

Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

Meeting Minutes August 28, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 1900 by HRCVO President Dan Doyle

Invocation by HRCVO Chaplin

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll call of Officers and Directors: Present was President Dan Doyle, Immediate Past President Robert Randall, Secretary Venetta Charles, Treasurer Mike Maliniak, and Chaplin Kevin Bowser. The following Board of Directors were present Scott Breuer and Kathy Goodall. There following were excused absence, Vice President Bill Singleton and Board of Director Michael Bukowski.

Presidents Opening Remarks: National POW/MIA Recognition Day is Friday, September 15, 2023. We will celebrate it locally on Wednesday September 20th at the Flame of Hope at NAS Oceana.

The President introduced guest speaker Dave Huffman, Executive Director of Mission: POW/MIA, Inc. The organization was launched five months ago. They are doing well. He gave us a brief on current operations, activities of the organization, and the status to locate POW/MIA's.

They visited Arlington and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers and presented a Wreath on behalf of all POW/MIA's. They were the only organization to do so. They spent two days in Washington, DC visiting with about 100 families of MIAs from the Vietnam War. They also assisted them with their case reviews.

There are currently 72,187 service members missing from World War 2. There are 7,492 service members missing from the Korean War and 1,578 service members and civilians missing from the Vietnam War. There are 126 service members missing from the Cold War, most of them were Aviation Crews lost near Russia and China and North Korea.

They have also started a Cold War Project. They are actively trying to get pictures of all 126 missing men from the Cold War. It's an ongoing project.

They have another project called the 1578, Never Leave a Fallen Comrade Behind. He shared the prototype poster with the HRCVO. They have partnered with the Vietnam Veterans of America, VVA, to put the posters together. The posters will be going out to all VVA Chapters free of charge. They also partnered with The Sons and Daughters in Touch. They are the Gold Star Children of the Vietnam War, KIA's and MIA's.

He brought several posters to share with HRCVO and their respective organizations. The national POW MIA, VVA and Department of Defense is covering the cost of the project.

DPAA has a budget to search for the missing around the world of \$131 Million. \$121 Million is a fixed cost and \$10 Million left for actual digging and the cost associated with the various rules in Vietnam. Please visit their website to see everything they have going on. They are available to come to your organization to speak.

President Report: Keeping with the theme of the 50th Anniversary of the end of military operations in Vietnam, he presented about the Army involvement during the Vietnam War.

Initial US troop deployments to Vietnam focused on Special Operations Forces and Small Unit Deployments primarily involved in training South Vietnamese regular Army Troops.

The US present and troop strength escalated over the next 20 years and peaked in 1969 with over 540,000 total American Combat Troops stationed in and around Vietnam. By 1973 over 3 million American Service Members had been to Vietnam. They are only the second largest cohort of living Combat Veterans. The War on Terror is the largest living cohort of Combat Veterans.

The US forces suffered over 58,000 casualties, of which 65% were Army Veterans, 38,000 Army casualties during the war.

There were numerous major battles one famous was the I Drang Valley in 1965. Harold Moore, retired Lt. General, made a famous movie about that battle entitled "We Were Soldiers Once and Young". Another battle was the Tet Offensive in 1968. Those were country-wide attacks coordinated between the Vietcong and the North Vietnamese regular Army forces.

The US and enemy suffered extreme losses of material, life, and equipment on both sides.

Gary Rose was born October 17, 1947, in Watertown, New York. His father served in the Marines in World War II. He enlisted in the Army in 1967. He did that so he could not accidentally be drafted into the Marine Corp. He was handpicked as a Special Forces Army Green Beret Medic due to his high aptitude. He was stationed in Thailand training Thai Soldiers. He later requests to be transferred to combat in Vietnam. He reported to MACV (SOG), a secret operations unit in Vietnam in April 1970.

The command structure consisted of Hatchet Forces comprised of three American special forces soldiers and 40 indigenous troops. December 1970 Gary's team of 6 Americans and 150 indigenous troops were inserted 60 miles behind enemy lines in Southeast Laos, Vietnam on a top-secret mission to search and destroy enemy forces.

