



## Colorado State Council

### Colorado State Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 13, 202- Start Time: 1:00 PM  
Meeting Location: Philip S. Miller Library, 100 S. Wilcox St. Castle Rock, CO 80104

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Meeting Location: Library Bandstand Gazebo (S Wilcox St at Phelps St)

Meeting called to order by President Stan Paprocki at 1257 hour.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Stan Paprocki (led)

**Moment of Silence (for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and for those still POW / MIA):** Stan Paprocki (led)

**Invocation:** Joe Plant (1106)

**Roll Call of Officers and Chapter Delegates Present:** Stan Paprocki (President), David Lyons (First Vice President), David Ramey (Treasurer), Milt Omoto (Secretary); Thomas Dowell (voting Delegate 1075), Terry Ritenour (voting Delegate 1071), Joe Plant (voting Delegate 1106), Larry Peterson (non-voting Delegate 1075)

**Absences:** Leonard Smith (non-voting Delegate 1071), Ron Smith (non-voting Delegate 1106), Dick Southern, Region 9 Director

**New Members/Guests:** Guest, Mike Huber (Treasurer 1106)

**Declaration of Principles:** David Lyons (read)

**Questions on Prior Meeting Minutes.** Minutes from the March 14, 2020 Colorado State Council meeting courtesy of David Lyons, was distributed to Council members prior to this meeting. No questions were raised on meeting minutes. A reminder that minutes distributed prior to the meeting for review do not need to be read at the meeting (RONR 11<sup>th</sup> ed. pp. 354-355). A motion to accept the minutes was made by David Lyons and second by Joe Plant. The minutes were approved by Council vote.

#### **Treasurer's Report: David Ramey**

David Ramey distributed the May 2020 State Council Treasurer's Report to Council members prior to the meeting. Total balance in the Council's account is \$26,165.44. Total income for May was \$2,310.00 (for HGDP payments to Council) and total expenses was \$1,968.00 (for HGDP distribution to each Chapter). Total amount in the Northwestern account is \$119,649.26.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by David Ramey and second by David Lyons. The Treasurer's Report was approved by Council vote.

The HGDP report of usage of funds by each Chapter is due at the Council's September meeting.

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### Expenses Against the Council: David Ramey

Expenses Against Council include monthly HGDGP distribution payments to Chapters (please see the State Council Treasure's Report for May 2020 for details).

An outstanding payment due of \$286 (2-years of service) for the State Council website requires payment. The web firm will not accept a check, only payment by credit card. Joe Plant agreed to use his credit card for payment. He was reimbursed by the Council. It was agreed that the State Council website is important to keep and maintain as that is how James Drelling was able to locate and contact us, resulting in the significant grant received.

Today's Council lunch was \$200 (for 9 people).

A check for \$500 and letter will be sent to the Veterans Community Living Center in Rifle by David Ramey. This is the Council's quarterly allocation to each of the Veteran Community Living Centers in Colorado.

**Reading of Communications.** David Ramey stated that he received a thank you letter from the Puerto Rico State Council for our donation of \$3,000 to assist after the hurricane Dorian. He also received a thank you letter from the Florence Veterans home for the Council's annual donation.

Milt Omoto read the letter from Joe Sternburg regarding a donation request for a burial plot in the Pueblo area requested by a Jennifer Montoya. The request was forwarded to John Saenz, Commander of the Pueblo Veterans Ritual Team by David Ramey.

### Member Sickness and Distress

Chapter 1071: John Altfeltis is receiving treatment for prostate cancer. He was presented with a Plaque of Appreciation for his many years of service to the Chapter as Chaplain. Leonard Smith is scheduled for back surgery on June 25<sup>th</sup>. One member passed in April from Agent Orange induced illness.

Chapter 1075: A Chapter member's sister passed as a result of COVID-19 illness.

Chapter 1106: John McMaster is in hospice care and not expected to last much longer. Prayers for him and his family are requested. He served as a helicopter pilot in Viet Nam and was shot down. He has been in a wheelchair since. Sonny Gorsuch is scheduled for brain surgery on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Don McNeely is recovering from COVID-19. He was hospitalized and is now at home recovering.

### Chapter Activity Reports

- Chapter 1071 (Terry Ritenour, Chapter Board Member)
  - Chapter membership is at 209 regular and 35 AVVA for a total of 244; the Chapter's website had 1022 visits
  - The Chapter is conducting ZOOM board meetings during this pandemic
  - The Chapter will hold elections at their July membership meeting
  - The Chapter contributed a total of \$10,000 to various organizations
  - The Honors Burial program continues; the Chapter recently received 382 names from Fairmont Cemetery for research and qualification for honors burial
  - Chapter Board members have been contacting Chapter members monthly on buddy checks to see how members are doing and if any have any support needs that the Chapter can provide
  
