

## Vietnam Veterans Meeting Minutes for March 2, 2017

The meeting was brought to order by the President, Butch Burke, at 7:00PM with a moment of silence that was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Butch welcomed everyone to the meeting and talked about Pat Ferris, his funeral, the Honor Guard Services and the National Cemetery Services. Clem read a thank you card from Gwen Ferris.

- A.** Attendance=48 at VFW Post 6675
- B.** Secretary's Report- Clem read the secretary's report . John Weinheimer made a motion to accept it, it was seconded by Skip Stewart.
- C.** Treasurer's Report- Dave Cook read the treasurer's report. Joe Marabito made a motion to accept it, John Weinheimer seconded it.
- D.** New Members-Everyone welcomed Rob Moore(Navy).
- E.** Committee Reports:
  - 1.**POW/MIA-Butch nothing to report.
  - 2.**Picnic-Butch said Rick McMasters volunteered to organize the picnic this year. Rick asked for volunteers to sign the sign up sheet.
  - 3.** POW/MIA Vigil/ Honor Guard- Butch Burke reported the following: **a)** The Newsletter was mailed yesterday. If you don't get it, notify Butch. **b)** If you're going to be an Honor Guard for the Hall of Valor on March 26<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00pm, sign your name on the sign up sheet. George Coppola said Patsy Papalia, an Army veteran will be inducted into the Hall of Valor. **c)** Butch thanked everyone who participated as Honor Guards or in some other way at Pat Ferris's funeral and at the National Cemetery. Butch said Pat would be very proud of us. **d)** Butch said we all should have all the important documents ready for our spouses in the event we suddenly passed away. George Coppola said he has the necessary VA papers available if anyone wants them. **e)** The POW/MIA Vigil is in September.
  - 4.** Fund Raising-Tony DeAngelo reported the April 10<sup>th</sup> raffle tickets were distributed.
  - 5.** Food Bank-Tony said nothing to report.
  - 6.** Soldiers and Sailors- Ed Moore talked about Joe Dugan and the Hall of Valor
  - 7.** Blood Bank-Butch nothing to report.
  - 8.** County Council-Butch nothing to report.
  - 9.** Federation-Dick Silk-said the new Commander is Henry Miller from VFW Post 1810.
  - 10.** Membership-Butch said John Weinheimer and George Coppola will administer the membership duties. A one year membership is \$15.00. A Lifetime membership is \$125.00.
  - 11.** Sharing and Caring-Joe Mlinac nothing to report.
  - 12.** Volunteer Services-John Weinheimer said because of the Legionnaires disease situation at the Oakland VA Hospital we're only able to distribute bottled water, hot tea, and pastries in Heroes Hall.
  - 13.** VA Hospital- George Coppola said he heard the water situation is indefinite for now. Also, the VA is working with Gwen on Pat's hospital bills.
  - 14.** United Way- Butch said Dave Cook will give future reports on United Way.

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**F. Communications-** **a)** Clem talked about the VBC program and had brochures for anyone who wants one. Also, Business cards for Embroidery Pittsburgh were available to anyone. The cost of jackets are: \$130.00 for winter ones, and \$80.00 for the summer style ones. **b)** George Coppola received an Email that beginning November 11, 2017 all veterans can use the Commissary's on-line services. Also, there's a Town Hall meeting on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm, at the Oakland VA hospital. George also said we received a \$300.00 donation from Embroidery Pittsburgh for a cookout. **c)** Butch distributed procedural cards for obtaining DD-214's. **d)** Butch said the Navy band will be at Soldiers and Sailors Hall on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

**G. Old Business-** Butch talked about VVI's volunteer services at both VA hospitals. However, we could use more help at Aspinwall every last Wednesday of the month to help distribute food and beverages to veterans and play card or dice games with them. It gives you a good feeling to help fellow veterans.

**H. New Business-** Butch said Rick Busby, a.k.a. Smacky the Clown, is our newest Life member.

- I.** For The Good of the Order-With the passing of Pat Ferris, according to the By-Laws, Butch Burke, the Vice-President assumes the duties of President.
- II.** Butch called for nominations for Vice-President. Art Howcroft nominated John Weinheimer, he was seconded by John Greb. John was unanimously voted in as Vice-President. John thanked everyone for voting him in as Vice-President. Also, John said we're having Honor Guard practice after the meeting with rifles. Butch nominated Art Howcroft and Rick McMasters to the Board. Both were voted in.
- III.** Dave Cook said Joe Mlinac filed VVI's income tax and saved us \$135.00.
- IV.** Butch talked about Fayette County, our sister group of veterans, and said we should communicate with them. Butch said he will send them an Email to request a list of their Officers and discuss important issues.

**J. Adjournment-** Jim Brewer made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Rick McMasters.