**Greater Houston Regional Group of the Blinded Veteran Association**

**Regular Meeting**

**DATE: March 4, 2017**

**TIME: 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**PLACE: ROOM 4C-122, 4th FLOOR - Green Elevators**

**VA MAIN HOSPITAL**

**AUXILIARY MEETING - 10:00 A.M.**

**Topics of Discussion**

* **Resort Scheduled Dates: October 20 - 22, 2017**
* **Installation of 2017 Officers - by Tom Zampieri/National Director - District 6**
* **2 Special Guest Speakers**
* **Baseball Tickets - 20 tickets @ $10 - June 29, 2017 Day Game @ 1:15 p.m.**

**Playing Oakland. You must call in to get on list. If you don't call in, you can't go. Money ($10) must be paid by May 6, 2017**

* **BVA Office New Location - VISOR Clinic Bldg. 108 - Room 202**

**For Claim(s) or inquiries, please contact the BVA Resource Center at 1-844-250-5180**

**E-mail: fieldservice@bva.org - FAX: 1-202-371-8258**

**Address: 125 N. West Street, 3rd Floor, Alexandria, VA 22314**

**Contact:**

**Charles Williams, President BVA - 832-808-3038**

**Walter Baker, Vice President - 713-791-1414 ext. 24958**

**Rufus Varner, Secretary - 281-770-3820**

**Lawrence Hooper, Treasurer - 832-528-1641**

**Jerry Meyers, Sgt-at-Arms - 409-790-1014**

**Jerome Ammons, Chaplin - 979-922-7544**

**John Lee, Public Relation Coordinator - 214-808-7063**

**Motto: “Blinded Veterans helping Blinded Veterans”**

**Greater Houston Regional Group of the Blinded Veterans Association**

**Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center**

**2002 Holcombe Boulevard**

**Houston, TX 77030**

**Room 4C-122, 4th Floor (Green Elevators)**

**March 4, 2017 - Minutes**

**Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:58 am by Jerry Meyers. Prayer was given by Jerome Ammons and the Pledge was led by Jerry Meyers.**

**Introductions: Charles Williams asked everyone to introduce themselves.**

**Raffle: Mr. Killion discussed the 50/50 raffle and to do it today.**

**Minutes: Prior to minutes, Charles Williams stated that Mrs. Binion is ill and her mother had her leg removed so can't come to meetings. The minutes were read by Pauletta Hooper, Lawrence Hooper moved the acceptance of minutes, Mr. Killion and Mr. Meyers seconded, minutes were approved.**

**Guest Speaker: Vince of the Sailing Angels discussed the Sailing Championship. He gave his background - sailing 60 yrs; 1992 Blinded Veterans World Sailing Championship; 17 countries were represented. The World Sailing Championship will be held in Houston. Program: to teach you to sail and will provide others to help to sail on a 22 ft. boat. There will 2 blinded people and 2 sited people on Saturday mornings. Volunteers will be there to help at the Houston Yacht Club in LaPorte. Send email to Vince telling him you want to sail: vince@vincemorvillo.com. Pre-requites: none, no charge at all; Capt. David gave the money. Practice will be 2 times a month all the way to September 10, 2017.**

**Treasurer's Report: $4,618.02**

**Fishing Trip: We will not go out on the deep sea to fish. Lawrence Hooper talked about fishing behind our back yard. They are preparing to get it up and running. The pond has been stocked with fish.**

**Baseball Game: The game will be June 29, 2017; playing Oakland at 1:15 p.m.; cost $10 per person. Seats will be along or passed the 1st base line. Tom Zampieri put a deposit of $200 for 20 people.**

**Resort Trip: Charles Williams stated we are working on dates: October 20-22, 2017 for 32 Veterans and spouse or care givers (16 couples).**

**Proclamations: John Lee has sent letters for Proclamations for Blind Veterans Day - March 28, 2017. Deshell Jackson read one of the Proclamations from Marshall, Texas.**

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**Rodeo: Mr. George Price asked about the rodeo, Charles Williams stated that he was late getting information so we will not be able to attend.**

**White Cane Recognition Day: Charles Williams stated that the October 15, 2017; he will get detailed literature to pass out at church.**

**Website: Jerry Meyers, Thomas Zampieri and Pauletta Hooper will get information for our website.**

**Deceased Members: John Lee moved to buy an Ivy Plant for deceased members to cost no more than $50.00.**

**50/50 Raffle: Jerry Killion suggested that everyone donate - $1.00 ticket or 6 tickets for $5.00 and divide pot with winners and the BVA. Lawrence Hooper volunteered 3 fans.**

**New Officer: Mr. Binion will not be able to hold the secretary position so Lawrence Hooper stayed in the Secretary/Treasurer's position until we could get another member. Rufus Varner volunteered for the position of Secretary and his wife, Chandra Varner as his assistant. John Lee moved to nominate Rufus Varner for the Secretary position, seconded, motion carried.**