- Chapter 1075 (Thomas Dowell, Chapter President)
  - Tom has been providing monthly updates to Chapter members to keep them informed
  - The Chapter meets at a local fire station and they can continue to meet there for the next several years, once it is safe to do so; currently they are planning to meet for their July 25<sup>th</sup> regular meeting
  - The Fourth of July Parade in Monument is cancelled for 2020; this is a large parade with huge attendance
  - The awards banquet for the prison ministry in Canon City is cancelled for the year

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- The War Dog celebration event scheduled for July 12<sup>th</sup> is cancelled; postponed to September 12<sup>th</sup> The Chapter participates in this event
- The Colorado Springs Standoff (scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup>) for 2020 is cancelled and postponed to 2021
- The Chapter selected two students to receive scholarships
- Tom identified three hotels in Colorado Springs that will provide a room for a veteran and family for \$45/night
- Tom has been working with a local Church that will provide \$500 to \$700 grants to assist veterans; this applies to any era veteran in need; Application can be every 90-days; the Chapter will submit the application to the Church; this is effective August 1<sup>st</sup>
- The Chapter's Chaplain participates in prison ministry of veterans in Canon City; there are 5 to 6 prisons that he visits
- Chapter 1106 (David Lyons, Chapter Vice President)
  - Chapter membership is at 153 members and 38 Associate members for a total of 191
  - The Fourth of July parade that the Chapter historically participates in is cancelled for 2020
  - May Poppy Drive fund raisers were cancelled
  - The Chapter's June motorcycle fundraiser is cancelled
  - The Chapter received 61 scholarship applications and have identified 11 finalists selected for interviews; the Chapter will be awarding six \$2,000 scholarships
  - The Chapter conducted a successful ZOOM membership meeting for June, with 53 members participating
  - Chapter Board members conduct monthly buddy checks of members to see how each are doing and if any have needs
  - Joe Plant announced that the Chapter continues to be active with their veteran's emergency program, assisting veterans in need of support; two veterans were assisted during the March/April/May period, and 4 to 5 are being assisted this month
  - The Chapter has ten (10) power chairs, wheelchairs, walkers and other medical assist equipment for veterans in need; the Chapter also has two power chair lifts that can be installed on vans; these equipment are available and Chapters should actively seek out those veterans who can utilize them; contact David Lyons or Joe Plant

## Unfinished Business

- David Ramey reported that the Council's tax return preparation cost \$425 that he paid; David put fourth a motion to be reimbursed for this amount; the motion was second by David Lyons and approved by the Council
- There is no new status on activity to study the future direction of the State Council or the three CO Chapters;
- David Ramey reported that he has received the first of three membership checks; each Chapter should also have received the first check
- Stan reported that the next VVA Board of Director's meeting will be virtual, but so far State Council Presidents have not been invited
- The Veterans magazine will no longer be produced in hard copy, electronic only; this may be a problem for some members who do not own or have access to a computer

## New Business

- The HGDP program for Colorado has resumed and people can call to schedule pickup of household goods and clothing
- Tom Dowell stated that he gets calls regarding household goods pickup questions; those interested in having a pickup scheduled should call or go online to their website
- A discussion was held whether the Council should donate to the Rocky Mountain Fisher House as a possible future donation organization; the organization provides temporary housing for out-of-town veteran's family members while the veterans is hospitalized; they apparently have a good source of donation sources; the Council agreed to table this issue for now until we learn more about this orgaization

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- A request was made by Joe Plant for Council donation to assist in installing automatic doors at the living center where he lives; there are 75 families living there, each owns their own unit; elderly and disabled residents have difficulty with the doors; it cost \$2500 to install each automatic door; since the doors benefit all residences there, and there is an association that manages all common areas, the Council stated that it is the resident's responsibility to fund such expenses
- The State Council website will continue, and the issue of website service payment was resolved (see Treasurer's report, above); Robert Rotruck will continue as web master

### State Council Elections

- State Council elections were held for the 2020 to 2022 period. David Ramey presided over the elections
- The following table lists the elected Council officers and delegates; all elected who were present took the Oath of Office for Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs; David Ramey will prepare the VVA Election Report

State Council Position	Name
President	Stan Paprocki
First Vice President	David Lyons
Second Vice President	Thomas Dowell
Treasurer	David Ramey
Secretary	Milton Omoto
Board of Directors	A. Leonard Smith (1071)
	Lawrence Peterson (1075)
	Joseph Plant (1106)

### Good of the Order

- David Lyons stated that the Castle Rock Library charged \$75/year for the use of their conference room for Council meetings
- The Honor Bell meet their financial goals for the second Honor Bell to be used in Colorado Springs; veteran volunteers to toll the bell are encouraged to apply
- Internment at Fort Logan has resumed; honors color guard will resume.

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### The Next Colorado State Council Meeting: September 12, 2020 @ 1300-hour, Castle Rock Library

The meeting was adjourned by declaration with no objections at 1415 hour by President Stan Paprocki.

This Colorado State Council Meeting minutes submitted by: Milt Omoto, Colorado State Council Secretary.

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