



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

July 18, 2016

Hilton El Conquistador

Tucson, AZ

Call to Order:

President Sharon Hobbs called the regular meeting of the AVVA Board of Directors to order at 07:00pm on Monday, July 18, 2016 in Room 1504 of the Hilton El Conquistador in Tucson, AZ.

Opening Exercises:

Diane Nicholson, AVVA Region 6 Director, led the invocation and followed with a Moment of Silence.

Elayne Mackey, AVVA National Vice President, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Hobbs welcomed all attendees.

Election of Secretary Pro-Tem:

Motion #1 moved by Region 5 Director, Cecilia Essenmacher, seconded by Region 6 Director, Diane Nicholson, to appoint Nina Schloffel as Secretary Pro-Tem for the duration of the Leadership Conference. – **ADOPTED**

Board of Directors Roll Call:

Secretary Pro-Tem Schloffel Called the Roll -

Board Members Present:

President: Sharon Hobbs

Vice President: Elayne Mackey

Secretary: Nina Schloffel (Pro-Tem)

Treasurer: Kathy Andras

Region 1: vacant

Region 3: Beverly Pounds

Region 4: Jeri Wallis

Region 5: Cecilia Essenmacher

Region 6: Diane Nicholson

Region 7: Percilla Newberry

Region 8: John Birch

Region 9: Casey Farrell

Board Members Absent:

Region 2: Nancy Rekowski (EXCUSED)

Quorum established.



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Guest(s):

Sharon Hodge, Chair AVVA Governmental Affairs Committee and Chair Legislative Advocacy Program.

Accept Agenda:

Motion #2 moved by Vice President, Elayne Mackey, seconded by Region 4 Director, Jeri Wallis, to accept the agenda as presented. – **ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Officer and Board Reports: No Updates.

Committee and Program Reports: No Updates.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Motion #3 moved by Vice President, Elayne Mackey, seconded by Region 9 Director, Casey Farrell, to accept the motions listed in the Consent Calendar into the permanent record. – **ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

July 18 CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Motion out of Membership Committee:** To accept Bobbie Morris, Joanna Henshaw, and Ann Rice as members of the Committee at no cost to the corporation.
2. **Motion out of Elections Committee:** To accept Suzie Meeks, Kathy Andras, Ann Rice and Diane Nicholson as members of the Committee at no cost to the corporation.
3. **Motion out of Incorporation Committee:** To add Nancy Rekowski to the Committee at no additional cost to the corporation.
4. **Motion out of Leadership Committee:** To add Elayne Mackey as co-chair of Leadership at no additional cost the corporation.
5. To accept Sue Crego (AZ) as the Region 9 Deputy Director at no additional cost to the corporation.

ELECTRONIC MOTIONS:

Motion #4 moved by Region 4 Director, Jeri Wallis, seconded by Region 6 Director, Diane Nicholson, to accept into the permanent record, all electronic motions made between April 1, 2016 and the July 18, 2016 regular BOD meeting. – **ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**



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July 18, 2016 ELECTRONIC MOTIONS

- 1 **IEM12:** Motion to accept the following changes to committees for the remainder of the 2015-2017 term:
 - Remove Elayne Mackey as the Elections Chair due to her new elected position.
 - Accept Kaye Gardner (MD Chapter 304) as Elections Chair with minimal cost to AVVA.
 - Dismiss the current members of the Election Committee.
 - Remove Casey Farrell as the Membership Co-Chair at her request.
 - Accept Bobbie Morris as the Incorporation Chair at no cost to national.
 - Remove Sarah Maddox from the Veteran Benefits Committee at her request.
 - Add Nancy Rekowski to the Governmental Affairs Committee at no cost to national.
 - Accept Cecilia Essenmacher and Sharon Hobbs as Membership Co-Chairs with no added cost to national.
 - Dismiss the current members of Membership Committee.
 - Add Kaye Gardner to the Disciplinary Committee. (Quorum of 8) – **PASSED**
W/O OBJECTION
2. **IEM13:** The Bylaws Committee moves to accept the addition to section 11 of the P&P, the committee policy as shown below and in the attached document (P&P change form – sec 11 w/the bylaws comm. Policy) (Quorum of 10) - **PASSED W/O OBJECTION**
3. **IEM14:** The Secretary moves to accept the April Board Meeting Minutes as amended by the Secretary pro-tem. (quorum of 10) vote 7 yes, 0 no. **PASSED**
4. **IEM15:** To accept the newly designed and created Secondary PTSD Brochure with a possible printing cost to AVVA not to exceed \$500. CA Chapter 47's donation of \$1,500 for the first printing of the brochure has made this addition to our program possible. **PASSED W/O OBJECTION**

