



ASSOCIATES OF VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.

8719 Colesville Road; Suite 100 • Silver Spring, MD 20910-3919

Telephone (301) 585-4000 • Fax Main (301) 585-0519

AVVA Board of Directors Meeting

August 8, 2022

Hyatt Regency Hotel

Greenville, SC

CALL TO ORDER:

President Sharon Hobbs called the meeting of the AVVA Board of Directors to order at 7:48 PM (EST) on Monday, August 8, 2022. The meeting was held in the Gardenia Room at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Greenville, SC.

OPENING CEREMONIES:

President Hobbs recognized National Chaplain, Bobbie Morris to call for a moment of silence, and deliver the invocation. Vice President, Kathy Andras then led the assembly in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Board of Directors' Roll Call:

Secretary Nina Schloffel called the roll.

President: Sharon Hobbs
Vice President: Kathy Andras
Secretary: Nina Schloffel
Treasurer: Kaye Gardner
Region 1: Vacant
Region 2: Bobbie Morris
Region 3: Hope Summers

Region 4: Deputy Mary Anne Newman
Region 5: Penny Meinhardt
Region 6: Deputy Barbara Coan
Region 7: Terri Rangel
Region 8: Jennifer Ellis
Region 9: Kelly Frederickson

A quorum was established.

Other Attendees / Guests:

Region 3 Deputy, Debbie Musolino
Region 5 Deputy, Bobbi Heidenrich
National Elections Committee Chair, Nancy Montgomery
National Membership Committee Member, Ruth Feliciano

AGENDA:

Motion (#1) – Moved by Treasurer, Kaye Gardner, and was seconded, to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion Adopted By Unanimous Consent



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OFFICER AND BOARD REPORT UPDATES:

Region 5 Director, Penny Meinhardt and National Elections Chair, Nancy Montgomery, provided the assembly with written copies of their quarterly reports (see attached). Elections Chair, Nancy Montgomery, noted that her regular email address is unreliable. She is working with her provider to resolve the issue. In the interim, Nancy is using email address gumby173d@cos.net.

MOTIONS:

A. *Consent Calendar: August 2022*

Motion Out of Helping Hands Program: to accept Susan Price as a member of the committee at no cost to national.

Motion Out of Policy & Procedure Committee: to accept Barbara Coan As Vice-Chair of the committee at no cost to national.

Motion (#2) – Moved by Region 2, Bobbie Morris, and was seconded, to add the adopted August Consent Calendar to the permanent record.

Motion Adopted By Unanimous Vote (9 yes, 0 no)

B. *Policy and Procedure Proposals*

Motion (#3) Moved by the Incorporation Committee, no second required, to revise Policy Section 2, Incorporation, as follows:

- Subsection 2.I.A.a, strike the words 'state so' and replace with the word 'notify'
- Subsection 2.C, change subsection 'C' to 'D', and reformat subsequent sections accordingly. Then, insert as subsection 'C' the header TIMELINES AND MAILINGS and related text. This subsection 'C' was inadvertently deleted with the last Section 2 revision. Text being added is displayed on the accompanying attachment.
- Subsection 2.C.1, strike the numeral '6' and replace with the numeral '3'.
- Subsection 2.E.1, strike the sentence 'Extensions are neither usual nor guaranteed' (no new text to be inserted).

Motion Adopted By Unanimous Vote (9 yes, 0 no)

C. *Out of Committee Policy Proposals:*

Motion (#4) Moved by the Helping Hands Program, no second required, to delete form F-Pro08.01 (Revised 06/19), Instructions for Helping Hands Grant Application from the AVVA website and to replace with the revision, F-Pro08.01 (Revised 06/22), Instructions for Helping Hands Grant Application.

Motion Adopted By Unanimous Vote (9 yes, 0 no)



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Motion (#5) Moved by the Executive Board, no second required, to upgrade our current free version of Mailchimp to Mailchimp's

15k Contact Standard at a monthly cost of \$170.66 (161.00 +9.66 Maryland state sales tax). This upgrade will expand our ability to communicate from 300 contacts to our entire membership base of 10,000+.

Note: This cost includes a 15% nonprofit discount from the normal monthly rate of \$189.00 and 6% Maryland state sales tax.

Motion Adopted By Unanimous Vote (9 yes, 0 no)

D. **Electronic Motions:** August 2022

IEM204 The Product Sales Committee moved, no second required, to adopt the new AVVA Product Sales Order form.

May 24, 2022 - **MOTION ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

IEM205 The secretary moved, and seconded, to adopt the minutes from the April 21, 2022, Board Meeting.

June 3, 2022 - **MOTION ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

IEM206: The Finance Committee moved, no second required, to purchase 50 AVVA flags at a cost of \$84.00 each (plus shipping and tax) and to sell the flag for \$85.00 each to our membership.

