

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Northern Warriors Chapter 941
16 November 2015
Biltmore/Kelly Inn 3800 Main Ave, Fargo, ND
1900 Hours**

Meeting was called to order by President Larry Nicholson

Pledge of allegiance

Moment of silence for POW'S and MIA'S

Prayer by Wayne Wermager

Members present: Bob Mandt, Ronn DuRand, Gary Arth, Steve Paradis, Steve Perreault, Richard Bailes, Bill Peterson, Lyn Birkeland, Larry Reed, Paul Hyndman, Joe Wallevand, James Gebhardt, Jim Haukedahl, Les Forman, Bob Miller, Russ Stabler, Mark Helfter, Don Norgren, Wayne Wermager, Larry Kessel. AVVA Hella Helfter, Ben Kessel. Guests Lauri Moreno, Mary Forman, Cindy Jones.

Introductions/Announcements:

Members and guests went around the room with introductions.

Approval of the agenda:

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

Approval of the Minutes:

One correction to note, add Larry Nicholson on page 3 under those who attended Discovery school.

A motion to approve the corrected minutes was made by Larry Reed, second by Russ Stabler. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report.

Beginning Balance		\$15,713.17
Deposits	Donation – MSUM Football	\$ 260.00
	Donations/Sales VVA	\$ 296.00
Total Deposits		\$ 556.00
Expenditures	AVVA - #1543	\$ 400.00
	VVA - #1544	\$ 20.00
	Sportland - #1548	\$ 70.00
	Larry Nicholson - #1550	\$ 175.05
	Casino Nite - #1551	\$ 57.98
	Artco – Flag Pins - #1552	\$ 276.17
	Artco – Buttons - #1553	\$ 369.68
	David B. – Postage/Floral Ink/Card - #1554	\$ 499.22
	David B. – Candy/Bins - #1555	\$ 159.57
	Ron D. – Caps - #1556	\$ 67.45
	Ron D. – Caps/VVA Logo - #1557	\$ 241.88
	Checks Ordered	\$ 40.00
Total Expenditures		\$ 2,377.60
Interest Earned	Gate City Bank	\$ 0.13
Ending Balance		\$13,891.70

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Les Forman, second by Russ Stabler. Motion carried.

Membership Report:

VVA	82	
Life paid in Full	131	
Total	217	
Inactive last 90 days	9	
Transfer out	1	
AVVA		48
Life Paid in Full	6	
Total	54	
Inactive within Last 90 Days		11
VVA Active	217	
AVVA Active	54	
Total	271	

Motion to accept the Membership Report was made by Ronn DuRand, second by Gary Arth. Motion carried

Public Affairs Report:

Chair Les Forman reported during VAVS Meeting held on November 16th VA is looking for Veteran groups to sponsor inpatient/outpatient Veteran outings. Due to government not allowing staff to have petty cash and some activities do not accept credit cards.

---In May Red, Blue and Gold teams are moving to their new facility at the New Addition of the VA.

---Lab will be moving within the hospital.

---Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Prosthetic Therapy will then move in to the old Lab location.

---Community Living Center will be moving to the New Addition in about one year.

---Chaplin Services are looking for donations for Native American Veterans for a Sweat Lodge on one reservation (to be determined) in North Dakota or Minnesota.

---Two types of Volunteers were identified.

1. Those who are fully Vetted (fingerprints etc.) these are people who may be left alone with patients.

2. Second type of volunteers are those who assist staff with things like our Blackjack night.

---There are 501 volunteers at the Fargo VA contributing to about 34,000 volunteer Hours and a impact of about 1.2 million dollars.

---There has been \$283,000.00 in donations that have been received from volunteers and various Veteran organizations.

---VA Christmas Party for patients will be December 14th and they are in need of help.

---Next VAVS meeting scheduled for January 11th 2016.

A motion to approve the VAVS Report was made by Ronn DuRand, second by Jim Haukedahl. Motion carried.

Color Guard Report:

Color Guard Commander Russ Stabler reported VVA 941 participated in the following events.

November	4 th	Vet's day meal at Super Buffet
November	7 th	MSUM Football Game/Veteran appreciation
November	7 th	MSUM Volleyball Game
November	11 th	Veterans Memorial Bridge Ceremony
November	11 th	Veterans Day Parade
November	11 th	Veteran's Coffee Hour at Fargo Air Museum.
November	11 th	Veteran's Day ceremony at Memorial Arena
November	11 th	Villia Maria nursing home
November	11 th	Riverview Nursing Home
November	11 th	Bethany Nursing home on 42 nd
November	16 th	VVA 941 Chapter meeting

Upcoming events:

November	17 th	MSUM Basket Ball Game	Show	Start
			1830	1900

November	18 th	Blackjack at VA	1830	1900
November	19 th	MSUM Women's Basketball Game	1730	1800
November	24 th	MSUM Women's Basketball Game	1730	1800
November	24 th	MSUM Men's Basketball Game	1930	2000
December	1 st	MSUM Men's Basketball Game	1830	1900
December	4 th	MSUM Wrestling	1530	1600
December	5 th	MSUM Dragon Open Wrestling	0830	0900
December	7 th	MSUM Men's Basketball Game	1830	1900
December	11 th	MSUM Women's Basketball Game	1730	1800
December	11 th	MSUM Men's Basketball Game	1930	2000
December	12 th	MSUM Women's Basketball Game	1330	1600
December	12 th	MSUM Men's Basketball Game	1730	1800
December	20 th	MSUM Men's Basketball Game	1430	1500
December	21 ^s	VVA 941 Chapter Monthly Meeting		1900
December	23d	VA Blackjack Night	1830	1900

A motion to accept Color Guard Report was made by Ronn DuRand, second by Les Forman. Motion carried.

New Business:

Correspondence:

A sympathy card was sent along with flowers to Wayne Ellefson's family on the loss of Wayne's wife Brenda.

A petition has been started at NDSU to improve service or replace sevice officer

Dan Thorstad Veterans Affairs Service Officer has a car that has been donated for a Veteran in need of a car.

Nancy Gustafson- VA Move Program gave chapter a lesson on nutrition. It covered pre Diabetes , and Diabetes guidelines in exercise and meal planning.

Andrew Lavallie:

Member Bill Peterson brought it to the attention of the chapter that Andrew Lavallie a Native American from Belcourt ND, Vietnam Veteran and a member of th 7th Cav. Under LT COL Hal Moore at landing zone Xray Ia Drang Valley in 1964. Andrew sister had heard of what our chapter had done for the USS Block Island and wondered if thire was anything we could do to honor her brother who passed away at 68 in 2009. Bill made a motion to pursue a ceremony by which we could award Andrew LAVallie family some form of distinction from the Vietnam Veterans of America. The motion was tabled for the time being until chapter had time to pursue idea's as to what we could do.

Lapel Pins/Buttons/Cups:

Items have all been receive and are available by contacting Dave Brunsvold. All VVA 941 members are entitled to one free VVA pin.

Veterans coffee hour schedule for the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 1000 to 1200 at the Fargo Air Museum.

Stocking caps have been purchased for Color Guard members and will become available after the insignias are sewn on.

Les Forman put on a slide show of his recent trip to Vietnam

Decorum:

Reminder of behavior when in meeting or in public to represent chapter.

Sickness and Health:

Anyone who knows of someone or they themselves need prayer or support please contact Wayne Wermager, chapter Chaplain.

Next meeting to be held December 21st 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 2020 with a salute to the flag.

Respectfully submitted by:

R. D. Mandt
Secretary