

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

13 December 2018

Call to Order

A meeting of the Board of Directors of The Southwest Virginia Chapter, Military Officers Association was held on 13 December 2018 at 1000 hours Eastern Standard Time at the Hidden Valley Country Club, Salem Virginia.

Directors and Chapter Officers Present

President David Gilleran, 1st Vice President and Membership Chair Donna Fore, 2nd Vice President Lee Ensley, Secretary Steve Jamison, Treasurer Scott Van Cleef, Chaplain Roger Talmadge, Personal Affairs Officer and Legislative Affairs Representative Jim Flynn, VCOC Representative and Public Relations Representative and Newsletter Editor Gary Powers, Awards Chair Robert Habermann Sergeant At Arms Michael Kasnick, Surviving Spouse Liaison Mary Lou Summers, Past President Dan Karnes, Director Larry Johnson, Director John Miller, Director Emeritus Tom Dalzell.

Directors and Chapter Officers Absent

Smith Mountain Lake Representative Arthur Sommers, Director Michael Leigh.

Call to Order

President David Gilleran called the meeting to order at 1005 hours. A quorum of directors was present, and the meeting was convened.

Opening Prayer

Chaplain Roger Talmadge led the Directors in prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

2nd Vice President Lee Ensley led The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag recited by all present.

Approval of Board of Directors Meeting Minutes:

- Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of 20 September 2018 were approved as submitted.

President's Report

- President Gilleran presented to the Board of Directors the Slate of Chapter Officers and Board of Directors for 2019 for approval. The slate, attached, was approved.

Secretary's Report:

- Secretary Steve Jamison reported on the Chapter membership. There were no gains from the last report.

Treasurer's Report:

- Checking account balance - \$8768.86, includes \$2,000 MOAA Grant funds remaining for MFSC.
- The Profit and Loss statement, Budget vs. Actual 1 January through December 2018 and Reconciliation Detail was presented.
- Leadership and savings fund balance - \$7,428.39, of which \$2,250 is in savings, \$3,750 from the VFW gift and \$1,428.39 in the Leadership Awards fund.
- A proposed budget for 2019 was proposed, discussed and approved.

Chaplains Report

- Chaplain Talmadge reported on the various activities of the MFSC and escorted Colonel Mike Turner from MOAA to view the Food Bank services supported by the MOAA MFI Community Outreach Grant.

1st Vice President's Report:

- Colonel Fore working the Recruiting List from MOAA national. Plans are to reach out to the officers listed in the SWVC catchment area who are non-MOAA Chapter members as well as engage local members who are on the SWVC Chapter list but not currently active with the SWVC.

2nd Vice President's Report:

- Assisting the Membership Chair on the Chapter Recruiting Program 2019.

Program Directors Report

- 13 December 2018 – Colonel Mike Turner, U.S. Air Force (Ret), MOAA Vice President of Development.
- 17 January 2019 - BG Scott Van Cleef, USAF (Ret). Proposed Space Force.
- 21 February 2019 - Mr. Keith Wilson, Chief of the Center of Excellence, VA Regional Office, Department of Veterans Services. This State agency processes claims with the VA and provides other services for veterans in the State of Virginia.
- 21 March 2019 – TBD
- 18 April 2019 – MGEN Randy Fullhart, USAF (Ret) Commandant of Cadets. This meeting will be held at the Inn at Virginia Tech.
- 16 May 2019 - TBD

Auxiliary Liaison Report

- No report.

Surviving Spouse Representative Report:

- Six surviving spouses active.

- The Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery Volunteers conducted their 6th Annual Wreath Laying Program and Ceremony on 8 December at 1300 hours at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin. The guest speaker was Captain Gary Powers, USN (Ret). Approximately 953 wreaths were placed. Over 500 guests were in attendance.

Legislative Liaison Report:

- No report.
- LTC Robert Habermann volunteered to fill the Legislative Liaison position.

