



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
October 23, 2025
Sheraton Pentagon City, 900 Orme St., Commonwealth 3 Room
Arlington, VA 22204

Call to Order:

President Sharon Hobbs called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM (EDT) on Thursday, October 23, 2025 in the Commonwealth 3 Room, 1st Floor, Sheraton Pentagon City, Arlington, Virginia. Secretary Nina Schloffel was in place.

Opening Ceremonies:

President Hobbs observed a Moment of Silence. Chaplain Wynella Bethards was recognized to deliver the invocation. Vice President Kathy Andras led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board of Directors Roll Call:

President:	Sharon Hobbs	Region 4:	Mary Anne Newman
Vice President:	Kathy Andras	Region 5:	Tony Gigli
Secretary:	Nina Schloffel	Region 6:	Barbara Coan
Treasurer:	Joanne Blum	Region 7:	Terri Rangel
Region 1:	Vacant	Region 8:	Jennifer Ellis
Region 2:	Bobbie Morris	Region 9:	Michelle Mackey
Region 3:	Wynella Bethards		

Quorum established.

Other Attendees / Guests:

Jan Baker	State Rep, Ohio
Ruth Feliciano	Deputy, Region 8
Barbara Miller, PRP (Virtual Attendee)	National Parliamentarian
Nancy Montgomery	Chair, National Election Committee
Lori Calamita Paton	Deputy, Region 2
Susan Price	Chair, National Finance Committee

Opening Remarks / Board Orientation:

President Hobbs noted that since this was the first meeting of the new term, time had been set aside for Board orientation. Vice President Kathy Andras distributed the Orientation Agenda (attachment 1). Handouts for Orientation Part One were provided in the meeting packets (attachment 2).



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Orientation Part One covered Chain of Command, ethics, and expectations, and defined components of the business meeting. President Hobbs took the lead in presenting this portion of the orientation.

----- **Orientation Paused for Government Affairs Report 9:35 AM (EDT)** -----

Government Affairs Report:

James McCormick, Executive Director, VVA Government Affairs
Elaina Howell, Legislative Affairs Assistant, VVA Government Affairs

Gov't Affairs Executive Director, James McCormick presented the concept of 'force multiplier' as it relates to grass roots advocacy and the AVVA mission. Director McCormick also discussed the merits of HR 2736 and encouraged AVVA to actively advocate on its behalf.

Director McCormick introduced Legislative Affairs Assistant, Elaina Howell and gave an overview of her role within the VVA Government Affairs program. Director McCormick concluded his report with a commitment to support AVVA in our advocacy efforts.

----- **Orientation Resumed at 10:00 AM (EDT)** -----

Board Orientation (cont'd):

President Hobbs concluded Orientation Part One at 10:10 AM (EDT). National Parliamentarian, Barbara Miller, PRP, joined the meeting as a virtual participant and business resumed. Orientation Part Two will be conducted at Saturday's education meeting.

Agenda:

Motion (#1) Region 6, Barbara Coan, moved and it was seconded, to accept the agenda as presented.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Approve Minutes:

A. 13th National Convention (last term)

Motion (#2) Region 5, Tony Gigli, moved and it was seconded, to adopt the Convention minutes as presented.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

B. Final Board Meeting (last term)



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Motion (#3) Region 6, Barbara Coan, moved and it was seconded, to adopt the minutes of the final Board meeting as presented.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

C. September Online Board Meeting

Motion (#4) Region 3, Wynella Bethards, moved and it was seconded, to adopt the September meeting minutes as presented.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

----- Business Paused for Guest Speakers at 10:15 AM (EDT) -----

Wes Guidry, VVA Meeting Planner, joined the meeting at 10:15 AM (EDT) . Wes provided information regarding the January 2026 move to a new hotel, the probability of a 2026 Leadership Conference, and the 2027 Convention. A summary of his report follows:

