

WISCONSIN STATE COUNCIL
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
STATE COUNCIL MEETING
Best Western Grand Seasons Hotel
Waupaca, WI
March 6, 2010

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 2010

President Demske opened the meeting at 12:00 p.m. with the **Pledge of Allegiance** and a **Moment of Silence**.

Roll Call of Officers: President Demske, Treasurer Beeman, and Acting Secretary Lindbeck. Vice President and Secretary excused.

Roll Call of Chapters. A quorum was present

President Demske appointed the following:

Parliamentarian: John Margowski

Timekeeper: Jim Malarkey

The **agenda was approved** with amendments of the Dry Hootch, Report on the Foundation.

John reported the State Council has severed with the foundation. The Foundation hired a telemarket firm to raise funds. Also we ceased publishing the Badger Veteran. With the current funding the State Council will have enough money to operate approximately 1 and a half years. We need to find a way to continue to operate.

Pat Craney reported to remind all chapters to fill out a 990E for taxes if your chapter earned less than \$25,000. It must be filled out or you could lose your tax free status.

Pat Craney presented the proposed budget and several items were eliminated or reduced so we can operate with the current funds. Pat will be looking for committee members to review the budget and will look for ways to trim it more.

Motion: Accept the budget as amended with review to be conducted at the June 19, 2010 meeting for any revisions. Motion by Dave Neisen, seconded by George Gottier. Motion Carried.

Bob Curry gave a presentation on the Dry Hootch. They have a building on Brady Street in Milwaukee. Steinhaf's furniture donated \$10,000 in furniture. The Dry Hootch is working on a place in Waukesha, Madison, LaCrosse, Wausau, and the Fox Valley. This is a continuing work in progress.

At the Milwaukee Summit last year the Dry Hootch was the only organization to be invited by the National Guard to speak with returning vets from the Iraq and Afghanistan. They also have been working with the Department of Corrections to work within the institutions.

Manuel Morel (Manny) an Iraq vet spoke about what Vietnam Vets meant to him when he returned and assisted him in getting help.

Presidents Report:

President Demske gave a report on LZ Lambeau and what is needed. There will be tiles for sale with the name of a deceased veteran that will be installed on the wall of Lambeau. Cost of the tile was \$250, but will be selling for \$100. For more information contact Mike.

No alcohol (beer or liquor), food, liquids, knives, clubs, sticks, etc. will be permitted into Lambeau. They will be confiscated and destroyed. You cannot pick them up later. Food and beverages will be sold at Lambeau.

The motorcycle ride will begin at LaCrosse with 1244 motorcycles (the number of WI veterans lost in VN) they will be picking up more along the route. Stopping at Appleton then going to Lambeau.

There will be several aircraft at Ausitn Straubel Airport on display. At Lambeau there will be a motor pool with 22 vehicles from Vietnam on display. Currently they are working with the FAA to get permission for two Hueys to land at Lambeau. The committee is looking for someone that has or was assigned to a gun truck.

There will be a stage set up with a USO type show during the day. Inside Lambeau there will be a museum set up with photos and art. Also items from the Veterans Museum in Madison will be bringing items from VN.

There will be shuttles to the airport and around Lambeau.

Saturday Lambeau will open at 9AM with the show beginning at 7:30PM. No one will be allowed on the play field. Parking could be a problem since most of the east side of Lambeau will have the motor pool and displays.

The Canadian Vietnam Veterans Wall is also coming and will be set up inside Lambeau. Some 30,000 Canadians served in the US Forces during Vietnam.

Correspondence: Senator Feingold sent a letter to the State Council thanking them for the award he was presented as Legislator of the Year.

John Margowski reported on the Council of Veteran Programs and why the SC voted not to pass the bills. AB752 was to divide the state into districts in an attempt to get better geographical representation on the board. The way it was written it implied that all veterans were not represented. Appointed Board members do in fact represent all veterans and their interests. There is a hearing scheduled March 9th in Madison and John will attend.

SB397: \$12,600,000 to be put in for the next three years. No guidelines on how the funds were to be disbursed. SC also voted no on this item since it did not identify specific needs.

Convention: Karen Seipel: Reported on the State Convention in Pewaukee on September 10-12, 2010. The opening ceremony will be on Friday evening. The Saturday session will have a short program in the morning to welcome vets and housekeeping.

Clif will contact people for the legislative panel.

A full program is scheduled for the convention. More information will be available at the State Council meeting at the Highground June 19, 2010.

Greg Foye presented a plaque to the State Council for the donation to the Highground. Greg then had a presentation on the Highground and the new building that was purchased. It will become a learning center.

The parking lot was repaved and the road to the POW WOW Grounds has also been paved.

AVVA: Pat Furno: The AVVA budget has passed. The training that was scheduled in Washington DC was postponed due to the 24 inches of snow. It will be reset but not know when at this time.

The Leadership Convention will be in Orlando, FL August 2010. New bylaw changes are being set.

Public Relations: Jim Malarky: Currently he has 25 press released for TV and Radio for the convention.

Membership: George Gottier: Currently there are 1889 VVA members statewide and 262 AVVA.

Elections are in June at the Highground. At this time Richard Lindbeck has put his name for State Council President. Kent Beeman for State Treasurer. He has not heard from VP or Secretary. If interested get in touch with George.

Treasurers Report: Kent Beeman: He presented the financial report and it was accepted.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Next meeting: The Highground-June 19,2010.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clif Sorenson, Secretary

Vietnam Veterans of America

Wisconsin State Council

With help from Acting Secretary Lindbeck

**ALL VETERANS WHO SERVED DURING THE
VIETNAM WAR BE AT
LZ LAMBEAU GREEN BAY - MAY 21-23, 2010**