



ASSOCIATES OF VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.

8719 Colesville Road; Suite 100 • Silver Spring, MD 20910-3919

Telephone (301) 585-4000 • Fax Main (301) 585-0519

Online Special Board of Directors Meeting September 15, 2020

Call to Order:

President Joanna Henshaw called the online meeting of the AVVA Board of Directors to order at 4:06 (PDT) on Tuesday, September 15, 2020. The meeting was conducted, and the audio recorded, using the GoToMeeting conferencing application.

Opening Ceremonies:

President Henshaw called for a moment of silence, then recognized Region 2 Director, Bobbie Morris, to lead the meeting in a short prayer.

Board of Directors Roll Call:

Secretary Nina Schloffel called the roll.

President: Joanna Henshaw	Region 4: Susan Henthorn
Vice President: Kaye Gardner	Region 5: Don Jones
Secretary: Nina Schloffel	Region 6: Rick Talford
Treasurer: Kathy Andras	Region 7: Terri Rangel
Region 1: Frances Guevremont (excused)	Region 8: Vacant
Region 2: Bobbie Morris	Region 9: Tim Von Bon
Region 3: Hope Summers	

A quorum was established.

Other Attendees:

Cecilia Essenmacher – National Chair, Policies and Procedures Committee
Kathy Mattingly – National Chair, Finance Committee

Approve Agenda:

Motion (# 1) – moved by Vice President, Kaye Gardner and seconded by Region 9, Tim Von Bon to accept the agenda as amended. **Adopted by without objection**

Out of Committee Motion(s):

Motion (# 2) – moved by the Survivor Benefits Committee, no second required, to approve the appointment of Larry Matika as VVA Special Advisor to the Survivor Benefits Committee. **Adopted without objection**



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Motion (# 3) – moved by President Joanna Henshaw, seconded by Vice President, Kaye Gardner, to approve the appointment of Susan Fudurich as AVVA Historian.
Adopted without objection

Discussion – Reinstate Scholarship Program:

President Henshaw led a discussion on the merits and considerations related to reinstating the AVVA scholarship program. Among the ideas proposed was to reinstate the program as a memorial scholarship honoring Elayne Mackey, who passed away in 2019 while serving as AVVA vice president. While all present agreed that Elayne deserves to be so honored, the board made no formal commitment to that effect.

This, and other issues incumbent with creating a solid scholarship program, will be addressed by a specialized scholarship committee, who will report back to the board with recommendations. President Henshaw will name the committee chair within the next week. The chair, together with President Henshaw, will then select the remaining members of the Scholarship Committee.

Policy and Procedure Proposals:

Motion (#4) moved by the Policy and Procedures and Public and Media Relations Committees, no second required, to approve the proposed change to Committees, Section 3, Subsection II.M.6 to strike all text after the word 'for', then insert the text '[maintaining an online source of information that will be available to the membership.](#)'
Adopted without objection

Motion (#5) moved by the Policy and Procedures Committee, no second required, to approve the proposed change to Accounting, Section 4, Subsection II.B.9 & B.11 that changes existing text as follows:

II.B.9 After the word 'committee' strike '~~by December 1st~~' and insert '[October 1st](#)'.

II.B.11 After the word 'approve', strike '~~at the April board meeting~~' and insert '[by the national board of directors before the end of the fiscal year.](#)'

Amendment proposed by Vice President, Kaye Gardner to strike the date '~~October 4th~~' and replace it with the date '[October 15th](#)'. **Amendment Failed** (1 yes, 9 no)

Vote to accept main **Motion (#5)** as originally presented. **Adopted without objection**



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Motion (#6) moved by the Policy and Procedures Committee, no second required, to approve the proposed change to Accounting, Section 4, Subsection II.D, to add text for a new subsection II.D that reads:

D. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

1. When individual members are required to reimburse AVVA for any reason, they will be notified by the Finance Department or the National Finance Committee within sixty (60) days. (See Travel PolicyIV.2.a)

Amendment proposed by Secretary, Nina Schoffel, no second required to add, after the word 'days' the text 'of being posted to the account.' **Amendment adopted without objection**

Amended motion reads:

D. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

1. When individual members are required to reimburse AVVA for any reason, they will be notified by the Finance Department or the National Finance Committee within sixty (60) days of being posted to the account. (See Travel PolicyIV.2.a)