The name of the operation was called Operation Tail Wind. During the mission the team uncovered a huge cache of enemy logistic material and operational documents. While trying to ex-filtrate the area they were engaged by enemy forces for 96 hours. They were outnumbered 10 to one. During the battle Gary suffered severe wounds to his left foot and arm. He continued to treat other wounded soldiers regardless. He was the only medic in the jungle. He was called

to rescue a wounded soldier outside of the perimeter. While dodging enemy fire he successfully completed the task and saved the soldier's life. Later during the extraction part of the operation his helicopter was shot down. Despite more severe injuries he is credited with saving soldiers and aircrew from the crashed aircraft.

During the four-day battle Gary was credited with saving the lives over 60 wounded American troops. The team was eventually rescued and made it safely back to Vietnam. Gary's Commander recommended him for the Medal of Honor for daring actions and gallantry during the mission. However, he was instead awarded the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) in 1970 due to the secrecy of the mission and the compromising position the US government would have been in by acknowledging the existence of the various missions.

After Operation Tail Wind was declassified 45 years later, Gary's DSC was rightfully upgraded to the Medal of Honor. He was awarded the medal October 2017 by President Trump at the White House. The exploits and bravery of American service members in Vietnam can never be forgotten. This is one such example we should remember. Their devotion to duty is testament to their patriotism. They are to be commended especially during this year, the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

Dan stated he plans to continue discussing the end of US combat operations in Vietnam every month through the parade. The year 2024 is the milestone 80th Anniversary of the invasion of D-Day. We should be thinking about that.

Mike said the POA at NAS Oceana stated that the invitations for the ceremony will be sent to the VFWs. He asked the VFW to notify the organization with the information so it may be dissemination.

The city of Virginia Beach is having a meeting tomorrow to discuss the parade route and road closures.

Mike is taking a basket of items to the VA at Hampton this week. It is budgeted for us to do this two times a year.

2023 is an odd number year. It means elections are coming up. Dan read the By-Laws Section on Elections, Article 5, Section 1-3 to notify the members that he will be asking for three members to volunteer to make up the elections nominating committee at the September HRCVO Meeting. They will report to the members in October the slate of candidates. In November the members will vote.

Bob has organized all the Majors to sign their respective cities' Proclamation. The list with the dates and times are posted on the website. The first one is Wednesday, September 06 is Norfolk's Major, September 07 is Portsmouth Major, September 12 is Chesapeake, September 22 is Virginia Beach. Suffolk does their own. They will be picked up after. Everyone is welcome to attend the signing ceremonies. Dan encouraged those that can attend to do so.

The Minutes from the previous meeting were published. The minutes were approved with one amendment. The minutes will reflect that Immediate Past President Robert Randal was present at the July Meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was delivered and approved.

HRCVO received \$575 for the Veterans Day Luncheon tickets and \$150 in donations.

Horton Wreath Society requested a donation. A check was sent for the budgeted amount of \$750.

The luncheon tickets are still on sale. 180 tickets were distributed, and payment has been received for 98. If you or your guest require a vegetarian meal, please let Mike know before the end of October.

There are coins on sale for \$5.25 each.

The POA&M Review:

The dates for the Proclamation Signings by all City Majors is posted on the website.

We currently have 57 applications for the parade.

A few regrets were received, however, we need more high school bands to participate. There was a concern about having horses on the parade route. Mike stated if there are horses in the parade the city needs to be informed, so they can be prepared.

We have heard back from the VA in reference to the site application. They received quite a few applications so the announcement regarding approved sites has been delayed. We will continue to follow up with them until we get an answer.

The bios and pictures of the Marshall and Co-Marshall are completed.

Dan reported that Bob Freitag said the program is 90% completed.

The poster for the parade is posted on the website. Posters will be available at the September meeting. Dan requested each organization to forward the poster to the members of their organizations to encourage participation at the parade.

