

Vietnam Veterans of America
Conference of State Council Presidents
August 9, 2010
Orlando, FL
Approved Minutes

Meeting of the Conference of State Council Presidents was called to order by Chair Charlie Montgomery at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, August 9, 2010.

Invocation and Pledge was performed

Avery Taylor of South Carolina appointed as Parliamentarian.

Roll Call of States: The roll call tally sheet was not available at the time of this writing. It was announced that because of 7 states being on administrative suspension, a quorum was 21. There were 28 states represented.

<u>Officers present were:</u>	Chair:	Charlie Montgomery - Virginia
	1 st Vice Chair	Tom Burke - Ohio
	2 nd Vice Chair	Bill Messer - Arizona
	Secretary:	Bill Messer performed as interim secretary.

Motion Number 1: To change agenda to move the election of officers from Saturday, 8/14 to after the end of announcements. Approved without objection.

The agenda was adopted as amended. The minutes of April 15, 2010, were accepted.

Unfinished Business:

Nothing reported

New Business:

Administrative and Compliance Issues: Joe Sternburg reported that his internet search of IRS 990-N filings indicated 157 chapters and 2 state councils were not found. He cautioned, however, that this was a very labor intensive manual search that could have many errors, some of which had already been reported.

He also announced that the National office would like for all chapters and state councils get on direct deposit and encouraged everyone to try to get their chapters to sign up.

Future of VVA Task force: Joe Kristek said the regional representatives on the task force had sent out questionnaires to each of their state councils to solicit feedback on

issues, concerns, and suggestions for the future of our organization. A quick poll indicated that most state presidents did not see this request. Joe explained the task force plans and direction.

Next CSCP Meeting: It was determined that most, if not all, of the state presidents wish to attend the Inurnment of Jim Grissom in October so the meeting will be arranged as an abbreviated format.

Safety First Training Class: Tom Berger announced that VVA will conduct a “train the trainer” class in conjunction with the VA on how to deal with suicide hotline calls.

Tom announced that 16 states currently report suicide statistics to the CDC and feels that this should be all states. The VA would like for VVA to determine how to pursue getting all states to report.

Motion number 2: To have Tom Berger initiate a CSCP training program on how to appeal to members in your state on suicide prevention issues. Carried.

Motion number 3: To have Tome Berger pursue an approach to getting the other 34 states to report suicide statistics to the CDC. Carried.

Exposure Determination Rules: Rick Weidman reported that there is a Webb initiative to challenge the 1991 Exposure Determination for Presumptive Illnesses ruling. He requested the states assist with a campaign to defeat this initiative.

Networking the VHC: John Rowan challenged everyone to contact their “counterpart” in other organizations, get to know them, and try to get them involved in the Veterans Health Council program somehow.

New Membership Software: The organization will be rolling out the new software for reporting membership starting in the Fall. There will be a CSCP training session during the January meeting.

New Policies: The CSCP endorses, without objection, the following policies to be presented at the BOD meeting:

Policy 1: To fix the procedure when an at large member transfers to a new state to insure they have the option to choose which state they wish to be “at large” in.

Policy 2: To define the rules, including benefits, for Honorary Life Memberships.

It was also noted that the challenge to the “180 days of service” ruling of the 2003 Policy #25 has been directed to a task force to review the legality of this restriction.

Announcements:

No other announcements were made.

CSCP Elections:

There being no additional candidates for office presented from the floor,

Motion number 4: To accept the slate of officers by acclamation was made. Passed by show of hands.

The officers of the CSCP for 2010-2012 are:

Charlie Montgomery, Chair

Tom Burke, 1st Vice Chair

Bill Messer, 2nd Vice Chair

Avery Taylor, Secretary

Swearing in of the new officers was performed by VVA President, John Rowan.

There being no additional business, Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Avery Taylor

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CSCP Secretary