

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Northern Warriors Chapter 941
18 July 2016
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 VA Chaplain Jack Klugh

Members Present: Bob Mandt, David Brunsvold, Les Forman, Steve Paradis, Joe Wallevand, Tom Picard, Bill Peterson, Ed Ahonen, D.J. Gurerrero, Duke Johnson, Gary Arth, James Gebhardt, Mark Helfter, Allen Bosch, BobDavis, Larry Reed, Larry Kessel, Larry Nicholson. AVVA Hela Helfter, Wayne Possehl. Visitors Angela Smith, Christine Weber, Jack Klugh.

Introductions/Announcements:

Members and guests went around the room with introductions.

Visitors Angela Smith and Christine Weber were introduced. They are putting together a collection of stories regarding Veteran and their families' experiences during the Vietnam War. They are looking for volunteers to come forward and make recordings that will be stored at the NDSU Archives for the future. Anyone interested can call Angela or Christine at 615-513-6324.

Approval of the Agenda:

A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Jim Gebhardt, second by Larry Reed. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes:

A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Larry Reed, second by Les Forman. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer David Brunsvold reported:

Beginning Balance		\$14,788.67
Deposits	5K/10K Registrations	\$ 1,525.00
	Membership – Thomas	\$ 150.00
	Sales/Donations	\$ 141.00
	MSUM Fireworks	\$ 1,127.00
Total Deposits		\$ 2,943.00
Expenditures	AVVA - #1606	\$ 80.00
	Sportland - #1609	\$ 75.00
	DAV – Caps - #1610	\$ 70.00
	AVVA – Warreb - #1611	\$ 50.00
	Hornbachers – Casino Nite - #1612	\$ 57.98
	VVA – Gruchalla - #1613	\$ 100.00
	Clay County Public Health - #1614	\$ 50.00
	WDAY – Advertising Radio - #1615	\$ 150.00
	L. Nicholson – Stamps/copies	\$ 125.26

	VVA – Thomas - #1617	\$ 100.00
	Pepsi – MSUM - #1619	\$ 393.75
	Dean’s Foods – MSUM - #1620	\$ 322.72
	Copy Mac – 5K/10K - #1621	\$ 24.24
	COSTCO – MSUM - #1622	\$ 429.48
	Hornbachers – 5K/10K - #1623	\$ 773.35
	D. Brunsvold – MSUM Copies - #1624	\$ 57.55
Total Expenditures		\$ 2,859.33
Interest Earned		\$ 0.12
Ending Balance		\$14,872.46

A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report was made by Larry Reed, second by Les Forman. Motion carried.

Public Affairs Report:

Chair Les Forman reported 15 of our members have volunteered a total of 540 hours for the VA as of July 12th. Honor Escorts have had 3 escorts this month so far. Family members really appreciate this service.

A motion to approve the Public Affairs Report was made by Bob Mandt, second by Larry Reed. Motion carried.

Membership Report:

Chair Russ Stabler was not in attendance. Last month numbers were:

VVA	242
AVVA	58
Total	300

Color Guard Report, Legislative Report both National and State were not given.

Air Museum Coffee for Veterans will be held 2nd Wednesday of the month beginning at 1000. Next month it will be the 10th of August.

Bill Peterson: Member Bill Peterson requested our Color Guard participate in a Pow - Wow on September 3d at Belcourt North Dakota to honor Andrew LaVallie who served under LT COL Hal Moore, 7th Cavalry at Ia Drang Valley Nov 1965, in the battle that spun the movie We Were Soldiers. Wayne Ellefson made a motion Larry Reed second to purchase a plaque for \$85.00 to present to the La Vallie family. It was decided Color Guard would present colors during the event.

VA Chaplain: Guest Chaplain Jack Klugh gave chapter a talk on Moral Injury. Va Fargo has 6 group sessions a year to deal with Moral Injury. Moral Injury is when orders from a higher source violates one’s core beliefs. Moral Injury can be healed by sharing one’s experiences.

Mamber Les Forman brought up donations for the good of Veterans. Chapter financial bottom line is such that we should be thinking of charitable organizations we could be donating money to. Several recommendations wer made (Gladys Ray Shelter, VA Rec Fund, and Service Dogs of America) were mentioned. Any other ideas should be passed on to the donation committee for recommendation.

5K/10K review: VVA 941 5K/10K run held on July 4th was a success although numbers were down from last year (115 runners). A big thank you was given for Mark and Sue Knutson of GO FAR EVENTS for all their help in putting on our race and for all the other things they do for our chapter thorough the year. Two current sponsors O’Kellys and GO FAR. We are going to search for others as soon as ground rules can be laid out.

Classic Car/Bike Night was held July 14th with light attendance due to weather. Next car night will be held August 11th at Dilworth VFW. Member Duke Johnson brought up the idea of our chapter sponsoring a Bike Run sometime in the future. Duke was going to look into possibility and report back to group.

9/11 Event: ceremony will be held on Sunday the 11th of September this year. President Larry Nicholson asked group for a start time for these type of ceremonies that we could use as a standard to lesson confusion. It was decided that 0930 would be the best.

Member Ed Ahonen brought up information given a VVA State meeting in Mayville on 9 July. Agent Orange application forms for children and grandchildren VA Form 21-0304. Make sure to sign up for the kids' sake. He also brought up the importance of being screened for Hepatitis C.

Anyone who is in need of our prayers contact Wayne Wermager (Chapter Chaplain) at 701-212-5071 or wwermager@far.midco.net.

Next meeting will be held August 15th

Meeting adjourned at 2000 with a salute to the flag.

Respectfully submitted by:

R. D. Mandt
Secretary