Policy and Procedure Changes:

Motion #5 out of Finance Committee, second not required. To approve the addition to Section 4 of the Policies and Procedures Manual. Deceased Member Protocol Policy. – **ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Motion #6 out of Finance Committee, second not required. To approve the addition to Section 4 of the Policies and Procedures Manual. Subsection: Accounts Payable-B. No show reimbursement. – **ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Motion #7 out of Membership Committee, second not required. To approve the addition to Section 7 of the Policies and Procedures Manual. Upgrading Active Membership. – **ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Amendment from P & P Committee to Motion # 7: To change the P & P, Section 7, Upgrading Active Membership to amend the language submitted by the Membership Committee. – **FAILED**



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Motion # 8 out of Policy and Procedure Committee, second not required. To accept the changes in the Confidentiality Agreement in order to make it very clear to the signer what is being agreed to. ***Postponed until October BOD meeting.***

Memorandum of Understanding:

Motion # 9 moved by Treasurer, Kathy Andras, seconded by Region 9 Director, Casey Farrell. To accept the VVA/AVVA Memorandum of Understanding as presented. – ***ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION***

General Orders:

- **Foundation Update:**

New Chair is Linda Yates. Vice Chair is vacant. Secretary is Sandy Allen. Treasurer is Susan Price. Directors are Susan Henthorn and Greg Thibodaux. Sharon Hobbs and Jeff White remain as advisors.

The Foundation is actively seeking grant monies. A retired university professor who is an experienced grant writer, as well as a Tennessee AVVA member, is assisting with this effort.

- **In Memory Plaque Update:**

President Hobbs will meet with the Fine Arts Council, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and the National Park Service in early August. Purpose of the meeting is to select and secure approval for the final design of the In Memory Plaque. Two designs are being considered. Mockups have been prepared for both. Once the design is approved, we can begin fundraising on behalf of the project.

- **Flag Brochure Program Update:**

President Hobbs is collaborating with Marc Leepson and Wes Guidry on content and accuracy. Volunteer Bernie Rekowski will use the information to create the AVVA Flag Brochure.

- **Proforma Products Update:**

The Proforma Products that we purchased for \$500 have been incorporated into our product sales inventory. These, and other logoed items, are available at the AVVA table in the vendors' mall.



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- **Paper Safes Update:**

The Foundation will receive a \$10K grant in October. The grant will fund the much needed reprinting of Paper Safes. There are two important issues around this reprint:

- Current supply of Paper Safes is too low to hold off printing until grant received in October.
- \$10K grant will print only 5,000 units. Another \$3K (\$13K total expense) will enable printing 10,000 units, total.

Motion #10 moved by Vice President Elayne Mackey, seconded by Region 4 Director, Jeri Wallis. To accept providing a \$13K advance from the AVVA treasury that will fund the immediate reprint of 10,000 Paper Safes. \$10K of this \$13K advance to be reimbursed in October when the Foundation grant is received. The remaining 3K will be expensed to the Paper Safe project. – **ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

- **Possible New Seminar/Program:**

Considerations include developing a caregiver seminar/program. Vice President Mackey recently read an excellent book on caregiving. The author will be invited to speak at the Convention Luncheon in New Orleans in 2017. VP Mackey to follow-up.

- **Trademark:**

While VP Mackey has secured the usage rights to logos displayed on our PTSD '2' Brochure, these and the designation PTSD '2' need to be trademarked. A similar situation exists for the Paper Safe project. Need to identify who will take ownership for these tasks.

- **AVVA Commendation Plaque:**

Motion #15 Moved by Vice President Elayne Mackey, seconded by Treasurer Kathy Andras. To approve creating a plaque recognizing individuals awarded the AVVA Commendation. The plaque will be similar to that established for AVVA Member of the Year and will be displayed in the national office. – **ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

- **AVVA Phone App:**

Secretary Joanna Henshaw is investigating costs associated with developing and maintaining an AVVA phone app. The app will be used to keep our members informed on a real time basis.



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- **Toxic Exposure Brochure:**

VVA will fund the printing of 10,000 AVVA Toxic Exposure Brochures.

Great news!

Assignments:

All conference related assignments are completed. Seminar preparations are in place.

Announcements:

President Hobbs announced the following -

- Virtual rosters will soon replace emailed versions. Since Board members will be expected to assist those needing help with these rosters; it was strongly suggested that all attend the Virtual Rosters seminar. The seminar is scheduled for this Wednesday from 11:00am – 12:30pm.
- In the near future, members will have the convenience of paying their dues online.
- At the October meeting:
 - We will begin planning for the 2017 National Convention.
 - Ongoing education session planned for Saturday morning – “More Than Just A Name Badge”.

