

Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

Meeting Minutes October 23, 2023

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

Invocation was conducted by the HRCVO Chaplain.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

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

President's Opening Remarks: The President stated he would continue the discussion of memorializing the 50th anniversary of the end of US military combat operations in Vietnam. This evening's discussion was on the Air Force effort during the war.

The Air Force was famous for strategic and tactical bombing in the support of US and South Vietnamese troops. The USAF had 13 major operations during the Vietnam War. It also had the lowest combat related deaths. In 1968 the Air Force was responsible for 65% of all combat sorties flown by all US military aircraft. The B52 flew 2,100 strategic mission operations, 7,600 sorties, and 13,500 tactical missions throughout the war. The Air Force had three air combat ace's and 13 Medals of Honor awardees.

One of the last famous missions the Air Force did during the war was Operation Baby Lift in 1975. They brought out 50,000 people including children and babies in six days.

Today is the 40th Anniversary of the Beirut Bombing. The attack was the single largest loss of life of US Marine Corps in one day since March of 1945 during the Battle of Iwo Jima. In addition to the 220 Marines who died, 21 other service members died and another 128 were injured.

The immediate aftermath of the bombing was that President Ronald Reagan disengaged US military members from Beirut in February 1984 but the French sought retribution against the terrorists immediately. The USS New Jersey spent three days shelling various terrorist camps throughout Lebanon. The Islamic Jihad claimed initial responsibility for the attack and Hezbollah eventually was deemed to be the primary terrorist group behind the attack.

President Doyle asked that the HRCVO for a moment of silence for the 241 service members that lost their lives that day.

Dan read a letter of appreciation from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs for the efforts of the HRVCO, Hampton Roads Cities, and Mayors for putting on the best Veterans Day Parade in the State.

Dan is working with a group he met at the POW/MIA ceremony to get World War Two Veterans to the parade and to the luncheon.

The minutes from the September meeting were unanimously approved with minor corrections.

The Treasurer's Report was provided by Mike. Luncheon tickets are still on sale. There are 178 tickets sold so far and there is space for 300 guests. There are a few organizations that need to settle ticket sales with Mike. Mike has coins and T-Shirts for sale.

Dan encouraged everyone present to get tickets for the luncheon.

If you have items for the VAMC please see Mike. The VAMC will accept new and gently used clothing. We will make a donation later in the week.

The Treasurer Report was voted on and approved as read.

The POA&M Review:

Bob Freitag reported that the proclamations are complete and that the program for the parade, ceremony, and luncheon was nearly complete and ready for production. The script is also being finalized. Bob reported that water will be provided by the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 48 and that it will be delivered the morning of the parade. Mike is working on the cars for the dignitaries. We currently have five cars but need seven.

Logistics are being worked out to get Vietnam, Korean, and World War Veterans to the parade and then to the luncheon. Bob Freitag offered to get a limousine for the vets to ride in the parade.

Suffolk Mayor, Mike Duman, will not be attending the parade.

The plan is for the short flags and programs to be dropped off at the hotel the night before the parade so that they can be placed on the tables. The wreaths, signs, ceremonial flag, and poles will be delivered by Dan.

The Show Mobile will be delivered to the Convention Center on Thursday morning since Friday is a City holiday. Set up for the stage will begin as soon as it is ready.

The Aviation Museum has committed to the flyover on Veterans Day. They have not decided what aircraft they will be using.

Bob Randall asked what was show time for the Parade. Mike stated he will be there at 6:00 AM to make sure the street closures and other items that need to take place that morning go

according to plan. He also stated that units for the parade start showing up between 6-7:30 AM. Parade volunteers are requested to be on site at 7:00 AM.

Dan stated that he will be at the Show Mobile at 6:50 AM. The golf carts will be parked at the Convention Center.

There was a discussion about having a DJ at the luncheon as in previous years. A vote was taken and the motion failed. No DJ will be used for the luncheon.

