

CLEARWATER CHAPTER

Secretary Board Minutes 21 Apr 2021

Location: Perkins Restaurant Clearwater, FL – 1000 HRS

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: The board meeting at the Perkins Restaurant was called to order at 10:10am by President Jeff Dole. Those present stood, faced the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance – Jane Belson, Steve Hodges, Jeff Doll, Dave Apt, Rob Risberg, Pat Hughes, Bill Horne, Bob Behm, Sandy Behm

Previous Month Secretary Minutes – February and March minutes prepared by Sandy Behm. There was one change made to the February minutes and one change made to the March minutes. There was a motion made to approve the February and March minutes, a motion was made by Dave Apt and seconded by Rob Risberg. The changes to the minutes have been made by the Secretary on April 27, 2021.

Treasurer's Report – Jane Belson reported the Treasurers report, there was \$13,969.59 in the **Charitable Account** and \$12,745.17 in the **Checking Account** for a **Total** of \$26,714.76. The only change was \$23.70 for check printing which went in twice, Jane called the bank and they are going to reverse it. A motion was made by Rob Risberg and seconded by Pat Hughes to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted and was approved by the Board.

Membership Report – Rob Risberg reported that there were Total Voting Members of 98 an increase of 2 from last month, Regular Members = 56, 57%. Surviving Spouse Members = 12, 12% no change, Spouse Members 30, 31%.

Programs Report – See Below (Upcoming Speakers) Bilirakis Attendance?

Drumbeat Report – Jim Souders -No Report, Jim will be out of town for a week.

Web Report – Rob Risberg reported that everything is functioning, legislative slide show is on the legislative page and is on as a link. Bob sent an update for the surviving spouse, that is on there. Everything that has been sent to him is on there.

Spouse/Surviving Spouse Report – Bob Behm reported that he had a virtual chapter meeting, it was opened up to ideas, one thing that came out was about the covid 19 deaths with underlining service conditions. MOAA has written to President Biden about the issues affecting the military among those the problems arising when a veteran has an underlining service condition and succumbs to covid 19. It is important that contributing service-connected condition be listed on the death certificate in order to proceed so they don't get the benefits dropped and that is what has been happening. They are putting Covid 19 and they are dropping the benefits because they are saying it has nothing to do with the service-connected condition. Mike Bost, IL Congressman is the ranking member of the House Veterans Committee and he is also working on it. Hopefully something gets corrected on it, but in the meantime, they are telling all of the surviving spouses to make sure that it says underlining conditions.

Members in Distress Report – Nothing to report

ROTC Scholarship – Steve reported on the golf tournament, the total revenue was \$12,033, the expenses were \$7,026 and the net profit was \$4,957 that was the amount that was available to

distribute, MOWW and MOAA did not take a share. The \$4,957 was divided by 6 JROTC. All got amounts based on their participation to the event. After all shares were figured there was \$2.00 left over which Clearwater HS got. Then a donation of \$50.00 arrived and Clearwater HS got that too.

Steve wants to do this again next year and his goal is to get USAA for \$40,000, he wants to have a major sponsor by August. Steve has sent a letter of Thank You to all sponsors. Bob suggested to send a letter of Thanks to Noreen for the baskets.

Legislative Liaison – Dave sent out the Power point presentation to all the board right after he attended the webinar, Rob did a great job getting this posted on the website. The highpoints are, (1) To keep the cost of Tricare down. (2) The focus on military pay which is still behind, tracking 2% less. (3) The 2021 NDAA added 3 new diseases to agent orange presumptive condition, hypothyroidism, bladder cancer and Parkinson. (4) is coverage for toxic exposure. (5) COLA for this year above last year and continues to rise.

Old Business

Annual Financial Audit requirements: Bob and Jane are getting together on May 14, 2021 to do the audit.

Community Grant Application with K9P4P. Jeff said that the grant has been concluded, he can't divulge any information until Friday, he will announce at luncheon.

Bylaws signing: Sandy and Jeff signed it and Rob said he will put it on the Website.

Any Other old Business?

New Business

FCoC will provide: Certificates downloadable Jeff gave Steve 12 medals; Steve already has the certificates for the 12. Steve said maybe we should go to St. Pete chapter to ask them to join in for the next Golf Tournament.

FCoC President lunch attendance: Mike Borders and his wife will be coming to our April luncheon.

LOE: Jeff was able to submit the package for the award.

FCoC Position Available: The FCoC Area Vice President position is available to anyone who wants it.

Any other New Business?

Surviving Spouse Books: Bob said that after the last luncheon he received the books, he will bring them to the April luncheon.

Upcoming Speakers:

April – Congressman Bilirakis, If Bill cannot make it Jerry Custer will fill in for him.

May – Renee Brunelle still has not responded; Dave will reach out to her.

Motion to Adjourn: Jeff asked for a motion to adjourn, the first motion was made by Bob Behm and it was seconded by Bill Horne. The meeting adjourned at 11:19