

**Vietnam Veterans of America
Conference of State Council Presidents
October 18, 2018 Meeting
Silver Spring, MD**

Meeting of Conference of State Council Presidents was called to order by Chair Rex Moody at 9:00 AM.

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

Gumersindo Gomez then led the devotion. After the devotion a moment of silence was held.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call of States: At the time of roll call the States at the meeting totaled 44; a quorum was met. The following States were present:

Alaska	Massachusetts	Oklahoma
Arizona	Michigan	Oregon
Arkansas	Minnesota	Pennsylvania
California	Mississippi	Puerto Rico
Colorado	Missouri	Rhode Island
Connecticut	Montana	South Carolina
Florida	Nebraska	South Dakota
Georgia	Nevada	Tennessee
Idaho	New Hampshire	Texas
Iowa	New Jersey	Utah
Kansas	New Mexico	Vermont
Kentucky	New York	Virginia
Louisiana	North Carolina	Washington
Maryland	North Dakota	West Virginia
	Ohio	Wisconsin

Officers Present:

Chair – Rex Moody

1st Vice chair – Patti Dumin

2nd Vice chair – Gumersindo Gomez

- **Chair Rex Moody** appointed Richard Lindbeck as Parliamentarian.
- **Announcements:** Chair Moody had all the new State Council Presidents stand and introduce themselves, there were 13 of them.
- **Agenda:** Motion was made by Charlie Stapleton to accept the agenda. Seconded. Passed without objection.
- **Charlie Montgomery** made a motion to accept the April 2018 minutes that were sent out in email. Seconded. Passed without objection.
- **Dick Southern** announced that for the VSO grant the Combine Federal Campaign is no longer a requirement. Dick mentioned he monitors the State Council Presidents talklist, there are a lot of presidents on the list but not many alternates. So if you have an alternate that you want on the talklist please let him know.
- **Wes Guidry** said the banquet on Saturday night has good entertainment and good food. He announced that he is looking for hotels for the 2022 Leadership Conference, they have it down to four. Will announce the choices at the National BOD meeting on Friday. They are now in the process of planning for Spokane.
- **John Rowan** There are some changes going on in VVA. He spoke about Tom Berger resigning his position. John is going to appoint Kathy Lablemo Deputy Director of Government Affairs for health as well as the Director of the Veterans Health Council. Kathy has worked on the hill for many years. John spoke about the TAPS program and the grant they received from the Wounded Warriors Project for work on toxic exposure for the new vets. We just received a second grant so they must like what we did the first time. John spoke about the pollution on all the military bases. Polluted water. He mentioned Kelsey having her baby and she will be back in November. Going to change her roll. Felicia will be moved into Kelsey's position as interim director and eventually take over. He spoke about the two working groups. New Jersey State Council President brought up the question about AVVA being taking over for us. John says AVVA is

not a Veterans organization. John then spoke a lot about the two working groups.

- **Rex Moody** spoke about the how each state council should be helping their chapters raise funds for the upcoming convention in Spokane.
- **Dr. Tom Hall** spoke about a Vet Center survey they would like everyone to fill out. He handed the survey out for the presidents to look at and asked if he should make any changes. Dr. Hall said there was one change he was going make on the second page before letting us to take them back to our chapters. Dr. Hall went over the survey questions with us. The corrected survey would be sent to Rex Moody for distribution to state councils. Dr. Hall came back with the correct survey and handed them out to all presidents. Once the surveys are filled out send them to Dr. Hall.
- **Jake Barsottini** spoke about fundraising. He spoke about how Chapters and State Councils can raise funds. The ability to raise funds is limited. Jake handed out a copy of his power point to fundraising. Jake spoke about forming a 501 c 3 for your chapter or state council as companies will donate to a 501 c 3 and not a 501 c 19.
- **Sandy Miller, Homeless Veterans Committee Chair** introduced Anthony Love, the Senior Advisor for the VA Homeless Program Office. Anthony has been working with homeless veterans for over 20 years. He spoke about the plan to eliminate Veteran Homelessness and what the VA is doing to end veteran homelessness. Since 2010 the VA has seen a 50% decrease in homeless veterans. There are about 40,000 homeless veterans in the country at one time so the VA continues their work to end homelessness. He spoke of several programs the VA has to help the homeless veteran.
- **Morning Break: 10:50 AM – 11:12 AM**
- **Officers Reports:**
 - Rex Moody mentioned the CSCP committee appointments. He asked everyone to look at the appointments and if you don't want to serve or if you see one that you would like to serve as let him know. Rex spoke about the CSCP Welcome Guide is out of date and will be up to date by January. Rex advised if you request an advance in expenses you must have prior approval from the CSCP Chair. He spoke about the reimbursement forms and who they go to for approval before they are turned into the office. Rex asked that you please respond to emails that he sends out.