**Installation of 2017 Officers: Thomas Zampieri, Director of District 6 installed the following officers - President-Charles Williams, Vice President-Walter Baker, Secretary- Rufus Varner, Treasurer-Lawrence Hooper; other officers are John E. Lee-Public Relations Coordinator, Jerry Meyers-Sgt-at-Arms and Chaplin-Jerome Ammons.**

**Announcement: Mr. Killion stated that the shirts are down stairs in the PX for $19.99.**

**Next meeting: May 6, 2017**

**Adjournment: Walter Baker moved to close the meeting at 12:46 p.m., motion carried.**

**Members present: Jerry Meyers, John Lee (Deshell Jackson), Thomas Zampieri, Jerry Killion (Joyce Killion), Lawrence Hooper (Pauletta Hooper), Jerome Ammons (Kerri Ammons), Charles Williams (Francis Williams), Rufus Varner (Chandra Varner), Speaker: Vince Morvillo (Margaretta Morvillo), George Price (Sondra Price), Armsted Chambers (Lela Chambers), Floyd Johnson (Doris Johnson), Richard Douglas (Jocelyn Douglas), and Walter Baker (Peggy Baker).**

**Submitted by,**

**Lawrence Hooper, Secretary**

**Pauletta Hooper, Asst. Secretary**

**Greater Houston Regional Group of the Blinded Veteran Association**

**Regular Meeting**

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**TIME: 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**

**PLACE: ROOM 4C-122, 4th FLOOR - Green Elevators**

**VA MAIN HOSPITAL**

**AUXILIARY MEETING - 10:00 A.M.**

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**Topics of Discussion**

* **Resort Scheduled Dates: October 20 - 22, 2017**
* **Special Guest Speaker - NON 24 a circadian rhythm disorder**
* **Baseball Tickets - 20 tickets @ $10 - June 29, 2017 Day Game @ 1:15 p.m.**

**Playing Oakland. You must call in to get on list. If you don't call in, you can't go. Money ($10) must be paid by May 6, 2017**

* **BVA Office New Location - VISOR Clinic Bldg. 108 - Room 202**

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**May 6, 2017 - Minutes**

**Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by John Lee. Prayer was given by Jerome Ammons and the Pledge was led by John Lee.**

**Introductions: Charles Williams asked everyone to introduce themselves.**

**Guest Speaker: Registered Nurse spoke on NON-24 a circadian rhythm disorder.**

**Website: There will be a minimum charge of $500, we will have a maintenance fee of under $100 a month. A lot of activities, minutes, flyers, etc. will be posted on website. We will have a trial period. BVA National is doing for free. Thomas Zampieri will take care of the website.**

**Deceased Member: Martina gave information on Roy Young, who started our BVA organization. Thomas Zampieri gave districts he covers with a budget of $89 a year.**

**Treasurer's Report: $7,668.02**

**Baseball Game: The game will be June 29, 2017; playing Oakland at 1:15 p.m.; cost $10 per person. Seats will be along or passed the 1st base line. Tom Zampieri put a deposit of $200 for 20 people.**

**Resort Ranch Trip: Charles Williams stated we are working on dates: October 20-22, 2017 for 32 Veterans and spouse or care givers (16 couples).**

**Sailing Angels: Charles Williams stated that they are having a fundraiser. He asked would we like to send a donation. John Lee moved to send the Sailing Angels $100 for their fundraiser, seconded, motion carried unanimously.**

**T-Shirts (Polo): Charles Williams stated we should get a badge and go get a black T-Shirt. Then add the badge to it. Everyone should be coordinated.**

**Adjournment: John Lee moved to adjourn the meeting 12:40 p.m.**

**Next meeting: July 1, 2017**

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**Members/Care Givers Present:**

**Melvin Gatewood (Bobbie Gatewood), John Lee (Deshell Jackson), Thomas Zampieri, Jerry Killion (Joyce Killion), Lawrence Hooper (Pauletta Hooper), Jerome Ammons (Kerri Ammons), Charles Williams (Francis Williams), Rufus Varner (Chandra Varner), George Price (Sondra Price), Armsted Chambers (Lela Chambers), Floyd Johnson (Doris Johnson), Richard Douglas (Jocelyn Douglas), Walter Baker (Peggy Baker), Eddie Denning (Rebeca Denning), Norris Shinholster, Robert W. Atkinson, Jr., Gerald G. Stripp, Herman O. Roberts, Harry Christian, Leon Z. Oats, Paul Williams, Tom O'Neil and Martina Boe.**

**Submitted by,**

**Lawrence J. Hooper, Secretary**

**Pauletta Hooper, Asst. Secretary**