

**WISCONSIN STATE COUNCIL  
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA**

**STATE COUNCIL MEETING  
Best Western Grand Seasons  
Waupaca, WI**

**MINUTES**

**December 6, 2008**

Karen called the Convention Planning Committee to Order at 10:00 a.m. on December 6, 2008. The dates for the 2009 State Convention are September 18 – 20, 2009 and will be at the Holiday Inn in Rothschild. We are going to invite the Veterans of Modern Warfare to join us next year. The theme for the convention is “WHO WE ARE AND WHAT DO WE DO”. We will again have a Legislative panel, and a CVSO panel. Dr. Tom Berger has been invited to provide the most recent information available on PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

John Margowski will again be the moderator for the panel discussions. Clif will chair the Legislative Panel.

**Future VVA Meetings (please mark your calendars):**

March 7, 2009	Best Western Grand Seasons Waupaca
June 20, 2009	The HighGround (Neillsville)
Sep 18-20, 2009	Holiday Inn Rothschild
Dec 5, 2009	Best Western Grand Seasons Waupaca

Meeting was Adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

President Demske called the **State Council Meeting to order** at 12:05 p.m. on December 6, 2008. The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited, followed by a **Moment of Silence**.

The President did the **Roll Call of Chapters and Officers** there was a quorum of eligible chapters present. Chapters present: 5, 220 324, 351, 425, 437, 448, 479, 529, 731, 767.

There was no action for **Reinstatement of Suspended Chapters**.

The **Parliamentarian (John Margowski)** and **Timekeeper (Tom Hoffman)** were appointed.

A motion for the **Approval of Minutes** of the September State Council Meeting, as submitted were approved. The **Agenda** was approved.

The President gave his **Report**. The Veterans Collectable would be closing down at the end of the year and we will now use Medals of America for our shirts, pins, etc. Everything at Veterans Collectable will be 50% off. In the future the National Office will be moving to a new location – only several blocks away from their present site, this will be a better office layout and they will have a office for Veteran Service, so they can help people right off the street. Disabled Veterans are eligible for a free State Part/Forest/Trail Pass. You must be 70% disabled or a POW. There are forms at your CVSO office and they can help you fill it out. Marv Freedman, Jim Mayr, Steve House and myself presented a plaque to Governor Doyle for all that he has done to keep the veterans issues in the state budget. May 21 -23, 2010 there will be a big Welcome Home for Vietnam Veterans program – more information to follow.

Jim Mayr gave a Vice President's Report. He advised that Marv Freedman and himself presented a State Council Commendation Medal to the Governor for all that he has done for veterans. He also reported on a group called Operation Home Front who helps deployed military and their families.

The President read a Thank You Card from Barb Margowski who we honored for her teaching about Vietnam in her school.

Mr. Sorenson's Legislative Advocacy & Government Affairs Report was available at the registration table and read by all.

Pat gave the **AVVA Report** – she reported that she is on the Finance Committee, and she will be monitoring their activities.

John Margowski gave a report on the Council on Veterans Programs, which he was elected to chair. He talked about a chance that there may be an end to VA Health Care for Category 6 Agent Orange exposure. He reported about ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease) is now a presumptive for all service members.

John Kusko gave an update on the Dry Hootch in Milwaukee, the Green House project at the V.A. Hospital and the Vision Quest June 2- 4, 2009 at High Ground.

Karen gave **Fall Convention Report**.

George had submitted a written **Membership Report**.

Richard Linbeck gave a report on Indian Summer held in Milwaukee. Dick had manned a table and distributed a lot of material about VVA and Health Issues along with the Agent Orange Survey.

**Regional Director Reports** were given.

**Chapter Reports** were given.

2009 National Convention will be in Louisville, Kentucky; 2011 National Convention will be in Reno, Nevada.

Treasurer Beeman gave **Treasurer's Report**.

**Old Business** – any other groups wishing to do opening ceremonies for the 2009 Convention please contact the Convention Planning Committee.

**New Business** –

*Update your e-mail addresses with Secretary Sorenson – especially if you are not receiving regular e-mailings from him [clifs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:clifs@sbcglobal.net).*

**Meeting Adjourned** at 2:30 p.m. because a certain individual was unable to attend.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Clif*

Clif Sorenson, Secretary  
Vietnam Veterans of America  
Wisconsin State Council