VCOC Representative Report

- Gary Powers attended the VCOC 4th Quarter 2018 meeting 18 October 2018 at the American Legion Richmond, VA
- Highlighted the top Joint Leadership Issues for 2019. Issues in priority order, as approved at 17 October meeting, as follows:
 - Increase pay for Reserves and National Guard when activated.
 - State income tax subtraction for certain (100%) disabled veterans.
 - Electronic return of ballots by deployed military.
 - Personal property tax relief for certain disabled veterans.
 - Free tuition for Virginia National Guardsmen not covered by State or National assistance.
 - Remove combat requirement from VMSDEP
- Phased-in partial tax relief of military retirement income.
JLC Issues summary and position to be posted on VCOC website.
- Storming of the Hill 2019 now scheduled for 16 JAN 2019. Storming to be coordinated by the Virginia Department of Veterans Services, Pocahontas Building, Richmond.
- Significance of updating membership directory stressed.
- Most chapters sharing newsletters electronically
- All chapters invited to join Richmond Chapter in a Leadership/Future Leaders Training seminar tentatively planned for spring 2019.
- First Quarter VCOC meeting: 1000 15 January 2019

Public Affairs Report

- Public Affairs representative Gary Powers provided the following items:
 - Communiqué Newsletter - 4th quarter (OCT-NOV-DEC) distributed. 131 copies each mailed out. Contributors not meeting deadlines.
 - Chapter Website & Face book - Updates continue - Visitors to date: 647 visits since 01JAN. Invoice submitted for additional year of hosting.
 - Public Affairs/Media - Three press releases: Renovation Alliance, Veterans Day Parade and Wreath Laying Ceremony. Appearing on VCOC website and acknowledgement from MOAA HQ
 - VCOC website: <http://www.virginiamoaa.com>
 - Sponsorships - Renewing sponsors Hometown Bank replaced by American National Bank.
 - Upcoming PR opportunities - Military Family Support Center grant. Bernard and the Marie 75th D-Day Anniversary Dinner.

Sergeant At Arms Report

- No report.

Past President's Report:

- The Virginia Adjutant General is sponsoring a ceremony on 8 January 2019 to dedicate and name the new National Guard HQs in Chesterfield County. The building will be named the John R. (Bob) Slaughter building. Bob Slaughter was the Chair of the founding Board of the National D Day Memorial in Bedford. I had the privilege to serve on that board from 1987 until 2001 with Bob and others.

Director Reports

- Vietnam War Commemoration Representative Larry Johnson reported on the latest Vietnam War Commemoration SITREP.
- Larry Johnson also reported on the recent VMI Center for Leadership and Ethics one-day symposium about the Vietnam War titled "The Vietnam War at 50: Critical Reappraisals" conducted on 24 September 2018. The symposium was inspired by the Ken Burns/Lynn Novik PBS documentary on the Vietnam War, a war which shaped a generation and still resonates with many Americans today.

Committee Chairperson's Report

- SWVC Chapter, Smith Mountain Lake Satellite - no report.
- Awards Chair.
 - JROTC and ROTC Medal Awards coming up at the first of the year. Volunteers will be requested to make presentations.
 - Chapter Leadership Awards 2019 will be received in the spring.
 - William Byrd HS AFJROTC Program cancelled due to low participation by students.
- Military Family Support Center requested the remaining funds from the MOAA Military Family Initiative (MFI) Community Outreach Charitable Grant.

Old Business

- Renovation Alliance Roanoke, Virginia Veterans Renovation Day was held on Saturday 20 October 2018. The Southwest Virginia Chapter partnered with the West Point Society and the Stonewall Jackson Chapter of the AUSA to make repairs on a veteran's home.
- The MOAA Annual Meeting was held on 1-2 November 2018 at the Arizona Grand Resort and Spa, Phoenix, AZ.
- The Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery Volunteers Holiday Wreath Program took place on Saturday 8 December 2018 at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin, Virginia.
- The Virginia's Veteran Parade took place on Veterans Day, 10 November 2018, in downtown Roanoke. The SWVC participated with CAPT Gary Powers, COL Tom Dalzell and LTC Robert Habermann riding in Gary Powers Shore Patrol jeep.
- Chapter Goals and Objectives for 2018-2019 were approved as presented.
- Membership lunch gathering at Virginia Tech. TBD
- The American Legion Post 111 in Rocky Mount sponsored "The Moving Vietnam Memorial Wall" from 27 September through 1 October 2018 in Rocky Mount. Colonel Roger Talmadge spoke at their opening ceremony. COL John Miller conducted a Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pinning Ceremony on 29 September.

New Business

- Speakers/programs for December 2018 and 2019 membership meetings
- The following suggestions were put forward:
 - "Ghost Army" - POC Steve Jamison, James Baum
 - Author of "Code Girls" Liza Mundy – Donna Fore
 - Purple Heart Association - POC Gary Powers
 - New PMS's at VT - POC Jim Flynn

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 1134 hours. The next Board of Directors meeting will be at 1000 hours on Thursday, 21 February 2019, at Hidden Valley Country Club.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen L. Jamison

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