

Vietnam Veterans of America

Chapter 1140

May 8, 2023 Minutes

Call to Order at 5:30pm

Opening Prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of officers and Board: All present except Spencer Davis excused

President – Rich Krejsa

Vice President – Max Hixon

Secretary – Michael Moody

Treasurer – Gregg Conroy

Board Members – Spencer Davis, John Mills, Bob Baze, Bill Robinson, Rich Schonfeld

Welcome of newcomers: Robert Green, David McNabb, Bruce Simpson, Dave Warkaf – all US Army

Review and approval of prior meeting minutes: Motion made, seconded and minutes were approved.

Officers Reports

Secretary Report: 132 members

Treasurer Report : VVA Chapter at \$10,933.41 and Mid-TN 501C3 at \$15,108.10 in checking + \$50,396.09 in Money Market

Unfinished Business

- **Color/Honor Guard** – Due to lack of interest in heading this up and cost involved, the Board tabled this for the time being.
- **Survivor Benefits Seminar** – Saturday, April 22, 10:00-12:00 was held with approximately 20 attendees
- **Franklin Main Street Festival** – April 22-23 We manned a booth both days, handed out literature on VVA, collected approx. \$800 in donations.

New Business

- **Quilts of Valor** – Pat McMahon is here to present quilts: Pat brought a quilt for Robin Hood but he was not present.
- **Tonight's Speaker** – Robert Million, Dir Mid-TN State Veterans Cemetery. McCrory Lane: Excellent presentation about the cemetery.

Events / Fundraisers:

- **Visit patients at Tennessee State Veterans Home – Murfreesboro.** May 9, **Sign-up sheet available**
- **First Friday (Columbia)** – Friday, May 5 – Gregg and Morley manned a table and handed out literature on VVA
- **JROTC Medal Presentation** – May 9, 08:30, Dickson County HS (Rick)
- **JROTC Medal Presentation** – May 12, 7PM, Ravenwood HS. (Rick)
- **Franklin Rodeo** – May 18-20, we will setup at 3pm on May 18 and man booth Thurs – Sat. from 5-10pm daily. We will take down display Sat night at 10pm. Bring ear protection. **Sign-up sheet available**
- **Memorial Day Flag placement and removal**
 - Friday, May 26 – 9:30 - 608 Mt. Hope Street, Franklin - **Sign-up sheet available**
 - Tuesday, May 30 – 9:30 - 608 Mt. Hope Street, Franklin - **Sign-up sheet available**
- **Memorial Day** – Monday, May 29 at WC Archives - **Sign-up sheet available**
- **Survivor Benefits Seminar** – Friday, June 9, 2-4PM, Memorial Bldg., 308 W. 7th Columbia
- **Franklin on the Fourth** – Tuesday, July 4, 7:30-8AM setup, 10AM-8PM
- **Help Veteran Move** – Friday, July 14, 9:30AM, 702 Magnolia Drive, Franklin, 37064 (Sam Whitson email)
- **Toxic Exposure Town Hall** – Saturday, July 15, 10AM-2PM at Franklin Community of Faith Church, 506 Jordan Rd, Franklin – Independence HS JROTC assisting.
- **Third Annual Veterans Car Show** – Saturday, July 29 - Members of the Independence HS JROTC assisting. **(Save the Date)**
- **Williamson County Fair** – Saturday, August 12. **(Save the Date)** They are seeking Hometown Heroes nominations. Nomination forms available.
- **Vietnam Veterans of America National Convention** – August 8-12, Orlando, FL – Rich and 3 board members planning to attend
- **Franklin Veterans Day Parade** – Friday, **November 10 - (Save the Date)**

Chapter Committees Reports:

We need people to step up and help on these committees. If interested, contact the members listed below.

- **Membership (Spencer Davis) 132 members**
- **Communications (Gregg Conroy)** – Joe Diaz & Don Caldwell assisting Gregg

- **Events / Fundraising (Bill Robinson)**
 - Suggested that volunteers at fundraisers bring photos of themselves back then to display at the event.
- **Programs / Speakers (Mike Moody) – Speakers scheduled through July**
- **Awards (Rich Krejsa)**

Future Speakers:

- **June 12** – April Kiser – Habitat for Humanity
- **July 10** – Jeff Upton – Executive Director We Are Building Lives / No Veteran Left Behind
- **August 14** – TBD (possibly report from VVA convention)
- **Dec 11 at 11AM** – Sam Whitson donated \$500 toward food for meeting at Willis Johnson's

Inside the Chapter:

- **Quilts of Valor:** Remember – if you would like a quilt, you have to come to our monthly meetings. **Sign-up sheet available**
- **“Reflection” poster available**
- **Wartime Vietnam Maps** – Compliments of Tennessee State Council and VVA National.
- **Embroidered Caps** – Morley Levine – Board will discuss next meeting
- Once again, we have 15 oz. mugs (logo on both sides) which you can have for a donation of \$10 or more.
- We can order embroidered shirts with our Chapter info and the VVA logo. The shirts can be ordered with or without your name for a donation of \$35 or more.

Meetings:

- Our next scheduled membership meeting is set for **Monday, June 12, 2023, at 5:30** at the Williamson County Enrichment Center.
- The next scheduled Board meeting is on **Wednesday, May 17, 2023**, at 1:30 upstairs at the Williamson County Enrichment Center. Members are always welcome to attend and silently observe the board meetings.

Anything else for the good for the order?

- Dawn Bolton has information on Medicare
- Ron Bottomley advised attendees of other Memorial Day events

Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm

Respectfully submitted, Michael Moody, Secretary