June 4, 2022 - **MOTION ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

IEM207: The VISTA Committee moved, no second required, to change Policy Section 11, Committees, Subsection III, VISTA, per the attached. The changes clarify the hours that may/may not be counted, how they are counted and what hours qualify for recognition.

July 8, 2022 - **MOTION ADOPTED BY MAJORITY VOTE (10 yes, 1 no)**

IEM208: The Executive Committee moved, no second required, to adopt **Heartbreak to Hope** as a sanctioned AVVA program.

July 30, 2022 - **MOTION ADOPTED BY MAJORITY VOTE (7 yes, 1 no)**

Motion (#6) – Moved by Treasurer, Kaye Gardner, and was seconded, to confirm and enter into the permanent record, all electronic motions made between the April 2022 and the August 2022 board meetings.

Motion Adopted By Unanimous Vote (9 yes, 0 no)

GENERAL ORDERS:

A. **Awards** –

a. **National Awards** - Mary Anne Newman

Recipients of the AVVA Member of the Year and the AVVA Fellowship awards will be announced at the AVVA Luncheon (Thursday, August 11). Plaques will



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- be presented to awardees, and certificates to the remaining nominees.
- b. VISTA – Kathy Andras**
Awards for top Region, State, and Chapter, and the three top individuals who submitted the most VISTA hours, will be presented at the AVVA Luncheon.
- B. Educational Seminars – President Hobbs** noted that we should all make good use of our time at this conference. Attend as many seminars as possible..
- C. Luncheon – Vice President Andras, Mary Anne Newman**
The luncheon is on Thursday, August 11th. Fortune cookies and AVVA mouse pads will be on the tables with the luncheon programs. Tickets will be taken at the door. Luncheon gifts will be distributed as guests exit the luncheon. Helpers to be onsite between 10:15am and 1030am.
- D. Project Friendship - President Hobbs, Treasurer Gardner**
Our Project Friendship goal was \$12,000. We have already exceeded that amount.
- E. Annual Meeting with Membership - President Hobbs**
The meeting will be held immediately after Thursday's luncheon. It is normally a short meeting. The board will be introduced, and the Unaudited Financial Report distributed. Members will be invited to ask questions and offer observations.
- F. Luncheon and Banquet Tickets – President Hobbs** distributed luncheon and banquet tickets to the board.
- G. VISTA Hours – Chair Kathy Andras** provided a brief overview on the status of the VISTA program. Kathy noted that while our members work hard, many are not submitting their VISTA hours.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Conference Reports – President Hobbs**
Board members are expected to attend at least two seminars and provide a written report on each seminar. The reports will be submitted to Vice President Andras within two weeks of the conference.
- B. Project Friendship Check - President Hobbs, Treasurer Gardner**
The large replica check will be printed with no amount indicated. The amount will be entered immediately prior to closing ceremonies on Saturday morning.
- C. Meeting Planner – President Hobbs** reminded the board that meeting planner Wes Guidry is not our point of contact for conference or hotel issues. If assistance is required, she is our contact person.



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D. Thursday and Friday AVVA Seminars – President Hobbs

AVVA is conducting two seminars. Please attend:

- “The 3 Rs to Recovery: Rekindle – Refresh – Reactivate”, Thursday, August 11, 9:00am – 10:30am
- “Heartbreak to Hope”, Friday August 12, 10:45am – 12:15pm

E. Support our Advisors – President Hobbs

Sandy Miller (our Project Friendship Advisor) and Dr. Tom Hall (our PTSD2 and Heartbreak to Hope Advisor) are participating in the “Home at Last” seminar on Friday, August 12th. The seminar is from 9am to 10:30am. Please support Sandy and Dr. Hall by attending.

F. Meal Substitutions – President Hobbs announced that those with food allergies or vegetarian diets must submit their meal requests by Tuesday afternoon. Requests are being taken in the Situation Room.

G. Product Sales – President Hobbs reminded the board that people at the Product Sales table are limited to those who are there to work.

H. Membership Applications – President Hobbs, Terri Rangel distributed membership applications. Board members were advised to always keep applications on hand. Recruit, recruit, recruit and don’t forget about dual memberships.

I. New Member Packages – President Hobbs informed the board that new member packages have been delayed because the national office is out of AVVA membership cards. The cards are being printed. However, before the next printing, the cards will be redesigned.

J. Luncheon Introductions – President Hobbs discussed the process for introducing luncheon speakers and the award presentations.

K. Convention Refunds - President Hobbs provided copies of the refund forms for the conference. These need to be completed to claim refunds for registration and 4 days of our hotel stay. The forms must be received VVA/AVVA registration personnel by the end of the conference.