Venetta gave an update on the luncheon. She reminded the various organizations that volunteered to donate baskets to have the baskets at the hotel not later than 10:00 AM Saturday. Volunteers are still needed to assist with the setup on Friday evening and for escorts on Saturday before the luncheon starts. Dan said he would put out a email to everyone to ask for volunteers.

Mike reminded everyone that the hotel will only serve vegetarian meals to those who ordered them in advance.

Bob Randall asked if there were any special pictures that he needed to take. Dan replied that the POW/MIA table was important, and he would like several pictures taken of it.

Old Business:

Mike Bukowski provided the membership with an update from the Nominating Committee. He reported that there are two nominations to date: Dan Doyle for President and Roger Durity for Secretary.

Kevin reminded the membership that the Chaplain was also an Officer position and that he volunteered to serve another term. His name was added to the slate of officers.

Dan stated we still needed a Vice President and a Treasurer. He stated the Treasurer role is very important and he needed that role to be filled soonest.

There was a discussion concerning who could be an HRCVO Officer. Dan stated any member of a member organization could hold office.

New Business:

Venetta made a motion to donate the proceeds from the basket raffle to the Armed Services YMCA. The motion was seconded. Discussion ensued. Dan disclosed that he was a member of the Armed Services YMCA Board of Management. Mike noted that the Armed Services YMCA is not affiliated with the greater YMCA.

Mona explained that every year in December the Armed Service YMCA does a recognition luncheon for and their families for their outstanding service in the community. Dan stated this year's 5 Star Luncheon will take place at the Westin Hotel on December 05, 2023. The event is

to recognize the Civic Leadership of the Junior Enlisted from each branch of service throughout the Tidewater area. Everyone is invited. Please RSVP to Dan if you would like to attend.

Mike stated that the approved budget allocates \$1000 for the Armed Services YMCA.

Dan called for a vote. The motion was passed unanimously to allocate the proceeds from the basket raffle to the Armed Service YMCA to support their youth programs.

Organizational Reports:

Virgil reported the Virginia Beach Veteran's Memorial is being worked on with new upgrades to include the flying of the Space Force Flag.

Mike asked about signage for the memorial. Virgil stated that the mayor's office is working on getting that taken care of with the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Air Force and Space Association announced there will be a few JROTC Drill Meets in Chesapeake. One is on November 8 at Oscar Smith High and another on December 16 at Great Bridge High School. There will be an email forthcoming with additional information. Please support if you can.

Friday, November 10, 2023 at 10:00 AM there will be a Grand Opening for the Veterans Care Center in Virginia Beach. This is an invitation only event. Tours of the facility will also be offered during the day.

Bob Freitag reported that AMVETS have closed their doors to assisting Veterans with Veterans Disabilities Claims.

The Hampton Roads Submarine Veterans reported that their Commander had passed away. The Vice Commander has stepped into his position and will complete the term. He is also slated to move up. They have elections every two years. The new Junior Vice Commander will be brought to the HRCVO meetings for a turnover.

The Retiree Survivor Benefit Plan now has an open season. If you did not select this plan when you retired, you now can do so if you choose to. Please call DFAS if you want to participate or need additional information.

The next meeting will be held Monday, November 27, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Benediction and Prayer for Our Troops was conducted.

Meeting adjourned 8:05 PM

HRCVO
Financial Report
September 2023

Beginning Balance (9/1/2023)

Checking	\$ 7,414.96
Savings	\$ 13,014.66
Total	\$ 20,429.62

Income

T-Shirt	\$ 5.00
Donation - VVA 48	\$ 100.00
Luncheon Tickets - Mayor's Veterans Committee	\$ 250.00
Luncheon Tickets - VVA 48	\$ 250.00
Luncheon Tickets - VFW 392	\$ 250.00
Luncheon Tickets - SCV 1549	\$ 100.00
Luncheon Ticket - K of C (Ginete)	\$ 25.00
Luncheon Ticket - Mayor Dyer	\$ 25.00

