

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Conference of State Council Presidents
January 12, 2017 Meeting
Silver Spring, MD**

Meeting of Conference of State Council Presidents was called to order by Chair Rex Moody at 9:00 AM. Rex welcomed everyone to our first January meeting held in conjunction with VVA National Board Meeting.

Wayne Reynolds asked everyone for a moment of silence for those who could not be with us today. A moment of silence was observed. Wayne Reynolds then led the devotion.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Dan Stenvold reminded everyone to turn off their cell phones or face a fine.

Roll Call of States: At the time of roll call the States at the meeting totaled 39; a quorum was met. The following States were present:

Alabama	Massachusetts	Oklahoma
Arizona	Michigan	Oregon
Arkansas	Minnesota	Pennsylvania
California	Mississippi	Puerto Rico
Colorado	Missouri	South Carolina
Florida	Montana	South Dakota
Georgia	Nebraska	Tennessee
Idaho	Nevada	Texas
Illinois	New Jersey	Utah
Kansas	New York	Virginia
Kentucky	North Carolina	Washington
Louisiana	North Dakota	West Virginia
Maryland	Ohio	Wisconsin

Officers Present:

Chair – Rex Moody

1st Vice chair - Excused

2nd Vice chair – Gumersindo Gomez

- **Rex Moody** appointed Wayne Reynolds as the Parliamentarian.
- **Rex Moody** pointed out changes to be made in the CSCP agenda, 1. Membership department, Charlie Hobbs and Tracie Houston to cover web rosters. 2. Officers

reports will be covered at 11:20 – 11:55. Motion made to accept the agenda, second passed without objection.

- **Ned Foote** has a point of information. Ned wanted to know why the Oregon State President, who was present at the meeting, was not at the CSCP table representing the Oregon State Council. Why was there an alternate for the Oregon State Council President sitting in at the meeting? A long discussion was had on who, from Oregon, would be reimbursed for the CSCP meeting.
- The Oregon State President, Ron Morgan, explained why he had an alternate, Oregon State Council Vice-president Jim Fleming, sitting in at the CSCP meeting. Ron Morgan stated he might resign in the future and wanted Jim Fleming to get some experience.
- **Rex Moody** ruled that Jim Fleming, the alternate from Oregon, may be seated at the CSCP table as soon as he fills out a form SF 180 and turns it into the CSCP Chair. Charlie Montgomery then advised Rex Moody that at a previous CSCP meeting he had received the form SF 180 from Jim Fleming, the Oregon alternate. Rex Moody then ruled that Jim Fleming would be seated at the CSCP table.
 - **Actions by the Chair: Rex** wanted to make sure the new state council presidents knew who to contact if they needed information or had a problem, contact Vonnie at the national office or you can contact Rex at his email or by phone. He gave everyone Vonnie's extension.
 - He reminded everyone that the per diem for the meeting had changed, it is now \$50.00 a day. Everyone probably has the old reimbursement forms so change the per diem. Since the 1st Vice-chair is not at the meeting Rex Moody will be taking all the reimbursement forms. 2nd Vice-chair, Gumersindo Gomez, told Rex he would take care of the reimbursement forms for him.
 - Passed around the state council presidents list asking the presidents to look at the list to make sure their states information was correct.
- **Rex Moody** asked for the reading of the minutes from the October 20th CSCP meeting. Secretary Steve Mackey advised that he had emailed the draft minutes to everyone's email and to the presidents talk list. Charlie Montgomery made a **motion, #0117001**, to accept the minutes as presented in the email, motion had a second, passed without objection.