- New hotel is the Crystal Gateway Marriott, 1700 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA.
 - Room rate is \$209 ++ per night.
 - Use E-Reservation. Tab is under Resources on VVA website.
 - Select 'AVVA' as attendee type.
 - Free Wi-Fi for Marriott Bonvoy members.
 - Free Breakfast
 - Free Breaks
 - Published daily self-park rate is \$49. Discount is 20%.
 - Close to Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA).
 - Airport shuttle.
 - Metro stop in the hotel lobby.
- 2026 Leadership – no information yet. A lot depends on finding a host city that can meet requirements for lodging, meeting space, and pricing. Normally the selection process is done years, not months, ahead of any major event.
- 2027 Convention
 - Location - the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, VA.
 - Room rate is \$199 ++ per night.
 - Parking rate TBD
 - Dates – August 24, 2027 through August 28, 2027.

Wes concluded his report at 10:30 AM (EDT). President Hobbs thanked Wes for keeping us up to date on immanent events and activities.

President Hobbs recognized the arrival of newly elected VVA officers, President Tom Burke, and Vice President John Riling. She congratulated both on their new positions



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and thanked them for coming to share their views on the future of VVA and how it might affect AVVA.

President Burke began his talk by announcing the appointment of Bill Meeks, VVA National Secretary and longtime AVVA dual member, as VVA Liaison (Advisor) to AVVA.

President Burke advised the assembly that he is requesting his Board to authorize a conference in 2026. Purpose of the conference will be to draft a plan for VVA's path forward. The goal is to formalize a plan by December, 2026 and have it ready to present at the 2027 Convention.

President Burke acknowledged that many unanswered questions remain about VVA's future ,and AVVA's place in that future. Though VVA has yet to chart its future course, he, as with his predecessor, supports AVVA being a party to that mix. Inas much as he views VVA's future as more a merger than a transition, President Burke asked our president to be a member of VVA's Transition Advisory Team, and she has accepted.

Jennifer Ellis, AVVA Region 8 Director asked about the viability of publishing a survey in *The Veteran* in order to capture the membership's take on VVA's future. President Burke replied that a such a survey had been mailed to VVA 's entire membership and only 3% responded. He offered that a published survey would probably fare just as poorly.

President Burke ended his talk with a pledge to keep AVVA informed and involved as VVA moves into the future.

Vice President John Riling took the floor. He briefly summarized his VVA credentials and related how he supported AVVA in the past. John noted that he intends to continue supporting AVVA.

President Hobbs thanked both President Burke and Vice President Riling for their insights and ongoing support.

President Hobbs called for a 15minute break. Board to return by 11:15 AM (EDT)

----- Business Resumed 11:15 AM (EDT) -----

Reports - Officer and Board Updates:

Region 6 Director, Barbara Coan: During the August National Convention, President Hobbs recognized Missouri At-Large Rep, Fran Davis with the AVVA Commendation Medal. Since health issues prevented Fran from traveling to New Orleans for convention, Barbara accepted the award on Fran's behalf. Barbara recently presented Fran with her Commendation Medal. Fran was happy to receive the award and thanked everyone for their support. Barbara noted that Fran's health is improving. Pictures of the event will be posted on the AVVA website.



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Region 7 Director, Terri Rangel: At October's Texas State Council meeting, Terri recognized over 50 individuals with Certificates of Appreciation.

Region 9 Director, Michelle Mackey: Had a Zoom meeting with a chapter in Nevada that hadn't much education with AVVA Policy and Procedures. Taught them to maneuver through the website to locate bylaws and policy and procedures. Feedback was that they learned a lot. Also working with Utah to get more going in the state. The VVA Utah state president is very supportive of AVVA. Looking forward to working with him.

Reports - Committee and Program Updates:

Bylaws Committee Chair, Wynella Bethards: With the exception of a few with missing or incorrect emails, update templates for Incorporated Chapters have been distributed.

Incorporation Committee Chair, Bobbie Morris: There are 32 incorporated chapters and 12 chapters in progress. Two states, Louisiana and Georgia are presently working through the incorporation process.

