

Vietnam Veterans of America
Northern Warriors Chapter 941
15 June 2015
Kelly Inn 3800 Main Ave, Fargo, ND
1900 Hours

Meeting called to order by President Larry Nicholson

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence for POW'S and MIA'S

Prayer by Chaplain Wayne Wermager

Members present: Bob Mandt, Les Forman, Stan Price, Wayne Wermager, Ed Ahonen, Les Bakke, Duke Johnson, Ron Krueger, Mark Helfter, Larry Reed, Ronn DuRand, Curtis Aamodt, Gordon Bahner Larry Kessel, James Gebhardt, Russ Stabler, Steve Perreault, Larry Nicholson: AVVA Hella Helfter, Cindy Johnson Guest- Karrin Davidson VA.

Introductions: Members went around the room introducing themselves.

Approval of the Agenda:

Additions to the agenda include a thank you to the chapter form Les Bakke for the help he received during the Veterans Picnic at Bonanzaville on 28 May.

Wayne Wermager presented a letter of congratulations he had drafted to Jacee Marie French. Jacee carried the American Flag on water skies during a water carnival at Detroit Lakes several years ago and has been active in patriotic/veteran affairs since. Jacee has just been accepted to the US Air Force Academy prompting Wayne to draft the letter. He asked chapter to adopt the letter and had all members present sign a card to accompany the letter.

Russ Stabler made a motion to accept the Agenda, second by Duke Johnson. Motion carried.

Cindy Steyer-Lukowiak displayed info on hats for Color Guard and bracelets she makes.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer David Brunsvold reports.

Beginning Balance		\$16924.74
Deposits	Sales – Air Museum	\$ 307.00
	Sales – Car Show	\$ 377.00
	Sales – Banquet	\$ 320.00
	Sales – Banquet	\$ 143.00
	USS Block Island Membership	\$ 5620.00
	Sales – Active VVA	\$ 480.00
	Sales	\$ 114.00
	Brat Sales/Donation Sales	\$ 868.50
	TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$ 8259.50
Expenditures	D. Brunsvold - #1499	\$ 46.71
	L. Nicholson - #1500	\$ 49.54
	B. Mandt - #1501	\$ 8.74
	Gift Cards – Air Museum #1502	\$ 300.00
	Hornbachers (USS BI) - #1503	\$ 110.04

	O'Kelly's (USS BI) - #1504	\$ 2291.02
	Biltmore (USS BI) - #1505	\$ 176.80
	Hornbachers (USS BI) - #1506	\$ 618.06
	D. Brunsvold(USS BI) - #1507	\$ 94.06
	D. Brunsvold (USS BI) - #1508	\$ 113.02
	Schuck Bus Service (USS BI) - #1511	\$ 1200.00
	Fargo Air Museum (USS BI) - #1512	\$ 200.00
	Historical Society Clay County - # 1513	\$ 200.00
	Cash (Tips - USS BI) - # 1514	\$ 325.00
	D. Brunsvold (Containers) - #1515	\$ 25.76
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 5758.75
Interest Earned	Gate City Bank	\$ 0.15
Ending Balance		\$19425.64

Treasurer's Report was turned in late and did not have a motion to approve yet.

Approval of the Minutes:

One correction noted, to add Chaplain Wayne Wermager to list of members running for office.

A motion to accept the Minutes was made by Larry Reed, second by Russ Stabler. Motion carried.

Public Affairs Report:

Nothing to report.

Membership Report:

Nothing to report.

Color Guard Report:

Color Guard Commander Russ Stabler reported color guard participated in graduation ceremony on 29 May at Woodrow Wilson School. They also marched in the Hawley Parade on 6th of June.

Upcoming Events: Veterans Home Fergus Falls on 27th of June at 1000, and Bonanzaville Parade on the 4th of July at 1230.

Motion to approve the Color Guard Report was made by Les Forman, second by Ronn DuRand. Motion carried.

Legislative Report

Nothing to report.

Picture of USS Block Island:

President Larry Nicholson asked chapter what to do with picture of USS Block Island that was presented to VVA 941 during ships reunion. It was the consensus of the chapter to give it to member Bill Peterson whose father was a surviving member of the Block Island and was instrumental in VVA 941 hosting their

reunion.

