



The Veteran's Voice

Minutes
June 25, 2019



*POW/MIA Ceremony
Scholarship Ceremony
Speaker System
Education
Etchings
Casino*

President:

Dave Samuels

Vice President:

Benny Hoots

Treasurer:

Bob Krzynowek

Secretary:

Bonnie Kuhr

Director:

Ron Harris

Attending: Ron Harris, Ron Fitzsimmons, Dennis Abels, Larry Kall, Bob Kryznowek, David Samuels, Monica Cash, Paul White, Jeff Kanner, Al Ely

The pledge of allegiance was said. David Samuels presided. Paul White introduced the guest—Bob Wicks. He served in Vietnam from 1969-70 with six years in the Navy. All those present introduced themselves to Bob.

The treasurer's report as read by Bob Kryznowek was approved. At the time of this meeting, NCVVI had not received the \$675 check from Searstone. (It was subsequently received.) It was clarified that NCVVI is a 501c organization. The secretary's minutes for May were not received at the time of the meeting due to the secretary on vacation for most of June.

POW/MIA Ceremony:

July 4 – NCVVI not having a ceremony***

July 6 – ALR 436 Angier

NCVVI – Bob Kryznowek

August 3 – Purple Heart

NCVVI – Ron Harris/David Samuels – Scholarship Awards

*** The DAR sponsored the new citizens' ceremony at the Capitol on July 4. It is worthwhile seeing.

Monica posts the ceremony dates on the NCVVI Facebook page every month. We need to "share" so the word gets out.

Scholarship Ceremony: Whit Kenney will bring Gen. Gaddis. Gen Gaddis will present one of the scholarships. Dave will assist. Ron Harris will present the Mike Hooks Scholarship to his granddaughter Skylar. There are two other scholarships—one is named after Russell Paige and the other after Benny Hoots' grandson. Dave would like to have more details about the students other than just for the person for whom the scholarship is named. Liz Samuels will try to get the DAR women to attend as well.

Speaker System: At the June ceremony there was an electrical problem. Dave Samuels has been in touch with the Capitol's engineer. The engineer said there were numerous ongoing electrical problems around the Capitol. He put a protective covering on the outlet. He will try to have someone check it on the first Friday of the month.

There was a discussion on how old the present system is. Dave thought it was at least 25 years old. Others disagreed. Dave bought a new system for \$1100 with a 10 percent discount. The new system is more powerful but a bit heavier than he wanted. Dennis Abels will get a large,

strong container for all the equipment. We will get rid of the old speakers and cords if anyone knows of someone who could use them. In addition, the flags and cords will be wrapped together around the poles held with a zip tie.

IMPORTANT: The NCVVI rep at the ceremony needs to be versed on the use of the system as well as the wrapping of the flags.

He reviewed the new system after the meeting. It will be used in August. NCVVI is asking for private donations from the members. If you make the check out to NCVVI you get a tax deduction for the contribution. NCVVI will make up the difference. A suggestion was made to have all the clubs make contributions. Dave expressed appreciation for what they are doing. We still want to maintain ownership so was reluctant to ask for donations from the different clubs. Ron Harris said the riders he has talked to said they want to do more. Monica Cash mentioned she has a donation jar that we could put out at the POW/MIA ceremony. (See Paul White about making a contribution from your IRA.)

Education: Bob Matthews recommended again that everyone look at the Heinz Center website. There are a couple of outstanding Vietnam Exhibits. See **heinzhistorycenter.org and look for exhibits.**

Bob has spoken at some high schools and colleges. There is a speaker bureau set up at the schools. There is a workshop scheduled for July 22 to teach Vietnam in the Valley. Teachers will get credit; there will be lesson plans for the teachers. He is making some inroads and after the workshop perhaps it will pick up.

There is a group called the Veterans Breakfast Club. They are going to Vietnam in the fall for 12 days. If anyone is interested, get in touch with Bob Matthews. The cost is \$4000. They will stay longer than "bridge back" and will visit more places. They probably will not build a playground.

Bob is thinking of visiting Cary in the fall.

Etchings: There was \$968 in the Etching account which included the \$100 donations and \$45 worth of bracelets from the event at the Museum. The expenses totaled \$422.03 leaving a balance of \$546.97 in the account. The expenses included the cost of the helicopters. This is not a revenue producing event.

Ron Harris explained our program at the Museum to our visitor. This was the last year unless someone steps up to be in charge. Al Ely said he is considering giving the Wall to the Museum; they will be happy to get it. He took the wall to the program at Staggville and 50 people showed up. The weather was not conducive to having the wall outside. Some of the panels cracked. It can't be outside any more. Ron Harris mentioned if it is kept at the Museum maybe they will repair it. Al has not spoken to them yet about it.

Discussed why we are not doing next year. Someone has to step up; publicity is a huge problem. Haven't been able to get the word out ahead of time. Members are aging out; Mike Cooke will not be there and he is one of the main attractions. If anyone wants to take charge and continue this event, please let Dave or Ron know.

Casino Night: There are none scheduled as of right now.

Storage of Casino Equipment: We talked about storing the equipment elsewhere. Dave Samuels and Bo Williams went to the Elks and they would be willing to store but there isn't a room in the building for the tables, etc. Dave is checking the shed at the VFW. It is not heated nor has air so the cards and chips would have to be stored at Dave's house. The plywood could be stored where the chairs and tables are kept in our meeting room. Dave is waiting to hear about the shed.

Live Streaming: To see go to <http://www.ncvvi.org> and click "TV Show" in the menu. The June 12 and 26 programs were entitled "Secrets and Mysteries of the Vietnam War".

Old Business: None

New Business: Joe Harsch is at Pruitt Healthcare at 2420 Lake Wheeler Drive. I know he'd like a visitor.

Larry Kall was thanked for dinner. Shey Harris will cook in July.



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 (\$15 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. (6:15 PM dinner 7:00 PM meeting)

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