

Vietnam Veterans of America  
Chapter 966  
West End, NC

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on August 5, 2024. There were 18 in attendance.
2. The Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and a Moment of Silence were conducted.
3. The roll call was conducted: All Board members were present except President, Bob Hall.
4. Financial Report: Our current balance of \$13,541.73 was reported.
5. Secretary Report: Minutes for May and June 2024 meetings have been posted on the Chapter's website. An issue of posting on the Website versus a email to all members was discussed. This issue will be discussed at the next meeting. A briefing on the 7 Lakes Veterans' Day Parade was given and the information will be posted on the website. An item was discussed about recording the meetings and events. It will be discussed at the next meeting.
6. Vice President Report; Nothing to report.
7. Membership Update: We have 113 Life members, 6 AVVA members for a total of 119.
8. Events Update:
  - a. Field of Honor update. Setup will be on November 9th at 9 AM, Ceremony on November 10th at 2 PM, and take down is scheduled for November 23rd at 9 AM.
  - b. There will be an Eagle Scout ceremony on August 24th at 12 Noon, the location is Camp Durant on Old Carthage road.
9. Chaplin Report: Nothing to Report
10. Outreach Report:
  - a. Sandi read a "Thank You" letter from Quinn, a person that the Chapter provided \$1,000 for a laptop so here could pursue a college education.
  - b. Sandi informed the Chapter about a soldier that needed financial support. Mike Shapiro made a motion, seconded by Jim Ambler to pay for utilities up to \$400. After discussion, motion carried.
  - c. Sandi informed the Chapter that at the next meeting we will have 2 possible guest speakers. The first will be from the NC Veterans Farm and the second is a Special Forces Major wanting to get first hand information from Viet Nam veterans.
11. POW/MIA Report: POW/MIA Ceremony is scheduled for September 21st at 11 AM.
12. History/Website: Bob Simmons showed 2 VVA Challenge coins, one was gold and the other was silver. After discussion, a motion was made to order 20 gold

coins. Motion was made by Mike Shapiro and seconded by Mike Pusillo. Motion Carried

13. Fundraising Report: There are no scheduled Fundraising activities for this year.

14. Delegate Update:

- a. Jack Bergquist and Bill McNeill attended the VVA State meeting. The State elections were held and the current leadership was elected to serve another 2 year term. The State President advised that chapter rebates would probably disappear in 2026. The next state meeting will be October 26, 2024.
- b. Bill McNeill discussed the upcoming Christmas dinner. A reservation has been made at Beefeaters for Thursday, December 5th with a social hour at 5:30 and order dinner at 6PM. It was discussed that 7 Lakes Golf Course diner has a \$500 event fee and that was not acceptable. It was also discussed that the West Side Community Center is available, but it was a little late to try and find a caterer for this year, but would be discussed for next year.

15. President Report:

- a. Provided by VP Don Boito. A discussion on a donation for Tunnels 2 Towers, which had been tabled for this meeting was closed. We did a donation last year that covered the amount for 10 years.
- b. A discussion on T-Shirts for the Union Pines JROTC unit was initiated and a motion was made by Mike Shapiro and seconded by Mike Pusillo for up to \$300. Motion carried.

16. Meeting Adjourned at 7:45PM