

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN CHAPTER
VIETNAM HELICOPTER PILOTS ASSOCIATION
15 MAR 2023**

Call to Order: Dale House, Pres. called the meeting to order at 1015 Hrs.

Dale House, President, noted that that those present represented a quorum for voting purposes.

Those Present:

Rick Beaver
Carlo Cavalluzzi
Alen Harinck
Dale House

Greg Mann
George Mayl
Doug Neil

Mike Poindexter
Chris Towne
Bob White

Cliff Lawson

Terry Olson

Zoom Attendees: Bill Bates, Charles Bogle, John Hargleroad, Don Kent, Bill Robie, Larry Tomek

Dale led the team in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bob White noted that March 15, 2023 is the 50th anniversary of Operation Homecoming (March 15, 1973). All chapter members voiced a welcome home to Bob!

Wellness check - all are OK.

Meeting Minutes: The February 2023 Meeting Minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: With the absence of Jim McNamee, treasurer, Dale House read Jim's update.

The update was accepted.

In addition to Jim McNamee, Bill Bates and Dale House have signatory authority with the RMCVHPA bank accounts.

Dale House volunteered to be a second to Bill Robie in managing the Google accounts.

Dale read Congressman Joe Neguse's boilerplate letter to the chapter. It did not address our original letter requesting that helicopter safety concerns be reviewed.

Old Business

- Clothing update
 - Carlo Cavalluzzi said there is clothing available for all members. We have an excess of medium sized items that need to be reduced in price so they can be sold and eliminated from inventory. These medium sized items can be sold to chapter family members.

- There are 116 coins in inventory. In anticipation of an order for additional coins, Carl will evaluate a local coin provider and report cost and delivery time to the executive committee.
 - There are 119 chapter patches in inventory.
- Honor Flight update
 - High Plains Honor Flight is scheduled for April 30 to May 1. The Rocky Mountain Chapter will participate in the welcome home activities May 1.
 - Carl Cavalluzzi will send additional updated information.
- National Vietnam Memorial Museum (NVMM) update
 - Charles Bogle said that 551 people attended the dedication of phase I of the National Vietnam Memorial Museum. Phase II ground breaking is scheduled for October 21, 2023.
 - The NVMM generates approximately \$200K per year in donations.
 - Charles suggested that attendees at the national VHPA reunion in San Antonio try to visit the museum in Mineral Wells, however it is closed on Monday and Tuesday.
 - Dale continued his conversation from last month that Vietnam Memorial Museum might be a better site for our museum (after end-of-life) other than Texas Tech since the Mineral Wells location will be a focal point for displaying items. Texas Tech is oriented to research not item display at this time.
 - National VHPA is not interested in investing in the NVMM. Mike Poindexter added that The VHPA does not want to spread themselves too thin. The VHPA has already provided \$250,000 endowment for Texas Tech research and cataloguing.
 - ***Note: Dale House's email subject "information from the EC" dated March 13, 2023.***
 - Dale is scheduled to meet with the NVMM management team over the Easter holiday.
 - Don Kent suggested we look into a local Denver location for the museum after life.
 - Greg Mann suggested we digitize the museum items for inclusion in our WEB site.
 - Discussion tabled and will continue....

Event Schedule

- The museum is scheduled to be in Ft. Collins Friday, May 27, 28,29 for the Memorial Day weekend. It includes the Traveling Wall. The museum will be delivered on May 26 and picked up on May 30.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Information for Registering for the VHPA reunion in San Antonio is on line with the National VHPA WEB site.

- Dale asked the chapter members their views on associate members. He noted that the RMCVHPA bylaws note a reference for a non-voting member. The National VHPA does not have any reference for an associate member however, they do have a category for Subscribers. Several members including Bob White are opposed to allowing associate members. No final decision was made. Mike Poindexter pointed out that The VHPA allows Chapters to decide on associate positions.

Final Meeting Discussion:

- April 30 marks the end of the Vietnam war (April 30, 1975 the fall of Saigon)
- March 29, 1973 marks the end of US combat operations in Vietnam.
- March 29 is National Vietnam Veteran Day.

Next Meeting:

- The next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 1000 HRS at American Legion Post #1, I-25 and Yale.

Adjournment:

- Dale adjourned the meeting at 1150 HRS.
- Several members stayed for lunch provided by Post #1

Submitted by Doug Neil
Secretary
dneil196@gmail.com