



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

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2025
Virtual Meeting - GoToMeeting

Call to Order:

President Hobbs called the regular meeting of the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America (AVVA) to order at 12:01 PM (Eastern). Secretary Nina Schloffel was in place. The meeting was conducted virtually using the GoToMeeting conferencing application.

Opening Exercises:

President Hobbs recognized National Chaplain, Bobbie Norris, to deliver the invocation and observe a Moment of Silence. Vice President Kathy Andras led the assembly in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Board of Directors Roll Call:

Secretary Schloffel called the roll

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| President: | Sharon Hobbs | Region 4: | Mary Anne Newman |
| Vice President: | Kathy Andras | Region 5: | Tony Gigli |
| Secretary: | Nina Schloffel | Region 6: | Barbara Coan |
| Treasurer: | Kaye Gardner | Region 7: | Terri Rangel |
| Region 1: | Vacant | Region 8: | Jennifer Ellis |
| Region 2: | Bobbie Morris | Region 9: | Kelly Frederickson* |
| Region 3: | Wynella Bethards | | |

* Absent

Quorum established.

Other Attendees:

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Barbara Miller, PRP | Parliamentarian |
| Nancy Montgomery | National Chair, Elections Committee |
| Susan Price | National Chair, Finance Committee |

President's Remarks:

President Hobbs welcomed attendees and presented a short overview of what we can expect at our new meeting place, the Sheraton at Pentagon City.



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Agenda:

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

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Approve October Minutes:

Motion (#2) – Moved by Region 7, Terri Rangel and it was seconded, to adopt the October 17, 2024 minutes presented.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Consent Calendar:

January 2025

Motion out of the Members in the Justice System Committee: to accept the resignation of Julie Hayes (FL) as a member of the committee.

Motion (#3) – Moved by Region 3, Wynella Bethards, and it was seconded, to accept the January 2025 Consent Calendar as presented,

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Out-of-Committee Proposals:

Motion (#4) – On behalf of the Executive Committee, Secretary Nina Schloffel moved, no second required, to amend Policy Section 11, Committee and Program Policies, to insert the American Flag Etiquette Program as Subsections II.A-D and renumber subsequent subsections accordingly.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Budget Approval:

Finance Committee Chair, Susan Price, announced that budget proposals have been electronically distributed to all Officers, Regional Directors, and Committee Chairs. Budgets will be approved at the April Board meeting. Please review your proposed budget(s) prior to the meeting.

Flag Booklet Update:

President Hobbs reported that demand for the Flag Booklets remains high. 10,000 booklets were initially printed. 3,000 were allotted to the United Mine Workers, who



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funded printing the booklets, with the remainder being split between AVVA and Veterans Against Drugs.

Although booklets are limited to 100 per order, our supply is running low. Time to start thinking about printing more booklets. We are also requesting donations to cover shipping costs. Good news – AVVA recently received a \$500 donation to the Flag Booklet Program. This will be used to offset shipping.

Mailchimp Update:

Data compiled from current AVVA membership rosters has been uploaded into Mailchimp. This effort increased our Mailchimp audience base from less than 4,000 email subscribers to over 9,400.

Chapel of the Four Chaplains:

Last October, Dennis Beauregard and Dave and Elaine Simmons, presented an overview of the honorary society, Chapel of the Four Chaplains. Purpose of the presentation was to encourage previous inductees to nominate other AVVA members for a Chapel of the Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award. To date, the Chapel has not received any award nominations from AVVA. President Hobbs encourages eligible AVVA honorees to nominate a deserving AVVA colleague. Awardees will be recognized during a ceremony at the National Convention.

Resignation:

Region 9 Director, Kelly Frederickson, has resigned from the National Board. President Hobbs requested a motion to accept Director Frederickson's resignation.

Motion (#5) – Moved by Vice President Kathy Andras, and it was seconded, to accept the resignation of Region 9 Director, Kelly Frederickson, from the National Board.

Accepted by Unanimous Consent

Capitol Hill Visit:

VVA Government Affairs Chair, James McCormick is organizing a visit to Capitol Hill for the AAVA National Board. Participants will visit their respective legislators on Wednesday, April 23rd. Each will be accompanied by a VVA Government Affairs staff member. Please inform President Hobbs if you are interested.



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Condolence Program Update:

Upon learning that AVVA discontinued the Condolence Program, the VVMF (Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund) volunteered to assume the program. Feasibility is being investigated by VVA because of possible member privacy issues.

2025 Convention Updates:

Deadlines:

- Awards – May 15th
- Bylaws Change Submissions – April 1st
- Candidate Declarations – April 1st
- Delegate Registration – June 30th

Luncheon Update

- Gifts – Bring samples to April BOD

Evaluation Questionnaire

- Andras*, Ellis (*Frederickson resignation)

Project Friendship – Two Charitable Candidates:

- Volunteers of America of Greater New Orleans
4152 Canal Street
New Orleans, LA 70113
(504) 482-2130
- New Orleans Women and Children
2020 South Liberty Street
New Orleans, LAA 70113
(504) 522-9340

President Hobbs will contact primaries for each charity and determine which charity most supports veterans/veteran families. Project Friendship partner charity to be announced at the April Board Meeting.

- Registration Cost and Form:
 - Registration Fee - \$75.00
 - Form

Motion (#6) – Moved by Treasurer Kaye Gardner, and it was seconded, to set AVVA Convention Registration fee at \$75.00.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent



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Motion (#7)– Moved by Region 5, Tony Gigli, and it was seconded, to accept the Convention Registration Form as presented.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Sergeants-at-Arms

- Kathy Andras
- Bobbie Morris

Executive Session:

President Hobbs called for a motion to go into Executive Session.

Motion (#8)– Moved by Secretary Nina Schloffel, and it was seconded, to go into Executive Session.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Executive Session called at 1:30 PM (Eastern)

Executive Session ended at 2:00 PM (Eastern)

Motion out of Executive Session

Motion (#9)– Moved by Region 2, Bobbie Morris, and it was seconded, to accept the name Vietnam Veterans of America Legacy Society as the name of the AVVA transition organization.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Adjournment:

Having no further business President Hobbs adjourned the virtual meeting at 2:05 PM (Eastern)

Submitted by:

Nina Schloffel

National Secretary
Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.