

## Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations Meeting Minutes April 22nd, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by HRCVO President Dan Doyle.

Invocation by Immediate Past President Bob Randall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Roll call of Officers and Directors: Present were President Dan Doyle, Immediate Past President Robet Randall, Treasurer Mike Maliniak, and Board of Directors Kathy Goodall, Michael Bukowski, and Scott Breuer. Excused Secretary Roger Durity, Chaplain Kevin Bowser. Vice President position vacant.

Guest visitors Angela Bell, President, Hampton Roads Gold Star Mothers of Virginia, mother of Master Sergeant Sean H. Bell; Mona Gunn, Past National President of American Gold Star Mothers, Inc. mother of SMSN Cherone Louis Gunn, and Mary Strong, President, Department of Virginia American Gold Star Mothers, Inc, mother to Sgt Charles Strong.

The guest speakers shared the following information:

- Gold Star Mothers work together to honor and preserve the memory of our fallen children by continuing their service to the military community.
- Supporting the Wreaths Across America
- Angela Bell, treasurer, Mayor's Commission on Veterans Affairs (MCVA) in Chesapeake,
- Packing care boxes for the Hampton Roads VA Medical Center
- Norfolk/Hampton Virginia Gold Star Families Memorial monument
  - 2nd Gold Star family memorial monument currently being planned.
  - The committee is currently forming and fundraising initiatives are being planned.
  - The Gold Star Families Memorial Monument will be located in Wisconsin Square at Towne Point Park in Norfolk.
  - All donations made to the Woody Williams Foundation designated for the Norfolk Virginia Gold Star Families Memorial monument will go to that memorial.

Guest Speaker Fran Foster, Immediate Past President Tidewater Woodworkers Guild (TWWWG). TWWWG is involved in the Purple Heart Project (PHP) Bench Brigade. He shared the following information:

Combat Wounded Veterans received PHP training 1 week wood course and were given \$3500 worth of hand tools.

- Several of the Combat Wounded Veterans who received a PHP scholarship were challenged to continue with their new woodworking skills when they returned home as they did not have a proper hand tool workbench.
- PHP decided to build a workbench for all PHP selectees attending the Training the Hand Workshops.
- Their Guild builds workbenches and serves MD, VA, NC, and SC.
- Membership Dues for the Tidewater Woodworkers Guild are only \$20 per calendar year. which subsidize the PHP Bench Brigade.
- They would like to get long-term funding.
- They enjoy building and delivering benches.

The minutes from the previous meeting were posted.

Motion: Kathy Goodall 2<sup>nd</sup>. Virgil Hart The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Mike read the treasurer's report. He also mentioned that:

- Turn in donation for the VAMC
- Luncheon tickets available
- Donation list for the VAMC was updated.

The financial report was submitted and posted to the website for review.

POA&M Review:

Veterans Day Co-Marshal and Co-Sponsor Co-Marshal is on track for the 2024 Veterans Day Parade. Rod ODonnell stated that Gary Galles Base Commander, Hampton Roads US Submarine Veterans Inc.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Vote for the Veterans Day Parade Grand Marshal. Candidates are Kathleen Goodall, Chief Petty Officer, USN (RET). nominated by Bob Freitag. Major General John P. McLaren, Jr. United States Army. 2nd Jeff nominated by Barrett Loren Heckelman.

1 vote per organization.

Congratulations Kathleen Goodall, Chief Petty Officer, USN (RET).

Robert Randall, Past President restated that he volunteered to visit organizations to promote the Veterans Day Parade.

Dan Doyle mentioned Hearts for Heroes Fishing Trip May 31, 2024, Rudee's Inlet, Virginia Beach

## Organizations Report:

Dave Huffman, Mission: POW-MIA Executive Director gave an update regarding the outreach work that Mission: POW-MIA has been doing over the past year

Dan stated that he went to Honor Flight at the Mariners' Maritime Museum in Newport News representing the HRCVO. He would like to have Honor Flight as a guest speaker at the HRCVO.

Virgil Hart, Chairman, VB Mayor's Veterans Committee stated that the Memorial Day Ceremony will be at the Veterans Memorial Park. In case of rain, it will be held in the Atrium at the VB Convention Center. Mike Gooding will be the Master of Ceremonies and Lt. Col Clarissa Blair, USMC will be the Guest speaker.

Eric Gardner, President Hampton Roads Veterans Association of Real Estate Professionals (VAREP) mentioned the VAREP Hampton Roads Chapter – Stars and Stripes Veteran Charity Golf Tournament May 23rd, 2024. They support Vet Cares and Stop, Drop, and Push.

Working with Robert Randall and Norfolk State University (NSU) Alumni Chapter to pin Vietnam War Vets in senior living facilities Pinned 90 Vietnam War Veterans. The program will end in November 2025.

May is Gold Star Awareness Month.

The Honor and Remember Virginia Chapter organized The Virginia Run for the Fallen. It is a 250-mile relay race that begins at Fort Story in Virginia Beach and ends at Arlington National Cemetery on Sunday May 2nd.

Venetta Charles mentioned the VA Patient County Fair, VAMC on 15th. May. Volunteers need to man the booth. The theme is Red, White, and Blue.

Robert Randal mentioned the Portsmouth Memorial Day Parade May 27th, 2024.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 27th, 2024, at 7pm.

Benediction and Prayer for Our Troops were offered.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm

**HRCVO**  
**Financial Report**  
**April 2024**

**Beginning Balance (4/1/2024)**

Checking	\$ 1,445.43
Savings	\$ 13,026.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 14,471.47</b>

**Income**

Southern Bank Foundation Grant	\$ 3,000.00
VVA Chapter 48 Annual Donation	\$ 50.00
American Legion Post 113 Annual Donation	\$ 50.00
MOAA - HRC Annual Donation	\$ 50.00
Marine Corps League Annual Donation	\$ 50.00
Luncheon Tickets - Dan Doyle	\$ 600.00
Savings Account Interest	\$ 1.60
<b>Total Monthly Income</b>	<b>\$ 3,801.60</b>

**Expenses**

VA Regional Site Package Postage (USPS) (1164)	\$ 6.60
Golf Cart Rental (Moke America) (1165)	\$ 300.00
P. O. Box (Postmaster) (1166)	\$ 232.00
<b>Total Monthly Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 538.60</b>

**Ending Balance (4/30/2024) \$ 17,734.47**

Submitted by Mike Maliniak, Treasurer