

**Vietnam Veterans of America  
Northern Warriors Chapter 941  
19 October 2015  
Biltmore/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 Russ Stabler

Members present: Les Forman, Russ Stabler, Bob Mandt, Paul Hyndman, Larry Kessel, Les Bakke, Tom Picard, Steve Paradis, Wayne Ellefson, Gordon Bahner, Gary Arth, Bill Peterson, Lyn Birkeland, Mark Helfter, : AVVA Members Hella Helfter. Guests: Sari Sandberg, Donna Myhrer.

Introductions/Announcements

Members and guests went around the room with introductions.

**Approval of agenda:**

Motion to approve agenda was made by Les Forman, second by Russ Stabler. Motion carried.

**Approval of the Minutes:**

Correction noted typo on third page, lifetime membership fee should be \$ 100.00 instead of 4100.00

A motion to accept the corrected minutes was made by Russ Stabler, second by Les Forman. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer David Brunsvold reported:

Beginning Balance		\$16,085.37
Deposits		\$ 298.00
Total Deposits		\$ 298.00
Expenditures	Casino Night #1541	\$ 57.98
	Wreaths #1542	\$ 322.50
	Bob Mandt #1545	\$ 11.05
	Larry Nicholson #1546	\$ 177.21
	David Brunsvold #1547	\$ 101.59
Total Expenditures		\$ 670.33
Interest Earned	Gate City Bank	\$ .13
Ending Balance		\$15,713.17

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

**Membership Report:**

Chair Russ Stabler reported the following stats.

VVA		
	Individual	88
	Life	127
	Total Active	219
Inactive within last 90 days		7
Transferred out		1
AVVA		
	Individual	53
	Life	6
	Total Active	59
Inactive within last 90 days		6
Totals		
	VVA Active	219
	AVVA Active	53
	Total	272
	VVA Inactive	7
	AVVA Inactive	6
	Total	13

A motion to accept the Membership Report was made by Bob Mandt, second by Steve Paradis. Motion carried

**Public Affairs Report:**

Chair Les Forman reported Black Jack Night at the VA will be held this Wednesday 21 October at 1900. Chapter had a large presence at MSUM on Saturday 17 October for their Home Coming. Chapter served brats, marched in the Homecoming Parade, and presented Colors before the football game.

Les also reported chapter 941 has volunteered a total of 366 Hours at the VA this year to date.

Motion to accept the Public Affairs Report was made by Russ Stabler, second by Bob Mandt. Motion carried.

**Color Guard Report:**

Commander Russ Stabler reported the following.

Events Attended

September	3 d	MSUM Football Game
September	11 <sup>th</sup>	Sept 11 <sup>th</sup> on the Memorial Bridge
September	16 <sup>th</sup>	VA Blackjack Night
September	17 <sup>th</sup>	Cruise Night West Fargo
September	18 <sup>th</sup>	POW/MIA Day on the Memorial Bridge
September	19 <sup>th</sup>	MSUM Football Game
September	19 <sup>th</sup>	MSUM Volleyball Game

**Upcoming Events:**

		Show	Start	
September	22 <sup>nd</sup>	MSUM Volleyball Game	1830	1900
September	25 <sup>th</sup>	MSUM Volleyball Game	1830	1900
September	26 <sup>th</sup>	MSUM Volleyball Game	1530	1600
October	3 <sup>d</sup>	MSUM Football Game	1330	1400
October	16 <sup>th</sup>	MSUM Volleyball Game	1830	1900
October	17 <sup>th</sup>	MSUM Homecoming Parade	1000	1100
October	17 <sup>th</sup>	MSUM Football Game	1330	1400
October	17 <sup>th</sup>	MSUM Volleyball Game	1630	1700
October	19 <sup>th</sup>	VVA Monthly Meeting	1900	
October	21 <sup>st</sup>	VA Blackjack	1900	
October	30 <sup>th</sup>	MSUM Volleyball Game	1830	1900
October	31 <sup>st</sup>	MSUM Volleyball Game	1530	1600

Motion to approve the Color Guard Report was made by Wayne Ellefson, second by Steve Paradis. Motion carried.

**Legislative Report:**

Chair Russ Stabler reported on VETS being upset at Pledge Of Allegiance that was put on VVA National Calendar because it left off "Under God" from the text. Russ explained that the national committee choose to use the original Pledge of Allegiance rather than the revised version that contained the words "Under God". This was not intended to be a politically correct statement.

**Finance Committee (Budgeting):**

President Nicholson asked Budget Committee to turn in budget guidelines for the next fiscal year.

**National POW/MIA day September 18<sup>th</sup>:**

VVA 941 participated in ceremony honoring POW/MIAs On Veterans Memorial Bridge on 18 Sept at 0900.

**Decorum:**

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

**Lapel Pins/Buttons, Cups status:**

All have been ordered, members will receive free chapter pin. Shirts and sweat shirts also ordered (shirts \$10.00 to \$12.00 sweats \$25.00 to \$30.00).

**Discovery Middle School:**

Five chapter members spoke at Discovery Middle School on Thursday September 24<sup>th</sup> about their experiences in Vietnam. Members present were Joe Wallevand, Jan Jorgenson, David Brunsvold, and Bob Mandt.

**Halloween:**

Chapter to distribute candy to children on Halloween, 1500 to 1900, at Moorhead Center Mall.

**Book/Author:**

Guest and author Donna Myhrer was introduced to the chapter. Donna has written a book of poems entitled "Tangle Foot" describing life with a Veteran who has PTSD. She read several examples from the book to the chapter to help promote the book. Donna has decided to donate all royalties from her book sales to VVA 941 and presented President Larry Nicholson with her first check for \$100.00.

Sickness and Health:

Please keep the following chapter members in your thoughts and prayers. Wayne Ellefson family at the loss of their wife and mother, and Larry Kessel family as Larry's wife Jean is bravely fighting cancer. Anyone who knows of anyone else that needs our help please contact Wayne Wermager our chapter Chaplain.

Next meeting to be held November 16<sup>th</sup> 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 1945 with a salute to the flag.

Respectfully submitted by:

R. D. Mandt  
Secretary