



The Veteran's Voice



Minutes

NCVVI

Tuesday, November 24, 2015

Attending: Bill Dixon, Bo Williams, Ron Harris, Bob Matthews, Joe Harsch, Ron Fitzsimmons, Paul White, Dave Samuels, Al Ely, Steve Henley, Ron Fitzsimmons, Dennis Abels, Bob Krzynowek, Jim Dukeman, Bonnie Kuhr

Bob Matthews opened the meeting. The pledge of allegiance was said. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the secretary's minutes as sent by email and the treasurer's report as presented. Bob reminded members if they have an expenses connected with NCVVI to give Bob the invoice for reimbursement.

Education: Bob Matthews reported on the New Orleans trip. Bill Dixon, Paul White, Joe Harsch and Bob attended. They talked to 77 teachers. Bob thanked NCVVI for the \$500 toward the expenses. They also received \$100 from Senior Scholastics which covered meals. The next convention is in D.C. Asked to elaborate on the conference, Bob commented that this is a four-day national conference for social studies teachers at the mid and high school level with around 10,000 attendees. NCVVI had a 2 hour bracket and had 150 chairs filled. Putting NCVVI on line has worked as NCVVI is recognized nationally. The conference in 2017 is in San Francisco. NCVVI had an invitation from the Vietnam Vets Education Center in New Jersey. He commended Bill Dixon, Joe Harsch and Paul White on an excellent presentation.

Classroom: Cary High School has requested NCVVI at a forum on November 30. Most of the classes are deep into Vietnam. Everyone is encouraged to go into a classroom. Security has been ramped up so speakers should be aware. Bob had pre-release forms to be filled out to facilitate going into classes.

Scholarship: Six scholarship essay topics were developed by teachers, some of the myth books and Bud Gross. They are:

1. Which myth about the Vietnam War is the most difficult to correct? Why?
2. Did we stay long enough in Vietnam to accomplish our goal? If yes, what was our goal? If no, how much longer should we have stayed?
3. Has the Vietnam Wall accomplished its objectives—to heal a nation?
4. Was saving Indochina and Southeast Asia from communist domination worth the price of the Vietnam War/
5. What was the biggest mistake the U.S. made in the Vietnam War? Explain.
6. What lessons did the Vietnam War teach the American people? Explain.

Special topic

Education

Upcoming Events

Old / New Business

Information

Membership renewal form

President:

_ Vacant _____

Meeting Coordinators-

B. Matthews & B. Gross

Vice President:

_ Vacant _____

Treasurer:

Bud Gross

Secretary:

Bonnie Kuhr

Directors:

Dennis Abels

Paul White

Dave Samuels

The two with the most votes: No. 6 followed by No. 3. Discussed past scholarships which were poorly done and poorly researched. The topics should provoke a student's thought process. A question was raised: how do we judge an essay if it is totally different from what we believe? Answer: The student needs to prove his/her conclusion.

December 13, 6:00 p.m. – Candlelight Ceremony. Bud Gross will prepare the program and prepare the name labels. He will also conduct the program. Bob Matthews will prepare the bags with sand. Al Ely will supply the candles. The bagpiper has been contacted. Del Vecchio has been in touch with the choir. Paul White will play taps. One person will read the names, as a name is read one will light the candle in the bag nearest not necessarily matching the candle with the name called. Time to arrive 5:15 to set up. There will be no missing man table at the ceremony.

Playground 3 trip to Vietnam: He has no word from D.C. Plans are still on hold. Bob will have more information at the next meeting.

Etchings in Stone: Looking at presenting the first weekend in April. Ron Harris was asked about more exhibits. He brought his diorama of the tunnel complex to the meeting which he will present to the museum. A suggestion was made to have a separate room with the tapes of the three symposia for viewing. The symposium on Women Left Behind has been postponed until after the holidays.

NCVVI Online Show: There is still a need to host especially for the upcoming December 9 video as Bill Dixon will be out of town. These videos average 1,000 viewers a time; it is archived for students and others.

Upcoming dates:

December 5 – POW/MIA Ceremony

December 9 – NCVVI Video

December 13 – Candlelight Ceremony

April – Etchings in Stone, Museum

New Business:

Bill passed around the list of shows which can be accessed on www.ncvvi.org plus a list of terminology used in Vietnam.

Bob Patrikos has asked for the Moving Wall to be at the beach for the 4th of July so it will not be in Raleigh.

Dave Samuels attended the "Honoring Vets" at NC State. He was introduced to four ROTC leaders and they are interested in getting NCVVI into their ROTCH programs. Dave also went to a fundraiser with Tonto Pronto who was in Benghazi. His book is out entitled "Thirteen Hours". It was quite revealing from someone who was there and from what we read. And, Dave reported, the Governor wants to make NC the most veteran friendly in the country. We are now No. 3. He was able to get approved Veterans Affairs as a Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the Executive Council. Dave has a meeting with him as he has no idea who NCVVI is.

It was suggested that NCVVI open up to all veterans to include Afghanistan, Iraq, etc.

The young men from Chapel Hill who interviewed several members will be inviting us to view their film.

Bob thanked Bo Williams for an outstanding meal. Dennis Abels will cook in January.

Meeting adjourned.



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