New Business:

Kathy Goodall made a motion to donate \$500 to the Virginia Veterans Memorial Foundation. It was seconded by Kevin Bowser. Mike asked if this was a onetime donation, or did it need to go into the budget as a yearly donation? Kathy said it was a onetime request. Dan stated we must have discernment when a request is made for a donation. He called for a vote on the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Organization Reports:

Kevin briefed that on September 04 at 1:00 PM the Fraternal Order of the Eagles will host their annual all you can eat Labor Day Picnic at 1061 Newtown Rd. All are welcome to attend. There is a charge of \$5 for non-members. Bring a dish to share.

Dave Huffman reported his organization is working with Special Operations Association to speak about the POW MIA at their annual convention.

Virgil briefed that the Major Commission on Veterans Affairs in Virginia Beach is seeking new persons to apply to join the ranks as a commissioner. You don't have to be a veteran to apply.

Johnny gave an update on his progress with his VA Claim. He also shared that 75% of all veterans who committed suicide had a VA Claim in at the time of death.

Mike spoke about the parade and the applications received. He stated if you don't see your organization name on the list to get in touch with him to remedy any issues. The new list will be sent at the end of the week. Please check it for clarity.

Dave Huffman asked if he could link the HRCVO to his organization website. Dan told him he could.

The next meeting will be held Monday, September 25, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Benediction, Prayer for Our Troops

Meeting adjourned 7:52 PM

HRCVO
Financial Report
August 2023

Beginning Balance (8/1/2023)

Checking	\$ 7,859.25
Savings	\$ 13,013.00
Total	\$ 20,872.25

Income

Coin	
Donation - FRA 166	\$ 50.00
Donation - USSVI	\$ 100.00
Luncheon Tickets - VVA 969	\$ 250.00
Luncheon Tickets - K of C (Kang)	\$ 75.00
Luncheon Tickets - Dan Doyle	\$ 250.00
Savings Account Interest	\$ 1.66
Total Monthly Income	\$ 726.66

Expenses

Proclamations (Bob Freitag) (Check 1145)	\$ 18.83
Pavers (VAVVF - Mayor's Veterans Committee) (Check 1147)	\$ 400.00
Virginia Veterans Memorials, Inc (Check 1148)	\$ 500.00
VAMC Apartment Baskets (Mike Maliniak) (Check 1149) (Check 1046 Voided)	\$ 250.46
Total Monthly Expenses	\$ 1,169.29

Ending Balance (8/31/2023) \$ 20,429.62

Submitted by Mike Maliniak, Treasurer

HRCVO
Financial Report
July 2023

Beginning Balance (7/1/2023)

Checking	\$ 8,103.25
Savings	\$ 13,011.34
Total	\$ 21,114.59

Income

Coin	\$ 5.25
Donation	\$ 0.75
Luncheon Tickets - DAV 20	\$ 250.00
Luncheon Tickets - AL 327	\$ 250.00
Savings Account Interest	\$ 1.66
Total Monthly Income	\$ 507.66

Expenses

Horton Wreath Society (Check 1144)	\$ 750.00
Total Monthly Expenses	\$ 750.00

Ending Balance (7/31/2023) \$ 20,872.25

Submitted by Mike Maliniak, Treasurer

HRCVO ATTENDANCE ROSTER

DATE:

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS	NAME	Phone Number	Email Address
1st Marine Division Association			
27th Marines Regiment Association	Johnny Johnson	252 544-6577	JJ in VP @ AOL. com
29th Division Association			
Air & Space Forces Assn, Tidewater Chap. 323			
Air Force Women's Association			
American Gold Star Mothers, H. R. Chapter			
American Gold Star Wives, H. R. Chapter			
American Legion 2nd District	Robert Randall	777. 3603	nsu613dog@gmail.com
American Legion Post 110			
American Legion Post 113			
American Legion Post 327			
American Legion Womens Post 118			
American Veterans Post 69	Roger Darity	757622120	Roger.Darity@gmail.com
Beirut Veterans of America			
Chesapeake Mayor's Commission on Veterans Affairs (MCVA)	Venetta Charles	(757)663-1495	Venetta.Charles@gmail.com
Coalition of Retired Military Veterans			