- **Wes Guidry** spoke about the upcoming convention and that we will be using two hotels. The convention floor and vendors will be in the Sheraton; the offices and registration will be in the Marriot. You chose which hotel you would like to stay at. Information about the convention will be on the web site. Wes spoke about the parking at the two hotels and the shuttle from the airport to the hotel.
- **John Rowan** congratulated everyone on our win with the passing of the Toxic Exposure bill and Veterans Fairness Act. John spoke about the bills and how both sides of the isle worked on passing the bills. John advised everyone that there was now an appointee to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs position. We are working on the reintroduction of the Agent Orange Act, the old one from 1991 expired. We want the new one to include the Persian Gulf and current day veterans. President Rowan said we should all be on a first name bases with the governor of your state, doesn't matter if you like them or not, you need to talk to them. Both bills have been signed by the President. John spoke about the Blue Water Navy guys.
- **Rex Moody:** Had all the new state council presidents introduce themselves.
- **Rex Moody** passed out a list of his appointments for committee chairs. Gene Crego had a comment on the Legislative Chairs name.
- **National Disciplinary Policy - Sara McVicker** went over the policy, section by section, pointing out all the changes. Lots of discussion. Leslie DeLong had a few comments.
- **Charlie Hobbs** spoke about the chapter revocation policy and the At-Large policy that was presented to the CSCP. Rex Moody explained that he emailed the two policies to all the state council presidents asking for input, he did not receive one email from any state council president. Wayne Reynolds made a **motion, # 0117003**, to accept the chapter revocation policy and the At-Large policy. There was a second. Discussion was had. Motion passed without objection.
- Charlie Hobbs spoke about the web roster. Tracie Houston sent out a letter in December asking the chapters how they wanted to receive their rosters. Membership was disappointed in the response they received back from the letter. Membership is asking each chapter and state council to fill out the form and get it back to Tracie. Tracie spoke about the roster and the security of the rosters. Discussion was had on filling out the form and what will happen if you don't fill it out.
- **Lunch 12:00 - 1:35**

- A motion, #0117003, was made to accept the National Disciplinary Policy as presented with revisions. There was a second. No discussion. Motion passed without objection.
- **Officer Reports:**
- **Chair Rex Moody** advised everyone he sent out an email to all State Council Presidents asking for ideas for the agenda, he did not hear back from anyone.
- **Charlie Montgomery** advised he had sent back some opinions. Charlie Montgomery brought up the issue of opening VVA up to others. A long discussion was had on the issue.
- **Chair Rex Moody** gave his report. Rex wanted to know how many state council presidents have checked their chapter's web pages. Reason he asked is that he checked his own chapter and all the information was wrong. Check your chapter's web pages and make sure it is correct. If not, get it corrected.
- **2nd Vice-chair Gumersindo Gomez** spoke about CSCP bylaws requiring receipts, but no receipts turned in. Point of information by Beverly Stewart – spoke about the travel policy and what it says. Ned Foote expanded on the policy.
- **Dennis Howland** introduced guest speaker **Sharlene Hawkes**. **Sharlene Hawkes** spoke about the commemoration book that was put together for Utah. Book title is “*A Time to Honor*”. Sharlene spoke about the book they did for Utah Vietnam Veterans. She explained the program and how the book is put together. They are wanting every state to produce a book like Utah's. She is working with 31 states to put a book together for them. She also spoke of the cost of the book and how to raise funds to have the book published.
- **Committee Reports:**
- **CSCP Budget** – The Chair is working on the budget, January 31st is the deadline.
- **By-laws** - Richard Lindbeck noted a few items in the by-laws that have to be adjusted.
- **Constitution** - Barry Rice is absent, no report.
- **Veterans Benefits** - Butch Huber will have a report at the April meeting.
- **Government Affairs** - Richard Lindbeck advised that they legislators finally passed the toxic exposure act. Keep on the legislators.

- **Legislative Affairs** - Gene Crego thanked everyone involved in getting the bills passed through the US Congress.
- **Women Veterans** - Absent.
- **Minority Affairs** - Joe McIntyre has nothing at this time.
- **Disciplinary Task Force** - Spence Davis has nothing.
- **Membership** - Charlie Montgomery stated we are growing, we have 80,335 members. Life Membership is still \$100.00.
- **Veterans Against Drugs** - Dave Simmons reminded about the all free ice skating party tonight. The skating rink is located a block and a half behind the hotel.
- **A motion, #0117004**, out of committee presented by Dave Simmons, to destroy all ballots and all election ballots from the last CSCP elections. No discussion. Passed without objection.
- **Political Action** - Nothing at this time.
- **Veterans Incarcerated** - Florida State Council President, Mike Bousher, was appointed as chair. The chair wanted to know what states had incarcerated chapters.
- **Charlie Stapleton** advised everyone as of 1:15 he is a new grandpa.
- **CSCP Round Table** – Everyone is limited to 3 minutes. State Presidents gave their respective reports.
- **Rex Moody** reminded all that we are now coming to the January meeting to participate in committee meetings. Rex asked everyone to attend and participate in at least two committee meetings in the next two days.
- **The Chair** reminded those who have not turned in their reimbursement forms to get them in. Deadline is to be noon tomorrow (1-13-2017).
- **Dave Simmons** reminded everyone of tonight's skating party. Please come by.
- Recessed at 3:40 PM. Meeting adjourned on 1-14-2017 at 3:00 PM.

- Respectfully submitted

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- Steve Mackey