L. 2023 Convention - President Hobbs announced that planning for the 2023 Convention will begin in November.

M. November BOD Meeting - President Hobbs will be sending out travel information for the November Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business, President Hobbs adjourned the August 8, 2022, National



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Board Meeting at 8:50 PM (EST).

The Board was put on notice to meet at the call of the President, if the need arises, over the next five days.

Submitted by,

Nina D. Schloffel
AVVA National Secretary

Attachments:

- Quarterly Report – Elections Committee (N. Montgomery)
- Quarterly Report – Region 5 (P. Meinhardt)
- AVVA National Awards
- VISTA Awards

Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America

National Election Committee Report

Submitted by Nancy Montgomery, Election Committee Chair

July 20, 2022

First of all I want to apologize for the delays in contacting me due to computer problems (still) but I am working on it to get back in business. In the meantime you can use my husband, Charlie's email: *gumby173d@com.net*. Hopefully my email will be corrected to the same email address or I may have a new one. Also waiting for a new computer to come in. I will keep everyone informed asap.

I have been communicating with Suzie Meeks, Data Base Manager, on a regular basis and a few directors and members in collecting election results.

Again, as I stated in my last report, the committee recommends that all review the Policies and Procedures in regards to Elections for this year to make sure all your states and chapters are following the procedures. These elected officers and representatives will be your leaders for the next two years and your delegates at the next convention in 2023. Please follow the directions in reporting your new officers and/or representatives. Hopefully, the majority have already sent them to me or Suzie.

Again, I am also asking all to review the Election Policy and Procedures for any suggestions for changes and improvements so they can be considered by the committee prior to the next board meeting in October 2022. Please send to me at your earliest convenience in order for the committee to review and then submit by the deadline. I would like to have your input by no later than August 15, 2022.

Thank you.

Committee members: Wynella Bethards, Linda Haberkorn, Kathryn Reddick and Ann Rice, and Suzie Meeks, Special Advisor

From: Penny Meinhardt <pvameinhardt@comcast.net>
Subject: Region 5 Report
Date: Aug 5, 2022 at 6:28:59 PM
To: Penny Meinhardt <pvameinhardt@comcast.net>

Just a few things that has been happening in my Region, State and chapter. Spend some quality time working with my State Presidents in my Region to make sure they got their election turn in on time. Very pleased with their accomplishments in returned I sent them to Susie and Nancy. Great States with good communication.

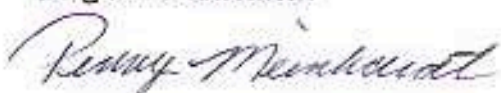
We have not had anybody to step up for Ohio since Don became sick but had this lady Mary contact me wanting to know about being a member and we discuss about joining a chapter so gave her all the details and she contacted them and they were very please to have them join them so she order a flag and 15 life member pins and she was having her first meeting on Aug 4 so wishing her the best.

We had our Mi. State Election in May our Officers all stayed the same we were honored to have our President Sharon Hobbs in attendance and she swore us in as officers. Sharon also made in very clear how important it was for AVVA and VVA to continue to work together to accomplish our goals.

Our Chapter 1083 AVVA member have been very busy doing our monthly dinner I'm in charge of the kitchen it takes two days of prep and day for the dinner but help make money for the chapter. We did the poppies for Memorial Day we use the money to do 4 nursing home for Xmas last year did 46 Veterans and spend \$80:00 a piece.

I spend every Sat and Sun plus 2 days a week working with community service people doing everything that the hall needs done could be cleaning after a rental, mowing lawns, raking, scrubbing floors, walls, cooking, wrapping silverware it all needs to be done and am honor to do so hall named after my brother that died in Vietnam and husband Tom is the VVA President and VFW Commander couldn't be prouder !

Region 5 Director



LEADERSHIP 2022 – GREENVILLE, SC

AVVA NATIONAL AWARDS

AVVA COMMENDATION MEDAL – Ann Rice, Chapter 240, TN

MEMBER OF THE YEAR – Diane Schaack, Chapter 1048, FL

FELLOWSHIP AWARD – Wynella Bethards, Chapter 454, KY

OTHER SUBMISSIONS FOR MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Ann Rice, Chapter 240, TN

Terry Byron, Chapter 106, AZ

Anita Washburn, Chapter 920, TX

OTHER SUBMISSIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP

Terry Byron, Chapter 106 AZ

VISTA AWARDS LEADERSHIP 2022

First Place – Linda Meyer – Chapter 1004 Tenn. 1164 hours

Second Place - Nancy Briggs – Chapter 104 Az. 448.5 hours

Third Place – Terry Novak – Chapter 542 Pa. 359.5 hours

Top Region 3 7538 Hours

Top Chapter 1004 Tenn. 4166 hours

Top State Tenn.

TOTAL HOURS 10,113.6

TOTAL MEMBERS 78