

Vietnam Veterans of America
Conference of State Council Presidents
October 07, 2010
Silver Spring, MD
Approved Minutes

Meeting of the Conference of State Council Presidents was called to order by Chair Charlie Montgomery at 8:00 am on Thursday, October 7, 2010.

Wayne Reynolds of Alabama led devotions. The Pledge of Allegiance was done and a moment of silence followed for POW/MIA's, and our troops in harms way. Charlie Montgomery assigned Wayne Reynolds of Alabama as Parliamentarian.

Roll Call of States: The states represented at the meeting totaled 41; a quorum was met. The following States were present:

ALABAMA	MARYLAND	OHIO
ALASKA	MASSACHUSETTS	OKLAHOMA
ARIZONA	MICHIGAN	OREGON
ARKANSAS	MINNESOTA	PENNSYLVANIA
CALIFORNIA	MISSISSIPPI	RHODE ISLAND
CONNECTICUT	MISSOURI	SOUTH CAROLINA
FLORIDA	MONTANA	TENNESSEE
GEORGIA	NEBRASKA	TEXAS
IDAHO	NEVADA	VERMONT
INDIANA	NEW JERSEY	VIRGINIA
IOWA	NEW MEXICO	WASHINGTON
KANSAS	NEW YORK	WEST
LOUISIANA	NORTH CAROLINA	VIRGINIA
MAINE	NORTH DAKOTA	WISCONSIN

<u>Officers present were:</u>	Chair:	Charlie Montgomery - Virginia
	1 st Vice Chair	Tom Burke - Ohio
	2 nd Vice Chair	Bill Messer - Arizona
	Secretary:	Avery Taylor – South Carolina

The agenda was adopted without amendment. The minutes of August 9, 2010, were accepted as amended.

Officers' Reports:

Charlie Montgomery – CSCP Chair – Announced committee appointments. All posts continued, Dan Stenvold, ND, appointed Sgt at Arms.

Tom Burke – 1st Vice Chair – Ohio – Reminded everyone that those states receiving VSF funds are required to participate in the CFC and that the VSF reports are due. The chapter suspension list is available. All 990 filings are due no later than 10/15. Briefly discussed the format of the January meeting for the benefit of the new state presidents.

Bill Messer – Arizona – No Report

Wes Guidry:

Reported out details of the winter meeting. Make your own hotel arrangements by Jan 6; fly into SFO; free shuttle; phone 650-598-9000. Dates: Thursday, 1/20 (tv1) through Sunday 1/23 (tv1)

Reported that the bus for the J. Grissom service will leave at 1:30.

National President report:

John Rowan introduced our new Director of Veterans Benefits, Jim Vail. Also reported that we have experienced somewhat of a reorganization in the department, filling two slots and adding one new one plus creating a “Deputy of Veteran Appeals” position.

The Household goods program is doing better this year than last. We will have to wait and see at year end how the car program is doing since usually people make the donations late in the year.

Considering creating a Veteran Benefits WEB site but we need someone to develop the content and maintain it, which may difficult.

We are also looking at all of the 12 regional VA offices with the intent to get a VVA person in each one of them.

Veterans Health Council network: John wants the name, organization, and contact information for the state leader of another organization that has been contacted in each state.

CSCP COMMITTEE REPORTS

Elections committee – Dave Simmons, WV

Submitted **motion number 001:** To destroy letters of intent and ballots from the 2010-2012 CSCP Election. Carried w/o objection.

Budget Committee – Tom Burke, Ohio

Tom discussed the expense forms for CSCP meetings, what to report, and when to submit. Also discussed the revised Travel Assistance Policy and encouraged anyone meeting the eligibility guidelines to submit their requests to him prior to the January meeting.

It was pointed out that the distributed copy of the new Travel Assistance Policy erroneously showed the minimum account balance to be \$10,000 when the approved policy states it is \$5,000. Delegates requested to make the change on their copies.

By-Laws Committee – Jeff White, Pennsylvania – No Report

Constitution Committee – Bill Messer, Arizona – The only change currently being considered is a minor change to the State Bylaws section.

SCP Handbook Committee – Bob Seal, Idaho – Requested any ideas for changes be submitted to him.

Credentials Committee – Charlie Montgomery, Virginia – Need to have the SF180's submitted for all alternates as well.

CSCP Disciplinary Committee – Butch Huber, Illinois – No Report

Membership Committee – Marshall Mudge, Massachusetts – No Report.

Healthcare Committee – Pat Bessigano, Indiana– No Report.

Veterans Benefits Committee – Jerry Klein, Florida – Reported that there are now nine new presumptive diseases for the Gulf War and current vets.

Government Affairs Committee – John Weiss, Rhode Island – No report.

Women Veterans Committee – Beverly Stewart, Montana – Need email addresses of all women veterans in each state.

Homeless Committee – Ric Davidge, Alaska –

Discussed the Alaska Housing 1st program on homeless veterans. AK VVA representatives briefed their congressional delegation on the program and requested obtaining pre-development money for it from congress.

Round Table Discussions – Went around the table and SCP spoke about what is going on in some of their states that is of interest to the CSCP members. Two common themes reported by many states were formation of new chapters and opening new or enhancing existing VA medical facilities.

There being no new business, Meeting was recessed at 11:44 until after the National BOD Meeting on Saturday 10/08-09/2010.

CSCP and National Board Meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm on October 9, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Avery Taylor

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CSCP Secretary