



The Veteran's Voice

Minutes from June 23, 2015



Attending: Angelo Carmen, Bud Gross, Bill Dixon, Bo Williams, Ron Harris, Bob Matthews, Joe Harsch, Paul White, Lonnie Conner, Dennis Abels, Bonnie Kuhr.

Meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the treasurer's report as presented. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the secretary's minutes as sent by email. There were no additions or corrections.

Special topic

Education

Upcoming Events

Old / New Business

Information

Membership renewal form

Education: New Orleans complied with 2 hour request for Friday, November 13, from 10-12.

Joe Harsch made a motion that the group approves a stipend of \$500 for New Orleans to be paid at a later date. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

The dates for the seminar at the VFW are August 5 or 6 or August 12 or 13 from 9-3 with lunch provided. All Wake County teachers who are teaching a course or unit on Vietnam will be invited. Only those teachers who have RSVP'd will be participants. Indicate to Bob which dates are preferable.

Bob has purchased the authorized t-shirts. They are at the printers now. Bob is looking to go to D.C. sometime this summer to visit the Wall and also the archives in Landover, MD. He reminded those who have artifacts from their tours in Vietnam should deliver to Bob. He's only received one so far. Bob also mentioned that Bill Dixon recently wrote an excellent essay about Vietnam. Bill consented to circulate the essay to members. Ruth Chris' Foundation has an award for groups dealing in truth about Vietnam. Bob Matthews submitted NCVVI's name. The stipend is \$10,000. Bob is talking to Marsha about another Playground III trip.

Bob Matthews requested a letter from Bud Gross regarding our tax exempt status which was delivered at the meeting.

Bill Dixon put together a brochure about NCVVI. He gave them out at the 175th anniversary at the State Capitol. Members are asked to review it and get any changes to Bill. The Capitol sent NCVVI a thank you note for participating.

Bill read a letter to Ashton Carter from Gary Turner who is a cousin of Joseph Hargrove. Gary had recently visited Koh Tang where Joseph Hargrove was captured and executed. Turner is trying to get the remains returned to the family. There has been no cooperation from JPAC. Bill would like us to get behind this matter by sending a copy of the letter to

President:

Ang Carmen

Vice President:

Ron Harris

Treasurer:

Bud Gross

Secretary:

Bonnie Kuhr

Directors:

Bill Dixon

Dennis Abels

Paul White

Dave Samuels

Burr, Tillis, and Elmers. It was mentioned that we should send it to every federal politician in NC.

July 4th is a Saturday and our monthly POW ceremony. The Capitol would like the wall and the computer. Help is needed for the 4th starting at 9:00 a.m. It was suggested to hand out pamphlets instead of putting up the wall.

Bill Dixon will attend the service for the return of the remains of Chief Master Sgt. Edwin Morgan whose remains were discovered in Laos.

Bill reviewed the recent president's dinner where awards were given out to cast members from *Etchings in Stone*, Norman Gaddis and those who provided the helicopter and vehicles across from the Museum. A certificate was also given to Lisa from *Quilts of Valor*. She in turn awarded Ron Harris with a quilt. At the meeting, Bill presented Lonnie Conner with a **Veteran of the Year** plaque as he couldn't make the president's dinner. Lonnie thanked the group. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed that NCVVI allocate \$100 for expenses for the dinner; i.e., plaques, certificates and frames.

Ron Harris and Bill Dixon are in discussion with the Museum about upcoming symposiums. On Friday, July 24, there will be the women's symposium with Lee Wilson, Larry Hines, Bonnie Kuhr and a yet to be named nurse.

Friday, September 25, Black Experience in Vietnam

Tuesday, November 10, Women Who Stayed Home with Bill Tschudy's wife, Barbara Abernathy, and another person.

Ange suggested for the symposium: Kids Left Behind

Ron asked for suggestions for the theme of the symposium. There will be an article on the symposiums in the Museum magazine. Should hand out the pamphlet Bill drafted at the symposiums.

On November 11, in Lillington, NC, there will be a service for Staff Sgt. Donald David Stewart who is on the wall whose remains were returned to US soil on June 16, 1974.

Joe Harsch noted that the hospice in Smithfield is starting a program that each vet who is in hospice gets a visit from a vet. He also reported that on August 26, 27, 28 at the Agricultural Center Office off of 210 highway in Smithfield there will be a symposium with trained personnel for any veterans who have problems, especially in filling out paperwork.

Ange ran into Eric Canto. Canto bought 144 flags and poppies at minimal cost and then sold 142 flags for \$10 apiece. This is something NCVVI could do on Veterans Day to raise money.

Bob Cox: Larry Hines visited him. Mrs. Cox asks that you contact her before you visit him.

Thanks to Bud for the meal. Next month's chef will be Bill Dixon.



Membership Application

NCVVI is proud to have you as a member.

A DD214 is required for full membership

(Last Name)

(First Name)

(MI)

(Spouse's name)

(Street Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip code)

(_____) (Home Phone)

(_____) (Work Phone)

(Occupation)

_____ Full Membership (\$25 per Year) _____ (check amount) DD214 supplied ___Y ___N

_____ Associate Membership (\$10 per year)

(E-MAIL ADDRESS :) {Need this to send the unit's monthly newsletter}

(Signature)

(Date)

Reminder: NCVVI holds a remembrance service on the Capital grounds, Raleigh, NC, the first Saturday of each month (12:00 noon) and the monthly business meeting on the fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month at VFW 7383, 522 Reedy Creek Road, Cary, NC. (6:00 PM dinner 7:00 PM meeting)

North Carolina Vietnam Veterans, Inc.
601 Compton Road
Raleigh, North Carolina 27609

Member of: N.C. Vietnam Veterans Council, Wake County Veterans Council, National Vietnam Veterans Coalition