Consent Calendar (Attached):

Motion (#5) Region 5, Tony Gigli, moved and it was seconded, to accept the Consent calendar into the permanent record.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Out of Committee Proposals:

Motion (#6) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 1, Positions and Responsibilities, subsections V. (National Regional Director) A.6-14 to strike existing subsection A.6 and renumber subsequent subsections V.7- .12 as subsections V.6-.11, and insert new subsections V.12-.14 ,to define additional elections responsibilities of the National Regional Director .

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#7) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 1, Positions and Responsibilities, by striking subsections VII (Database Manager) .A.1-.3 and B.1-.5 pending relocation to Section 11, Committee Policies, subsection IX (Elections).

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#8) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 1, Positions and Responsibilities, XIV (Unincorporated State Representative), subsections A.1-.6 to



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reconfigure subsection 1.a to subsection .2, then renumber subsequent subsections as .3-.6 and insert new subsections 7- 7.(i) to define additional elections responsibilities of the Unincorporated State Representative.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#9) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 1, Positions and Responsibilities, XV (Incorporated Association State Officers), to change subsection A.1. to strike the reference 'XVI' listed after the words 'Section 1 'XVI and insert the refence 'XIII ' .Then insert a new subsection A.1.e to define additional elections responsibilities of the Incorporated Association State President.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#10) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 1, Positions and Responsibilities, XVI (Unincorporated Chapter Representative), to amend subsections A.1- .6 to change subsection .1 to strike the word 'Must', then change the 'communicate' to the word 'Communicates'. Then to change subsection .2 to strike the word 'Must', then change the word 'communicate' to the word 'Communicates', then strike the text from subsection 2.a and insert at the end of subsection 2. Then delete subsection .2.a.' Then, change subsection .4 to strike the word 'Must' and change the word 'lead' to the word 'Leads'. Then, change subsection .5 to strike the word 'Should' and insert the word 'if', then strike the phrase 'not be able to' and insert the word 'cannot', then append the suffix 'ing' to the word 'meet'. Then, change subsection .6 to strike the word 'Should' and insert the word 'If', then strike the phrase 'not be able to' and insert the word 'cannot'. Finally, add the new subsections .7 to define additional election responsibilities of the Unincorporated Chapter representative.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#11) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 1, Positions and Responsibilities, XVII (Incorporated Chapter Officers), to change subsection A.1. to strike the reference 'XVI' listed after the words 'Section 1' and insert the refence 'XV' . Then after subsections a-.d, insert new subsection .e to define additional election responsibilities of the Incorporated Chapter President.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#12) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 1, Positions and Responsibilities, XVII I(At-Large Representative), subsections A.1-.5 to change subsection .1 to insert the word 'their' after the word 'a' and before the word 'state'. Then change subsection .2 to strike the word 'Will' (no new insertion) and change the word 'communicate' to the word 'Communicates'. Then change subsection .3 to strike the word 'Will'(no new insertion) and change the word 'communicate' to the word 'Communicates'. Strike subsection 3.a (no new insertion). Then insert a new subsection .4 with the text



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'Must inform all At-Large members within their state, they must be approved to receive a roster, an AVVA Web/e-mail Roster Access Form must be filled out and sent to the AVVA Membership Committee Chair after each election. (F-Mem07.10) ;

and renumber subsequent subsections accordingly. Then change the renumbered subsection .5 to strike the word 'Should' and insert the word 'If', then strike the phrase 'unable to', then insert the word 'cannot', and after the word 'in' and before the word 'state' append the suffix 'ir' to the word 'the'. Then change the renumbered subsection .6 to strike the word 'Should' and insert the word 'If', then strike the phrase 'be unable to' and insert the word 'cannot', and after the word 'in' and before the word 'state' append the suffix 'ir' to the word 'the'.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#13) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 1, Positions and Responsibilities, XX (Election Chair State or Chapter Levels), to change subsection A.6 to strike the word 'will', (no new insertion) ,after the word 'Chair', then append a lower case letter 's ' to the word 'submit', then strike the word 'all' ,then insert the word ' the'. Then strike the word 'documents' and insert the phrase 'results form as follows:'. Then strike all remaining text and insert as new subsection .6.a ,the following text '

a. Chapter-level elections:

to the State President or Representative within fifteen (15) days after the election is held.

and as new subsection 6.b, the following text:

b. State-level elections:

to the Regional Director within twenty-one days after the election is held.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#14) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 5, Elections, (Introduction), to strike the word 'Convention' and insert the word 'Election', then strike the sentence 'The AVVA National President will preside over the AVVA National Convention as the chairperson', (no new insertion).