Adjournment:

Having no further business, the July 18 regular meeting of the AVVA Board of Directors adjourned at 8:20pm. The Board was put on notice to meet at the call of the President, if the need arises, over the next five days.



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AVVA Awards Luncheon
July 21, 2016
Hilton El Conquistador
Tucson, AZ

2016 AVVA AWARDS

VISTA:

VISTA Program Co-coordinator and Region 4 Director, Jeri Wallis presented certificates to the following for the most VISTA hours submitted in their respective categories:

- *Region:* Region III
- *State:* State of Tennessee
- *Chapter:* Chapter 240 – Sumner County, Tennessee

Individuals awarded plaques for their outstanding contributions to the VISTA program are:

- *First Place:* Rose Wright – Chapter 240, Tennessee
- *Second Place:* Jeff Metheny – Chapter 984, Illinois
- *Third Place:* Rita Clifton – Chapter 772, Georgia

Member of the Year and Fellowship:

Awards Program Chair and Region 6 Director, Percilla Newberry presented two awards:

- ***Member of the Year:*** Teresa Rangel – Texas
- ***Fellowship:*** Mabel Foreman - Louisiana

The following members were also nominated for these awards. Each received a certificate honoring their respective nominations.

- Pam Dylina (*Fellowship & Member of the Year*)
- Pat Giza (*Fellowship*)
- Carol Stewart (*Fellowship*)
- Carolyn Schlamb (*Fellowship*)
- Pamela Bossardet (*Member of the Year*)
- Mabel Foreman (*Member of the Year*)
- Daniel Levy (*Member of the Year*)
- Laura Nevarez (*Member of the Year*)
- Linda Thompson (*Member of the Year*)
- Claudia Williams (*Member of the Year*)



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AVVA Commendation Medals:

The ***AVVA Commendation Medal*** is highest honor conferred by the AVVA. This year's awardees are:

- Suzanne Blohm-Weber – Florida
- Joyce Koprowski – Florida
- Steve Mackey – California
- Bobbie Morris – Pennsylvania
- Bernie Rekowski – Pennsylvania

AVVA Luncheon Speaker:

Former Army nurse, Kate O'Hare-Palmer gave the talk "Women Veterans: The Challenging Road to Get Back Home". In appreciation, AVVA President Sharon Hobbs presented Ms. O'Hare-Palmer with a cut crystal vase.



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SPECIAL MEETING OF THE AVVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS Called By President Sharon Hobbs - July 23, 2016: Meeting Minutes

Call to Order:

President Hobbs called the Special Meeting of the AVVA Board of Directors to order at 09:00am on Saturday, July 23, 2016 in the Mesquite Room at the Hilton El Conquistador in Tucson, AZ.

Board of Directors Roll Call:

Secretary Pro-Tem Schloffel called the roll –

Board Members Present:

President: Sharon Hobbs

Vice President: Elayne Mackey

Secretary: Nina Schloffel (Pro-Tem)

Treasurer: Kathy Andras

Region 1: vacant

Region 2: Nancy Rekowski

Region 4: Jeri Wallis

Region 5: Cecilia Essenmacher

Region 6: Diane Nicholson

Region 8: John Birch

Region 9: Casey Farrell

Board Members Absent:

Region 3: Beverly Pounds

Region 7: Percilla Newberry

Quorum established.

Motions:

Motion (#1) out of the Finance Committee, no second required. To accept the IRS Form 990 for FY2016 as filed – ***ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION***

Motion (#2) out of the Veterans in the Justice System Committee, no second required. To accept the appointment of Casey Farrell to the Veterans in the Justice System Committee, at no cost to the corporation – ***ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION***

Motion (#3) moved by Region 8 Director, John Birch. Seconded by Region 4 Director, Jeri Wallis. To call for this Special Meeting of BOD to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION - ***ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION***



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President Hobbs called for this Special Meeting of the BOD to go into EXECUTIVE SESSION (09:06AM)

Out of EXECUTIVE SESSION (09:12am)

EXECUTIVE SESSION Results:

Motion (#4) out of the Disciplinary Committee, no second required, to accept two recommendations from the Disciplinary Hearing Panel regarding AVVA regular life member #926863:

1. Member #926863 shall have her AVVA life membership revoked.
2. Should member #926863 subsequently reapply for AVVA membership, such membership shall be denied.

- ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION

Oath of Office – Region 9 Director:

President Hobbs administered the Oath of Office to recently elevated Region 9 Director. Casey Farrell.

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business, the July 23, 2016 Special Meeting of the AVVA Board of Directors adjourned at 09:16am.

Submitted by,

Nina D. Schloffel
AVVA National Secretary Pro-Tem