Motion carried

Public Affairs Report: Ellefson reported on recent activities of Chapter including Bethany Homes, Villa Maria, TouchMark retirement homes. Members were on Heroes for the Heartland radio show.

Stabler/Ahonen moved to approved report. Motion carried

Membership Report: Nicholson provided an update on membership due to absence of Jorgensen.

Color Guard Report: Stabler reported on recent activities including the Holiday of Lights parade, Salvation Army Bell Ringing and MSUM basketball games. Stabler updated chapter on upcoming events.

Old Business

POW/MIA Flag at MSUM: Nicholson reported on the dedication of the POW/MIA flag at MSUM with a

dedication during Spring semester.

Churches United: Nicholson reported on helping serve at the Churches United for the Homeless shelter in Moorhead.

Korean War Celebration Nicholson reported that the event has been moved to April 7.

Gladys Ray Shelter/Lisbon Vets Home: Nicholson wants volunteers to go to the homes. Nicholson will coordinate the trip.

Christmas Party: DuRand aka Santa Claus, Jan Jorgensen aka Mrs Claus, Joe Bennett and Corey Bennett were recognized and thanked. Bennett provided a history of the party.

Salvation Army: Nicholson reported on the Salvation Army bell ringing.

New Business:

Flag Etiquette: Nicholson asked for volunteers to serve on a committee to determine how best to inform the public about flag etiquette. We held discussion on how we could help our local schools teach about Vietnam War and other military history.

Retreat Nicholson would like to set a Saturday in 2013 to go over our projects, events, etc so everyone knows what is happening.

VVA State Meeting/State Picnic Stabler reported on the State meeting. Nicholson reported that we might be willing to host the State Picnic. Discussion was held on the picnic and location. Normally the event is Friday, Saturday and Sunday and is usually held in late July.

Ellefson talked about how to manage our organization.

Nypen/Ahonen moved to we produce the cards and allocate funds to pay for it. Motion carried.

Brunsvold and Jorgensen created some business cards for our Chapter and wants members to take a few for distribution.

DuRand and Nypen updated the Chapter on activity for homeless in the community.

Meeting adjourned at 1959.

Respectfully submitted,

Les Bakke, Secretary