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#15) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 5, Elections, V (State Level Elections) subsections C.7 and .8 to change subsection .7 to strike the word 'Suppose' and insert the word 'If'. Then change subsection .8 to strike the word 'All' (no new insertion), then strike the lower case letter 'b' in the word 'ballots' and insert an upper case letter 'B', then after the word 'Ballots' insert the phrase ' shall be', then after the word 'used' insert the phrase 'for all elections'. Then strike all the words and sentences after the word 'elections' and before the word 'Generic' (no new insertion)..

Adopted by Unanimous Consent



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Motion (#16) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 5, Elections, VI (Chapter Level Elections) subsection .7 to change subsection .7 to strike the word 'All' (no new insertion), then strike the lower case letter 'b' in the word 'ballots' and insert an upper case letter 'B', then after the word 'Ballots' insert the phrase ' shall be', then after the word 'used' insert the phrase 'for all elections'. Then strike all the words and sentences after the word 'elections' and before the word 'Generic' (no new insertion).

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#17) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 5, Elections, XV (National Database Policy) subsections A.1-.8; B.1-.8 to change subsection A. (1st paragraph) after the word 'of' and before the word 'information' to insert the word 'elections', then after the word 'information' strike the word 'to' and insert the phrase 'it is used to'. Then after the word 'If' and before the word 'election' strike the word 'the'. Then, insert the letter 's' to the end of the word 'result'. Then, after the word 'not', strike the word 'distributed' and before the word 'correctly', insert the word 'processed. Then, after the word 'correctly' and before the phrase 'a chapter', strike the phrase 'it will cost'. Then, between the sentence ending in the word 'proceedings' and before the word 'Chapter', strike the word 'All'. Then strike all the words after the phrase 'Officers must ensure that' and insert the words 'elections reports are completed and submitted in accordance with established policies.'

Retain paragraph 1 as changed, then insert as a standalone line, and highlight in red, the following new language '**The National Database is the property of the Corporation.**'

Then, insert, as standalone lines, and highlight in red, the following new language '**NOTE: Refer to P & P Section 1: POSITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES : Duties for Elections Reporting Requirements for Chapter, State, and Regional Director.**'

Then strike subsequent subsections 1 -.8 and all of subsections B.1-B.8 (no new insertions).

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#18) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the VISTA Committee, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 11, Committee Policies IV (VISTA Committee), to change subsections B.3 to insert a new subsection .g that adds the following language 'Hours spent in representation of other organizations such as VFW or American Legion cannot be counted.'

Amendment offered: Region 5, Tony Gigli moved to amend the original motion to read; to change subsections B.3 to insert a new subsection .g that adds the following language 'Hours spent in representation of other organizations shall be counted at the VISTA Committee Chair's discretion.'

Amendment Adopted by Unanimous Consent



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Amended Motion (#18) Region 5, Tony Gigli, moved and it was seconded, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 11, Committee Policies IV (VISTA Committee), to change subsections B.3 to insert a new subsection .g that adds the following language 'Hours spent in representation of other organizations shall be counted at the VISTA Committee Chair's discretion'.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion (#19) Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Election Committee and the Executive Board, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 11, Committee Policies IX (Elections Committee), to amend subsections A.-.D. to change subsection A.3 to strike the word 'Elections' then insert the word 'National'. Then change subsection B.1 after the words 'Committee Chair' to insert the text 'and another, the Database Manager. Then strikes the phrase ' will appoint' and inserts the word 'appoints'. Then after the words 'Committee Chair' inserts the text 'and another, the 'Database Manager'. Then changes subsection B.2 after the words ' Elections Chair to insert the text 'and the 'Database Manager' and strike the phrase 'him or her' and inserts th e phrase 'their appointments'. Then change subsection C to insert new subsections .4 and .5 to define process parameters for the Committee Chair and the Database Manager, and renumbers subsequent subsections accordingly. Then change renumbered subsection .8 to strike the phrase 'an election' and insert the phrase 'a National Election'. Then change renumbered subsection .10 to insert the phrase 'In a National Election year' before the words 'the chair'. Then adds new subsections D.1 - .6.a-c to define duties of the Database Manager.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Motion to Rescind Name Change:

Motion (#20) Region 2, Bobbie Morris, moved and it was seconded to rescind Motion (#9) that was adopted at the January 2025 Board Meeting. Text of the previously adopted motion follows:

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

Motion (#20) to Rescind Motion (#9) Adopted in January 2025

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Electronic Motions:

None



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General Orders:

A. Convention Updates

Product Sales – Vice President Kathy Andras reported that Convention Product Sales was a losing proposition. After all expenses were paid, we lost \$2,017.47. Vice President Andras suggests suspending products sales at National events. However, Product Sales Chair, Penny Meinhardt can continue selling AVVA merchandise from her home.

Motion (#21) Secretary Nina Schloffel, moved, and it was seconded, to suspend Product Sales at annual meetings until further notice.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Project Friendship – President Hobbs reported that we donated \$27,700 to Volunteers of America of Southeast Louisiana.

B. Budgets Due Dates – Susan Price will discuss budgets on Saturday.

C. Follow-up to Meeting Planner's Report.

President Hobbs noted that October is when we normally make plans for the Leadership Conference. This isn't happening this time. We can't make any plans because there are no firm decisions on when, or even, if, there will be a Leadership Conference in 2026. If a decision comes out the VVA Board meeting on Saturday, President Hobbs will send a text about whether or not there will be a Leadership Conference.

D. Paper Safes

President Hobbs reported that the Web Weekly published a link to our Paper Safe order form. Our supply is running low. So far we've received over \$5,000 donated toward Paper Safes.

Motion (#22) Region 6, Barbara Coan, moved, and it was seconded, to purchase 10,000 Paper Safes at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

E. Flag Booklets

President Hobbs negotiated a price for an upgraded version of the Flag Brochure. While content remains the same, the brochure will be printed on high grade stock with a cardstock cover. Since we are funding printing, the only logo on the brochure will be ours.

Motion (#23) The Flag Committee moved, and it was seconded, to purchase 10,000 Flag Brochures at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent



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Finance Chair, Susan Price, proposed using money market funds to pay for previously unbudgeted expenses such as printing.

Motion (#24) The Finance Committee moved, and it was seconded, to use funds in our Money Market account at Edward Jones to pay for printing, or other expenses ,not previously budgeted.

Adopted by Unanimous Consent

Announcements:

December 19th to January 5th, the Board will be on vacation for the holidays.

The next meeting will be an online meeting in January.

2026 is an election year for States, Chapters and At-Large. Please remind them of critical elections dates and that an election is not valid until the Elections forms are processed.

Adjournment:

Having no further business, President Hobbs adjourned the meeting at 1:05 PM (EDT), to meet at the call of the President over the next three days, should the need arise.

Submitted by,

Nina Schloffel
National Secretary
Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.

Attachments:

Orientation Agenda
Orientation Part One
Consent Calendar

- I. Organizational Chart/Ethics/Expectations: Sharon
 - A. Chain of Command
 - B. Confidentiality
 - C. Executive Session
 - D. Attire/Manner/Character/Timeliness
 - E. Disciplinary (w/Joanne)

- II. Business meeting: Sharon
 - A. Packets (Nina)
 - B. Agenda
 - 1. Report updates
 - 2. Consent Calendar
 - 3. E-Motions
 - 4. Out-of-committee
 - 5. General Orders
 - 6. P & P Proposals
 - 7. Announcements

 - C. VVA Committee Meetings

- III. Education: Kathy
 - A. Online
 - B. Saturday mornings in DC

- IV. Membership: Terri
 - A. Forms
 - B. Rosters: real-time vs electronic
 - C. Distribution process
 - D. Dealing with discrepancies/questions/issues

