



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, CHAPTER 1054

P.O. Box 1062, Watertown, SD 57201

nedsvva@yahoo.com

nesdvva.org



General Membership Meeting May 16,2024

General Membership Meeting Minutes: May 16, 2024

Meeting called to order by President Denman @ 1900(est)

Minutes taken by Secretary Earl F. Cass

Alt-Chaplin Frink Opened the Meeting with Prayer.

Flag Salute & Pledge of Allegiance led by President Denman

Officers Roll Call was taken

Officers		Jan 20	Feb 17	Mar 16	Apr 18	May 16
Pres	Jerry Denman	*	*	*	1	1
SR VP	Bob Syring	1	1	1	1	E
Jr VP	Darrell Boyle	1	1	1	1	1
Treasurer	Bob Frink	1	1	1	1	1
Secretary	Earl F. Cass	*	*	*	*	1
Chaplain	Troy Foster	E	E	1	E	E

Key 1 = present, 0 = absent, E = excused, * attended via zoom # = unable to attend due to absence of the Zoom, 2 = present via mobile phone

- Meeting Minutes – Secretary Earl F. Cass read the minutes of the last meeting which were then approved by the membership.
- Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer Bob Frink gave the financial report. Our net worth was \$117,755.37 Slides were shown representing the income and expenses and an opportunity to ask questions.
 - Treasurer Frink then presented a proposed strategy for renewing our CD’s where upon finalization we will be renewing a CD every 3 months and increase our flexibility in securing cash if needed.
 - Treasurer Frink also reported our tax filing issue has actually not gone away and we have sought the help of Representative Johnson’s office in resolving the issue. They are very helpful and we are cautiously optimistic that the issue will be resolved.



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, CHAPTER 1054

P.O. Box 1062, Watertown, SD 57201

nedsvva@yahoo.com

nesdvva.org



SPECIAL REPORT

- Our Chapter gave a presentation at the Duell School where we were warmly received. We had 5 members present and showed our video. We will have a renewed effort in approaching the schools and will now focus on the principals and history teachers when setting up presentations.
- Word is that the VTS bus driver has again been selected and will be commencing his duties beginning June 1st.
- There is still time for submitting a request to receive the SD Agent Orange medal. Many of our members have received theirs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance Committee- no additional report
- Membership report – no report available. All members need to be vigilant in reporting member deaths to the committee. If you hear of a member death, please report it.
- Communication – As previously noted, increased focus on our video presentations will be by contacting the principals and history teachers. Kay has the names and will send to the Comm group.
- Honor Guard. Milbank participated in two funerals. Watertown participated in no funerals but will be participating in the Memorial Day ceremony on the 27th.
- Elk Hunt – all tickets have been sold to the tune of \$30,500 and we are ready for a June drawing. Thanks to all who sold tickets.



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, CHAPTER 1054

P.O. Box 1062, Watertown, SD 57201

nedsvva@yahoo.com

nesdvva.org



OLD BUSINESS,

- BOD member Holiday reports Ford has officially cancelled the 'Ford Driver' event for good.
- Flags will be put out at Mt. Hope on May 23rd starting at 1230. We need members to show up to lessen the burden on those that always show up.
- Flags will be put out at St. Mary's on the 22nd starting at 1300 and the local National Guard has indicated interest in participating.

NEW BUSINESS

- Secretary Cass made a motion at the BOD meeting which passed to pay the expenses for BOD Member Braeger and Treasurer Frink for their attendance at the SD Veterans Council meeting in Rapid City. Cass also spoke about his development of a Travel Policy document that will spell out what we will pay for and also list some exclusions. The draft document will be sent to all the BOD members for their comments and questions. It was decided that we will track the VA mileage rate which is posted on a monthly basis and currently at 42.5 cents per mile. The rate is posted at <https://www.va.gov/resources/reimbursed-va-travel-expenses-and-mileage-rate/#mileage-reimbursement-rate>
- Watertown will be participating in the Memorial Day ceremony by providing a Color Guard and perhaps the entire rifle squad on the 27th. President Denman has been named as the 2024 Commander of the Troops for the ceremony.
- BOD member DeBoers brought up the subject of a small park near his home that will have a walkway, benches and will contain a flagpole. The overall cost is thought to be \$6000 and he is seeking a donation from us to help with the cost. He was advised to submit a



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, CHAPTER 1054

P.O. Box 1062, Watertown, SD 57201

nedsvva@yahoo.com

nesdvva.org



Donation Request Form and see where it goes.

- Our Flag Day fundraiser will be on June 8th in Watertown and Milbank and again volunteers are needed and Kay will be putting together a schedule for Watertown. Brookings will be on the 14th and local members are encouraged to participate.
- AVVA and Card Group member Mary Modica requested help from all the members in advising her and the Card Group of any members passing away. It's very difficult to ensure the information they have is up to date.
- The 2024 VVA National Leadership Conference is coming up in Reno, NV on August 20 – 24. BOD member Braeger strongly encourages attendance.
- The Chet Sorensen Veteran of the Year applications are available. Requests are for one veteran from each organization prior to July 1st.

SICKNESS / DISTRESS and GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Tim Jurgens underwent triple bypass surgery and recovering nicely at home.
- Jack Weber underwent back surgery and is recovering nicely at home.
- The Milbank ballfield will open on May 23rd. It was a recipient of a donation from our chapter. Many activities are planned for the day.
- There will be a lunch provided at the American Legion in Watertown after the Memorial Day ceremony. Ceremony times are 0930 at St. Mary's and 1030 for Mt. Hope.



VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, CHAPTER 1054

P.O. Box 1062, Watertown, SD 57201

nedsvva@yahoo.com

nesdvva.org



-
- 50/50 drawing ticket was drawn by birthday girl Lynley Halajian and the winner was her father Dean. Congrats to both.
 - Jim Hanson donated 12 car washes he received in the mail from a new business in Watertown and they were dispersed by additional ticket draws.
 - The monthly engraved bottle of Jack Daniels Single barrel was won by President Denman.

ADJOURNMENT

- A motion was made, and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Ending Prayer led by Alt-Chaplain Frink, and Flag Salute were conducted, meeting adjourned at 2000(est).
- Minutes prepared and respectfully submitted by Secretary Earl F. Cass.