

Timber Greens Veterans Group
Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2017

Time: 9:00 am Card Room

TGVG Officers: Tom Clements, President

Tom Knight, Vice president

Don Andriuzzo, Treasurer

Gary Hunt, Secretary

Members Present: Bob Bertram, Dan Crawford, Paul Stepkoski, Charlie Ditta, Dennis Donegan, Ronnie Guy, Mary Loeffler, Bob Fling, Ernie Wartenberg

Meeting Agenda

1. Pledge of allegiance: Tom Clements
2. Report of POW/MIA Accountings: Gary Hunt
 - a. Eleven MIA/KIA Veterans were recovered and returned home during the period from 10/5/2017 thru 10/25/2017.
3. Secretary's Report: Gary Hunt
 - a. The minutes from 9/29/2017 were sent to all members by email. No recorded omissions or mistakes were reported and the minutes were accepted without further discussion.
4. Treasurer's Report: Don Andriuzzo
 - a. Our Columbus Day POW/MIA recognition day picnic was not only a Veterans/Spouse and Veterans Widow social success, it almost doubled our membership that now stands at 41, up from 23. This represents 24% of our resident Vets and Widows of Vets. We brought \$380.00 into our Treasury that now stands at \$1,328.84.
5. President's announcements: (Tom Clements)
 - a. Tom read a letter of thanks from Kathy Karamitsos, HPH Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, regarding TGVG's involvement in the recent Stand Down for Homeless and at-risk Veterans held at Safety Town this past September. Over 200 ponchos were donated from the Timber Greens Community.
 - b. The number of veterans attending this week-end event was somewhat down from previous years but those who did participate received many wonderful services. Tom thanked the community for their generous support for this program.

Old Business

1. TGVG monogrammed shirts have arrived and were distributed to those who ordered them (\$35.00/shirt). More shirts can be ordered through Ronny Guy.
2. "Missing Man Table" (Bob Fling)
 - a. Gwynn Moore has finished modification of the table cloth and will now work on adjusting the POW/MIA chair-back cover for a better fit.
 - b. The Missing Man Table will be temporarily moved across the rotunda when the Christmas tree is decorated for Helping Hands
3. Veterans Day Golf Challenge (Tom Clements and Bob Fling)
 - a. Bob Fling contacted Affordable Golf Cart and they will sponsor a hole and provide a golf cart to be placed on a #2 tee box for the tournament.
 - b. Friendly KIA (John Gillis, President) will provide a new KIA to be placed on hole #10 tee box.
 - c. Tom Clements reports that 16 people from Heritage Springs have committed to play in the tournament; no commitments have been received by Seven Springs to date; 39 people have signed up from Timber Greens.
 - d. Tom Clements' son will operate the "Square" with a Smart Phone to register golfers at the tournament.
 - e. Volunteer Sign-up
 - i. Steve Perry and Tom Godbout have volunteered to place and then pick-up the Tee Box sponsor signs for the tournament.
 - ii. Charlie Ditta has volunteered to help check in golfers (**We still need one more to help Charlie**)
 - iii. **Two hole-in-one monitors will be needed to verify outcomes** (Bob Fling will check with Art Ohlerking to check his availability)
 - iv. **Still looking for two "at large" volunteers to fill in as needs develop.**
4. "K9 Partners for Patriots" scheduled for November 1st at 3:00 pm
 - a. Gary Hunt has prepared promotional materials for the Green Scene and weekly flyers
 - b. Those outside of Timber Greens invited to attend:
 - i. HPH hospice volunteers and staff
 - ii. Vet Center
 - iii. Bob Bertram Legion Post 79
 - iv. Don Andriuzzo friend VFW in Hudson

- v. Dianne Cratty and Meadowlawn Funeral Home and Memorial Gardens
 - vi. David Bear , VFW post in Hudson
 - vii. Veterans Alternative
- c. As of 11/27/17 approximately 80 people have signed up
 - d. Bob Bertram made a presentation to his Legion Post 79 and they voted to donate \$200.00 to “K9 Partners for Patriots”. Bob will present a check to Mary Peter, President and Founder of “K9 Partners for Patriots” after her presentation.
 - e. A flyer from “K9 Partners for Patriots” announced that people can donate \$25.00 gas cards to the program in order to help some of the veterans in need of gas money to allow them to make it to the weekly training sessions in Brooksville. **(SEE ATTACHMENT)** The TGVG members voted to give \$100.00 in gas cards along with a matching gift of \$100.00. These cards will be presented to Mary Peter at the end of the program
5. Veteran’s Picnic (October 9th)(Tom Clements)
- a. Great success with around 100 people attending.
 - b. Tom delivered thank you notes to those who donated food and supplies for the picnic. These were well received and some stated that they looked forward to help again in the future.
 - c. Tom encouraged members to support those businesses who contributed to the success of our picnic. **(Pit Boss Bar-B-Q, Johnny Brusco’s Pizzeria, Tijuana Flats, and Firehouse Subs**
6. Online ordering form PX is now operational. (Tom Clements)

New Business:

1. Elections for new TGVG officers will take place in January, 2018.
 - a. A nominating committee will be established to identify individuals to run for office. More information will be forthcoming.
 - b. An Installation of Officers Dinner will take place in February 2018. This will be at no cost to TGVG members. Additional guests of members will need to pay for their meals.
2. TG Military History Discussion Group Tuesday 11/28/17 in Card room; Topic Funny story or Celebrity story RSVP to Bob Huffaker 727-484-6628 or bobhuffaker09703@yahoo.com. **(SEE ATTACHMENT)**
3. Mozzini’s Pizzeria, 4464 Grand Blvd, New Port Richey 34652 is offering free meals to homeless veterans every Thursday. Anyone can donate money to Mozzini to help pay for these meals. Try out the place and see what you think. When you go in tell him or his wife Kim that you are from Timber Greens. They are great

people who are making a difference for our homeless veterans. **(SEE ATTACHMENT)**

4. Tom Clements made these announcements **(SEE 3 ATTACHMENTS)**
 - a. SmileFaith Veterans Community Dental Clinic, New Port Richey is having a grand opening 11/10/2017 at noon. It is located at 5400 School Rd., New Port Richey, 34652. For more information call 727-807-7958 or email: info@smilefaith.com. Visit www.smilefaith.org.
 - b. "The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall"
 - i. Opening ceremony for the Vietnam Traveling Wall takes place on Thursday, October 26 at 11:00 am. Exhibit will be open from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm daily from 10/26 thru 10/29. Veterans Memorial Park and Museum, 3602 Highway 301 North, Tampa, 33619.
 - c. Potential Blood Drive sponsored by TGVG. More information will become available in the future.

Next meeting is on Friday, December 8th at 9:00am in the Arts and Crafts Room

Adjournment 10:05 am

Respectfully submitted

Gary Hunt, Secretary TGVG