Flag:

President Larry Nicholson asked chapter where to display U.S. Flag that had flown over the U. S Capitol and was presented to chapter by Senator John Hoeven during ceremony at Air Museum in May. It was decided to put in shadow box and donate on behalf of VVA 941 to the Cass County Veteran Service Office for display.

Military Appreciation Night at Newman Field July 30th will be free to all Veterans.

Veterans Car and Bike Show held May14th at Dilworth VFW 1700 to 2100. We had a beautiful evening with 40 cars and 28 bikes in attendance.

Old Business:

VAVS Report:

Les Forman reported VA Honor Escort program has been approved. Program is for all VA patients who pass away to be escorted from their room to the morgue. VVA 941 is the contact veteran group in Fargo for this program. Committee members are Les Forman, Ed Ahonen, and Ronn DuRand. Calls for service must be answered day or night with Honor Members able to be at the VA with a one hour notice. There will be vests available at the VA for Honor Members. VVA941 will be serving with all other Veteran groups in Fargo Moorhead area.

Blackjack Night at VA to be held on Wednesday night May 20th at 1900.

USS Block Island:

President Larry Nicholson thanked members who participated in the USS Block Island Reunion. All went very well.

10K/5K run July 4th - Bonanzaville 0600 set up 0730 start time. Estimated finish 0930. Les Bakke offered his sound system. We are going to check with GOFAR for assistance and equipment. A signup sheet was sent around the room for those who will be able to help set up 3 July and for the race on July 4th.

Brat Sales: data was not made available from Hornbachers weekend. Vice President Steve Perrault asked group if he should sign up for another weekend at Sun Mart. Group agreed to it. Waiting period could be up to one year.

Swearing in of Officers:

Member Ronn DuRand read swearing in procedure for the following Officers.

President	Larry Nicholson
Vice President	Steve Perrault
Secretary	Bob Mandt
Color Guard	Russ Stabler
Membership	Russ Stabler
Chaplin	Wayne Wermager
Public Affairs	Les Forman

Donations Committee:

Committee chair had four donation requests the committee had reviewed.

Donna Myher of Thief River Falls MN has written a book titled Tangle Foot, it is about living with a Vietnam Vet suffering with PTSD. She asked our chapter to help promote the book. It was recommended by the committee to purchase two books at \$ 10.00 each in return for donation later when book sales take off.

Les Forman made a motion to purchase two books at \$ 10.00 each, second by Ed Ahonen. Motion carried.

Member Jan Jorgensen requested a donation for the Gladys Ray Shelter for women veterans. Committee recommended a \$ 200.00 donation. Duke Johnson made a motion to donate \$200.00 to the Gladys Ray Center, second by Jim Ebhardt. Motion carried.

Donations to delegates Russ Stabler and Larry Nicholson to attend VVA National Convention. Les Bakke made a motion to pay \$ 400.00 to each delegate to assist in costs while attending VVA national convention, second by Ed Ahonen. Motion carried

Committee recommended no to a donation request from American Legion for sponsoring a baseball team for \$ 5000.00 per year. It was determined VVA 941 did not have the funds for that large a donation.

Steve Perrault made a motion that from now on the Treasurer's Report reflect check numbers and amounts, second by Les Forman. Motion carried.

New Business:

Les Forman made a motion to change election dates from - elect May, swear in June, to elect December, swear in in January. This would extend present officer term by 7 months and then go back to a 12 month cycle. This change would coincide with VVA national elections. This motion was tabled until next meeting

To allow members one month to think about.

Ronn DuRand made a motion to sponsor two WWII/Korean war Vets to go on upcoming honor flight to Washington D. C. in the amount of \$ 750.00 each. Second by Russ Stabler. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker: Karrin Davidson from Fargo VA spoke to chapter about Volunteer service for the VA and the need for volunteer assistance. All volunteers must be vetted with VA prior to service.

There are presently about 440 volunteers at the VA. There are two types of volunteers, seasonal and regular. Seasonal are usually students that help during the summer. Regular are the year round help. She also mentioned 100% of all donations go to the veterans. Coupons for food, phone cards, POW MIA luncheon, special meals for holiday's, ETC.

Chapter Chaplain Wayne Wermager asked that anyone having any type of life crisis to contact him and he will keep them in Prayer.

Next meeting will be held on 20 July 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 2010 with a salute to the flag.

Respectfully submitted by:

R. D. Mandt
Secretary