

## **2019 USS Washtenaw County Veterans Association Business Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by David Vicknair, on Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 3:00 PM. Roll Call was taken and all board members were present: David Vicknair, President, Mike Shaw, Vice President, Jim Hopkins, Treasurer, and Joe Rosenberg, Secretary. Historian Greg Pierceall, Webmaster Bob Coombs, and Photographer Nick Motto were also present. David Vicknair expressed his gratitude to Sharon and Ron Tucker for hosting this year's reunion events. There were 23 association members present along with some of their wives and family.

Joe Rosenberg, Association Secretary, announced his resignation at the start of the meeting. Joe served as Secretary for many years and he was thanked for his service to the group before the nominations for 2019-2021 Officers was held. There was no further old business and the meeting proceeded to the nominations. The nominations were Jim Hopkins for Treasurer, David Vicknair for President, and Mike Shaw for Vice President by unanimous acclimation. Nick Motto nominated himself for the position of Secretary to replace Joe Rosenberg. There were no further nominations. All the nominees were unopposed and unanimously elected to their respective offices by a voice vote.

The minutes of the 2018 Meeting were read and approved unanimously by the Association membership. Jim Hopkins delivered the annual Treasurer's Report to the meeting. A detailed report of finances and the Ship's Store inventory can be obtained from Jim upon request. Len Carida moved to accept the Treasurer's report and the motion was seconded by Ken Rosenbalm. The report was accepted by unanimous voice vote.

New Business:

David Vicknair urged the membership to update contact information on the Association's Roster. Information updates to be submitted to Nick Motto by email at [picchu.pro@gmail.com](mailto:picchu.pro@gmail.com).

The 2020 Reunion to be held in Rapid City, SD will be hosted by Bob Hatfield and Suzy Bauer at the Best Western Ramkoda hotel in Rapid City from August 31 to September 4, 2020. Len Carida asked about transportation arrangements for excursions near Rapid City such as the Sunset Ceremony at Mount Rushmore and other possible group excursions and day trips. The possibility of holding the banquet on the day before the last day of the event was discussed and most thought it a better time than the last night because of travel arrangements and early flights the next day. More information to follow as the dates get closer.

David Vicknair announced the intention to hold the 2021 reunion on the East Coast at Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia hosted by Jim and Margie Hopkins with no dates set. Ken Rosenbalm moved to accept the location, which was seconded by Carlos Campos.

The motion to hold the 2021 reunion in Williamsburg passed by unanimous voice vote. A possible venue for the 2022 reunion in Albuquerque, NM during the Hot Air Balloon Festival was discussed with no plan or host scheduled.

Dave Vicknair moved to nominate Jim Hogan as Service Officer to assist members in their VA claims. Bob Haley seconded the motion. Jim was elected by a unanimous voice vote. Discussion ensued about the new rules for extended care outside of VA providers such as extended physical therapy and other services offered under the Mission Care Act of June 2019. Forward requests for Jim's assistance to Nick Motto at [picchu.pro@gmail.com](mailto:picchu.pro@gmail.com) and Jim will contact you. David Vicknair urged all those who have not done so to register with the VA using the Form 1010 EZ to register as having been exposed to Agent Orange during the Vietnam years. The form can be downloaded at the Association's website, [www.lst1166.com](http://www.lst1166.com). Jim also mentioned disability discounts available to disabled veterans. Contact Nick for details.

Nick Motto discussed the possibility of including other ships in our reunions, specifically the USS Clarion River group that reunions annually. One man and his wife host the reunions and they are not going to be able to do the organizing in the future. David Vicknair drafted a letter of invitation to the Clarion people and Nick Motto will present the letter in Las Vegas at their reunion formally inviting them to attend the 2020 reunion in Rapid City.

There was no further new business. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Nick Motto, Secretary