- **Patty Dumin** spoke about the 25th Anniversary of the Vietnam Women's Memorial. She has patches if anyone is interested come see her. Patti also said they are selling coins and they are going to have shirts. If you want coins Joe Sternburg has them.
- **Gumersindo Gomez** told everyone that in Massachusetts they are working on having an 80% replica of the Wall that is in Washington. Price tag about one million dollars and if anyone would like to help out they would appreciate it. New Mexico SCP spoke about a Wall they are going to construct.
- **Bob Seal** spoke to SCP about suspended chapters and state councils. In January there were 35 suspended today there are 68, not getting better. It is the SCP responsibility. What can we do to correct the problem? Why is there a problem? Why are they suspended? Lots of discussion on the subject.
- **Dan Stenvold** introduce a Republic of Korea Marine Veteran who was in attendance in the audience. He is an AVVA member of Chapter 1024, Brea, CA.
- **Lunch break: 11:50 – 1:30**
- **Motion 1018003** by Ivarra Francisco to work with Regional Directors and State Council Presidents to assist suspended State Councils and Chapters that are suspended, to be corrected by CSCP meeting January 10, 2018. Motion seconded. Discussion had. Hand count. Motion Passed 40-4.
- **Rex Moody** spoke about a letter given to him by VVA President John Rowan from a veteran reference certain states taxing a Veterans pension. John Rowan says this is a problem for the CSCP to handle. This will have to be handle in each individual state. The letter forwarded to us from Rowan is for your information.
- **CSCP Committee Reports:** No reports given. Beverly Stewart asked to go back to Legislative Committee. Can the committee give an update on the Blue Water Navy bill? Gene Crego spoke about what is happening with the bill. Charlie Montgomery mentioned that they are trying to change the bill to the John McCain Blue Water Bill.
- **Round Table:** State council Presidents gave reports.
- **CSCP Bylaws:** Rex Moody spoke about the bylaws needing to be current. In the future will come up with a committee to look at and update the CSCP bylaws.
- **Afternoon Break: 3:20 PM – 3:37 PM**

- **Elections:** Rex Moody turned the floor over to the elections chair, Dave Simmons. Dave made announcement that Charlie Stapleton was running for a position so he was removed from the election committee. Charlie agreed. Dave Simmons announced who the candidates were and what positions they were running for.

CSCP Chair: Rex Moody and John Rolling
CSCP 1st Vice: Richard Lindbeck
CSCP 2nd Vice: Charlie Stapleton and Dennis Howland
CSCP Secretary: Steve Mackey

Candidates were allowed to speak if they wished to. Those candidates that choose to speak also answered questions for the CSCP. The election committee handed out the ballots. Votes were cast and the election committee collected all ballots. Election committee left the room to count ballots.

Dave Simmons came back in an announced the results of the election:

CSCP Chair: Rex Moody
CSCP 1st Vice: Richard Lindbeck
CSCP 2nd Vice: Charlie Stapleton
CSCP Secretary: Steve Mackey

All officers were sworn in by National At-large Director Dan Stenvold.

Recessed at 4:24 PM: Will not adjourn until after the National BOD meeting on Saturday October 20, 2018, just in case there is other business that needs to be taken care of.

CSCP Meeting Adjourned Saturday October 20, 2018 12:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Steve Mackey
CSCP Secretary