HRCVO ATTENDANCE ROSTER

DATE:

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS	NAME	Phone Number	Email Address
Disabled Veterans Chapter 20			
Disabled Veterans Chapter 26			
Disabled Veterans Chapter 41			
Filipino-American Veterans of H. R.			
Fleet Reserve Association Branch 5			
Fleet Reserve Association Branch 37			
Fleet Reserve Association Branch 60			
Fleet Reserve Association Branch 99	<i>Rebecca Wew</i>	<i>757-560-1128</i>	
Fleet Reserve Association Branch 166			
Fleet Reserve Association Branch 257			
Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 3204			
Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans			
Hampton Roads Chamber			
Honor Society of Women Legionnaires 20 & 4			
Jewish War Vets. Old Dominion Post #158			
Knights of Columbus Assembly #1162			

HRCVO ATTENDANCE ROSTER

DATE: _____

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS	NAME	Phone Number	Email Address
Knights of Columbus Assembly #2588	Mike MALINAK	257-767-9017	mmalinak@cox.net
La Societe Des 40 Hommes Et 8 Chevaux	Mike Bukowski		
Marine Corps League			
Mil Offs. Assn of America H.R. Chapter	Loren Heckelman	757-646-6448	Loren.heckelman@cox.net
Military Order of the Purple Heart			
Military Order of the World Wars, V. B. Chap.			
Military Women of Tidewater - Unit 152			
Mission POW/MIA	Dave/Jeanie Huffman	757-615-9629	dave.huffman@missionpowmia.org
National Sojourners H. R. Chapter 6			
Patriot Guard Riders			
Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 484			
Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 1549	Bob Shirley	757-424-4590	graywolf6@peoplepc.com
Special Forces Assn, Chapter 84			
Team - Red, White & Blue			
Tidewater Council - Boy Scouts			
USS FORRESTAL Association			

HRCVO ATTENDANCE ROSTER

DATE: 8/28/23

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS	NAME	Phone Number	Email Address
U. S. Military Vets. Motorcycle Club Chap 1			
U. S. Submarine Vets. of Hampton Roads	ADAM KING-SLEY	757 535 4779	TKS93@AOL.COM
Veterans Association of Real Estate Professionals (VAREP)			
Veterans of Foreign Wars District 2			
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 392			
Veterans of Foreign Wars Tidewater Post 3160			
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4809	Kathy Goodall	757-572-8224	SKCKAGRET@YAHOO.COM
Veterans Kitchen, Inc.			
Veterans of Underage Military Service			
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 48	Rebecca Winkler	757-560-1128	PHANTOMFOX@CIX.NET
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 969			
Virginia Beach Mayors Veterans Committee	VIRGIL HART	757-619-0490	GSEC HART@AOL.COM
Virginia Department of Veterans Services			
Women's Marine Association			
HRCVO Auxiliary			
HRCVO Auxiliary			

Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

Meeting Agenda

August 28, 2023

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation by HRCVO Chaplain
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call of Officers and Directors
5. President's Report
 - Opening Remarks
 - POW/MIA Recognition Day Friday September 15, 2023
6. Review and Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting
7. Treasurer's Report:
 - Bills and Invoices Paid/Pending/Forthcoming
 - Financial Statement Review
 - Veterans Day Luncheon Tickets
8. POA&M Review
 - Upcoming Action Items
 - Proclamation Signing Schedule
9. Old/Unfinished Business
10. New Business
 - \$250 Donation for Virginia Veterans Memorial
11. Organizational Reports
12. Good of the Order
 - Next meeting date = September 25, 2023 at 7 PM
 - Discussion items from the floor
13. Benediction/Prayer for Our Troops by HRCVO Chaplain
 - Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.
14. Adjourn