

**WISCONSIN STATE COUNCIL
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA**

STATE COUNCIL MEETING

The HighGround

Neillsville, WI

June 20, 2009

MINUTES

The meeting was **called to order** by President Demske at 12:00 p.m.

Roll call of officers: President Demske, Treasurer Beeman, VP excused.
Secretary excused.

Roll call of Chapters: 5(1),92(0),101(1),114(0),115(0)206(+),220(+),221(0),
224(0),234(0),236(0),256(0),324(1),331(0),351(0),409(0),414(0),425(3),437(1),44
8(2),462(0),479(2),529(0)549(0),618(0),635(1),729(0)731(3),737(4),767(0),768(0
) ,921(0).

Parliamentarian – John Margowski; **Time Keeper** – Richard Lindbeck

The **agenda was approved**. Motion by: **Margowski**; **Second by Cannon**.

Report on the Highground: 4000 KIA in Iraq/Afghanistan. Tom Miller rode a bicycle 1244 miles to represent the Vietnam KIA from Wisconsin. Tom Kingsbury will be replicating the original ride that will end at the Highground on August 9, 2009. Governor Doyle has been invited but no response as yet.

President Demske reported the National Office will be moving to a new location after the National Convention.

The State Budget is going through review and will be on the Governor's desk by July 1. It should be signed by the end of July.

The furlough program affects the WDVA and will have a major affect on the Veterans Programs.

Steve House reported that the Veterans Trust Fund in not in the budget

The National Convention is in Louisville, KY and President Demske has two tables reserved for the banquet. He needs eight more in order to reserve a third table. If interested contact Demske.

The Convention hotel is full; arrangements have been made with another close by at the same rate.

Next year is election of State Officers.

AVVA – Pat Furno. She reported on the April meeting. AVVA is close to being recognized as a Veterans Organization. They can then handle vet cases.

Pat advised if anyone is interested in becoming a Service Rep to contact her.

The AVVA Leadership conference is in Louisville during the VVA National Convention.

John Margowski reported on the Veteran highway signs that are in disrepair. The State will be moving the signs to the waysides.

Motion: John Margowski to the State Council to pay for signing. The signs run about \$2400. Seconded. Carried.

John Margowski reported that he will be retiring on August 28, 2009. He would like to continue as Service Rep for the State Council. He will attend the next CVSO meeting and would like the State Council to consider his request.

The WVF logo contest is still open. The foundation is to assist VN vets and returning vets from OEF/OIF. Contacting employers to inform them of needs of returning vets going to VA appointments.

Joy Foye reported on the scholarship. 36 applications. Two have confirmed they will attend the State Convention in September.

New Forms are not available for the next year's scholarships.

The Dryhootch is going to be at Louisville for the National Convention. Also they have received approval to work on the building.

President Demske reported the State Convention will be Sept.18-20, 2009 in Rothschild. (Same as Last Year). Contact vets from Iraq/Afghanistan and invite them to the convention. There will be no cost for the convention. Those attending must share a room with another member, unless bringing their spouse. If the spouse is an AVVA member no cost otherwise the room will be ½ of the rate.

Motion: Use no more than ½ of the savings for the State Convention as needed. John Margowski. Seconded-Pat Craney Carried.

Chapter reports: Send to Clif.

Treasurer's Report; Kent Beeman handed out the report.

John Margowski reported that Veterans Files for Claims are stored in his office. Once he retires they need to be moved. Pat Craney advised they could be moved to his office.

Motion: Veteran Claims Files to be located at Pat Craney's Office. Carried without objection.

New Business: Pat Furno reported on the Honor Flight program. Richard Lindbeck gave a report on the Honor Flight, as he was a Guardian for the Flight in April. This is an outstanding program and needs support to continue.

Motion: The Wisconsin State Council donate \$500 to the Honor Flight. John Margowski. Seconded by Roger. Carried.

Motion to Adjourn. Richard Lindbeck/Seconded George Gauthier. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

The annual State Council picnic followed and great food was prepared. All had a great time.

Respectfully submitted:

Clif Sorenson, Secretary (with the help of Mr. Lindbeck)
Vietnam Veterans of America
State Council of Wisconsin