- V. Communication: Nina
 - A. Board
 - B. Mailchimp
 - C. Text/Email

- VI. Online tools: Nina
 - A. E-motion process
 - B. Consent Calendar
 - C. Website

- VII. Reports: Nina/Kathy/Joanne
 - A. AVVA Board & Committee reports
 - B. VVA Advisor reports
 - C. After-action reports

- VIII. Financials: Kathy/Joanne/Susan
 - A. Request to Travel
 - B. Advance/Reimbursement requests
 - C. Expense coding
 - D. Budgets

- IX. Elections: Nancy
 - A. Elections
 - 1. At-Large
 - 2. States
 - 3. Chapters
 - B. Forms
 - C. Database
- X. Policy and Procedures: Barbara C.

Chain of Command:

Everybody has a boss. Although the President resides over meetings and the body, the Board of Directors, as a whole, govern the President. In turn, the Board answers to the membership. An Organizational Chart is included in your packet. I firmly believe in the "Command Chain" so I have no intention of overstepping your authority unless you have blatantly erred or you have asked me for help.

Confidentiality:

Everyone signed a confidentiality agreement during our first Board meeting in Greensboro. I trust that you have taken the time to read over it and understand its meaning. Every Board Member must be trusted with private information from time-to-time. It is our duty and obligation to maintain confidence. This policy extends to National Committees as well. If you are a Committee Chair, please make sure that your members have signed said agreement and that you have retained copies for your records.

Executive Session:

A motion and second must be made by the Board to enter into Executive Session. Everyone visiting the meeting must leave unless requested to stay. During this time, no minutes will be taken and only outcomes reported to the membership. Time entering and exiting the session plus the outcomes will be noted in the business minutes. **NO one** is to speak of the content of the Executive Session outside of the boardroom. It is advised that it not be discussed with other people present during the session once you leave the room. Should you overhear, or be approached by a fellow Board Member who wants to discuss it, caution them as to your location and who is nearby. Board members not adhering to executive confidentiality may be subject to disciplinary action.

Attire:

As a member of the AVVA Board, you are representing National AVVA during your stay in Silver Spring and during the Annual National meetings. During business hours, our dress is business casual. Tee shirts, jeans, sweat shirts & pants, jogging suits, etc. are unacceptable. No loud or boisterous talking while in the bar or at the place designated for smoking. Several members of the Board in the past have suggested wearing shirts or jackets alike; this was never followed through on, but if someone wants to pursue it this term, we will listen. After the daily business is completed, you may relax. Remember, VVA Committee meetings are considered business.

Board Orientation October 2025

Manner and character:

Mannerisms, behaviors, and character are learned young. However, during your tour as a Board member and while AVVA is funding your travel, you are expected to exhibit irreproachable behaviors and integrity. This extends past the Boardroom and into your communities.

Timeliness:

Our board meetings usually start promptly at the time noted on the agenda. You are expected to be present. The Secretary will call the roll; if you are not present, then you will be considered "absent" until you arrive. Our bylaws require a quorum of 2/3 to conduct business. You are also expected to attend the VVA Board meetings on Friday and Saturday unless otherwise informed. Smoke breaks and restroom breaks are expected, but should take no longer than 10-15 minutes.

Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.