Savings Account Interest \$ 1.60

Total Monthly Income \$ 1,006.60

Expenses

Total Monthly Expenses \$ -

Ending Balance (9/30/2023) \$ 21,436.22

Submitted by Mike Maliniak, Treasurer

HRCVO ATTENDANCE ROSTER

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS	NAME	Phone Number	Email Address
1st Marine Division Association			
27th Marines Regiment Association	Johnny Johnson	757 544-6577	JJ in UP a AUC
29th Division Association			
Air & Space Forces Assn, Tidewater Chap. 323	Michael Feggans	757 450 8273	Mike Feggans@gmail.com
Air Force Women's Association			
American Gold Star Mothers, H. R. Chapter	Mona Gunn	757-339-3750	monatgunn@gmail.com
American Gold Star Wives, H. R. Chapter			
American Legion 2nd District	Alice V COOPER	757 470-7089	
American Legion Post 110	Ron Bassu	757 951-7881	
American Legion Post 113			
American Legion Post 327	John Schenk	757 588-7732	
American Legion Womens Post 118			
American Veterans Post 69	ROGER DURITY	757 620 2120	ROGER.DURITY@gmail.com
Beirut Veterans of America			
Chesapeake Mayor's Commission on Veterans Affairs (MCVA)	Venetla Charles	757 463 1495	Venetla.charles@gmail.com
Coalition of Retired Military Veterans			

HRCVO ATTENDANCE ROSTER

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	Tanet Sullivan	228-3205391	SullivanT@msn.com
Fleet Reserve Association Branch 99			
Fleet Reserve Association Branch 166			
Fleet Reserve Association Branch 257			
Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 3204			
Guadalcanal Campaign Veterans			
Hampton Roads Chamber	Bob Feinberg	757-497-3886	BFein@aol.com
Honor Society of Women Legionnaires 20 & 4			
Jewish War Vets. Old Dominion Post #158			
Knights of Columbus Assembly #1162			

HRCVO ATTENDANCE ROSTER

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS	NAME	Phone Number	Email Address
U. S. Military Vets. Motorcycle Club Chap 1			
U. S. Submarine Vets. of Hampton Roads	Adam Kautsler	757-532 4199	AKautsler@aol.com
Veterans Association of Real Estate Professionals (VAREP)	Eric Gaudure	757-805-6235	ERICGAUDURE@ERMAK.NET
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	757-572-8924	SKtago92@yahoo.com
Veterans Kitchen, Inc.			
Veterans of Underage Military Service			
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 48			
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 969			
Virginia Beach Mayors Veterans Committee	VIRGIL HART	757-619-0490	GSECHART@aol.com
Virginia Department of Veterans Services			
Women's Marine Association			
HRCVO Auxiliary			
HRCVO Auxiliary			
HRCVO Auxiliary			

HRCVO ATTENDANCE ROSTER

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS	NAME	Phone Number	Email Address
Knights of Columbus Assembly #2588	Mike Malone	467-9017	mmalinal@cox.net
La Societe Des 40 Hommes Et 8 Chevaux	Mike Bukowski		
Marine Corps League			
Mil Offs. Assn of America H. R. Chapter	Loren Heckelma	757-646-6448	Loren.Heckelma@cox.net
Military Order of the Purple Heart			
Military Order of the World Wars, V. B. Chap.			
Military Women of Tidewater - Unit 152			
National League of POW/MIA Families			
National Sojourners H. R. Chapter 6			
Patriot Guard Riders			
Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 484			
Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 1549	BOB SHIRLEY	757-474-4591	graywolf@peoplepc.com
Special Forces Assn, Chapter 84			
Team - Red, White & Blue			
Tidewater Council - Boy Scouts			
USS FORRESTAL Association			

Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations

Meeting Agenda

October 23, 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
 - VA Regional Site Selection
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
 - Veterans Day Program
9. Old/Unfinished Business
 - Veterans Day Parade Luncheon Needs
 - Slate of Officers for next year
10. New Business
11. Organizational Reports
12. Good of the Order
 - Next meeting date = November 27, 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