Consent Calendar

October 2025

1. Motion out of Awards: To accept Barbara Coan (MO), Michelle Mackey (CA), Mary Anne Newman (FL) as members of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
2. Motion out of Bylaws: To accept Tony Gigli (IN), Mary Anne Newman (FL), and Lori Paton (NY), as members of the committee for the 2025–2027 term.
3. Motion out of Disciplinary: To accept Suzanne Blohm-Weber (FL), and Tony Gigli (IN), as members of the committee, and Mary Anne Newman (FL) as Vice-Chair for the 2025-2027 term.
4. Motion out of Elections: To accept Michelle Mackey (CA), Kaye Gardner (MD), Tony Gigli (IN), and Mary Anne Newman (FL), as members of the committee, and Suzie Meeks (TX) as Special Advisor for the 2025-2027 term.
5. Motion out of Finance: To accept Kathy Andras (TX), Joanne Blum (FL), Nina Schloffel (CA), and Charlie Corbin (VVA Staff), as members of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
6. Motion out of Government Affairs: To accept Sharon Hobbs (TN) as Special Advisor to the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
7. Motion out of Historian Committee: To accept Tony Gigli (IN), Bobbie Morris (PA), and Terri Rangel (TX) as members of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
8. Motion out of Incorporation: To accept Susan Price (TN), Ann Rice (TN), and Barry Schloffel (Dual Member-CA) as members of the committee, and Nancy Rekowski (PA) as Special Advisor for the 2025-2027 term.
9. Motion out of Leadership Development: To accept Sharon Hobbs (TN), Nina Schloffel (CA), and Joanne Blum (FL) as members of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
10. Motion out of Membership: To accept Wynella Bethards (KY), Joanne Blum (FL), and Tony Gigli (IN) as members of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
11. Motion out of Members in the Justice System: To accept Karen Osgood (FL), Hope Summers (SC), and Roberta Troxell (FL) as members of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
12. Motion out of Paper Safe: to accept Mokie Porter (VVA Staff) as Co-chair, and Marc McCabe (VVA) as Special Advisor for the 2025-2027 term.
13. Motion out of Policies and Procedures: To accept Lori Calamita-Paton (NY) , Jeanette Cox (MO), and Ruth Feliciano (OR) as members of the committee, and Nina Schloffel (CA) as Vice-Chair for the 2025-2027 term.
14. Motion out of Product Sales: To accept Kristy Strickland (MI) as a member of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
15. Motion out of Secondary PTSD: To accept Wynella Bethards (KY) as Vice-Chair; Regions 1-3, and Barbara Coan (MO) as Vice-Chair; Regions 4-6 for the 2025-2027 term.

Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.

Consent Calendar

October 2025

16. Motion out of Spousal and Survivor Benefits – Regions 1-5: To accept Mokie Porter (VVA staff), Nancy Switzer (NY), and Margaret Wojciechowicz (NJ) as members of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
17. Motion out of Spousal and Survivor Benefits – Regions 6-9: To accept Dolores Kirkes (OR), Bobbie Morris (PA), and Craig Wade (AK - Dual) as members of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
18. Motion out of Toxic Exposure: To accept Pat Furno (WI), Nadine Owen (OR), and Beverly Pounds (TN) as members of the committee for the 2025-2027 term.
19. Region 2 Disciplinary Panel for the 2025-2027 Term: Terry Novak (PA), Lori Calamita-Paton (NY) and Margaret Wojciechowicz (NJ).
20. Region 3 Disciplinary Panel for the 2025-2027 Term: Deborah Musolino (NC), Nancy Montgomery (VA), and Hope Summers (SC).
21. Region 4 Disciplinary Panel for the 2025-2027 Term: Yvonne Dempsey (AL), Faye Morris (GA), and Dyana Teffinger (FL).
22. Region 5 Disciplinary Panel for the 2025-2027 Term: Jan Baker (OH), Freda Goodwin (IL), and Penny Meinhardt (MI).
23. Region 6 Disciplinary Panel for the 2025-2027 Term: Jeanette Cox (MO), Fran Davis (MO), Pat Furno (WI), and Roland Mayhew (KS).
24. Region 7 Disciplinary Panel for the 2025-2027 Term: Paula Braxton (LA), Theresa Neal (AR), and Anita Washburn (TX).
25. Region 8 Disciplinary Panel for the 2025-2027 Term: Linda Blocher (OR), Willa Burgess (MT) ,and Pete Kremen (WA).
26. Region 9 Disciplinary Panel for the 2025-2027 Term: Nancy Briggs (AZ), Nina Schloffel (CA), and Judy Kent (UT).
27. To accept Bill Paton, Chair - VVA Homeless Veterans Committee, as VVA Advisor to Project Friendship for the 2025–2027 term.
28. To accept Bill Meeks, VVA National Secretary, as VVA Advisor to AVVA for the 2025-2027 term.