Vote to accept main **Motion (#6)** as amended. **Adopted without objection**

Motion (#7) moved by the Policy and Procedures Committee, no second required, to approve the proposed change to Accounting, Section 4, Subsection V.B.2 to strike the word 'A', then insert the text 'The Finance Department representative will send an electronic', then after the word 'statement' strikes the words '~~will be sent electronically~~'. (No replacement text), then after the word 'AVVA' inserts the text 'the president and'. **Postponed to the October Board Meeting**

Justification for postponement: *The Finance Department pays all credit card bills using autopay. Holding credit card bills for payment approval will disrupt the process and may generate late fees. Expenditures made and billed to AVVA credit cards are approved by approving agents (President/Treasurer) on form F-FIN04.02, the Credit Card Expense Form.*

Motion (#8) moved by the Policy and Procedures Committee, no second required, to approve the proposed change to Accounting, Section 4, Subsection VI.C.2 that strikes the word '~~organization~~' after the text 'Charter of the', , then inserts the phrase '**non-compliant chapter or state**'. **Adopted without objection**



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Motion (#9) moved by the AVVA Executive Board, no second required, approve the proposed change to Administrative, Section 6, to add a new Subsection VI.1 to read as follows:

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE: *Use of AVVA Logo*

A. The AVVA logo may not be used by any AVVA subsidiary or by any other organization or group without express permission from the AVVA Vice-President and Treasurer.

1. The face of the AVVA logo must not be altered or added to in any way, unless detailed in writing and expressly approved.

B. When requests are made and approved, the AVVA Vice-President will notify the national president of the outcome

Note: Successive policy sections will require renumbering. ***Adopted without objection***

Motion (#10) moved by the Membership Committee, no second required, to approve the proposed change to Membership, Section 7, to delete the entire Subsection ~~if 1-3, UPGRADING AN ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP.~~ ***Failed by unanimous vote*** (0 yes, 10 no)

Motion (#11) moved by the Policy and Procedures and Condolence Committees, no second required, to approve the proposed change to Committees, Section 11, Subsection VI.B.2,.4,.5 to change existing text as follows (**red** = strike, **blue** = insert):

2. The committee chair receives a packet of death notices from ~~Father Phil, of~~ the VVA **Chaplain.** ~~and The chair will~~ verify for duplications and any notices over one (1) year old.

4. The committee chair provides a **quarterly** progress report to the national ~~board upon request.~~ **stating how many cards have been sent.**

5. The committee chair supplies a budget request to the Finance Committee ~~as requested.~~ **annually.**

Adopted without objection

Information/Announcements:

- President Henshaw reminded those whose April 2020 airline tickets were carried over to October, to reschedule their tickets to next April. Anyone with airline vouchers should verify that the vouchers can be used for the April board meeting.



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Travel dates for the April meeting are April 21st – April 25th (officer travel dates are April 20th – April 25th).

- President Henshaw informed the board that a wonderful commendation was received for AVVA member, Lisa LaDieu. The commendation was from Charles Harrington, president of VVA Chapter 377 (New York). Details of Lisa LaDieu's efforts on behalf of veterans are posted on the AVVA website. The story and pictures are worth seeing.
- Region 4 Director, Susan Henthorn has made it her mission to bury the unclaimed cremains of indigent veterans. Susan ensures that these veterans receive burials with full military honors. She recently buried her fifth veteran, Thomas Higgins. Susan stated that she has undertaken this mission on behalf of AVVA. Susan's efforts were recognized in an article in the Atlanta Journal and Constitution. Susan agreed to send an electronic copy of the article to each board member.

Donation to Louisiana Relief Fund:

Treasurer, Kathy Andras addressed the devastation caused by the hurricanes that recently came through Louisiana. Donations are being collected by the Louisiana State Council for distribution to those VVA/AVVA chapters with affected members.

Motion (#12) moved by Secretary, Nina Schloffel, seconded by Region 2, Bobbie Morris, to donate \$500.00 from the AVVA Benevolence Fund to the Louisiana State Council for hurricane relief efforts. ***Adopted without objection***

Adjournment:

Having no further business, President Henshaw adjourned the meeting at 6:15 PM (PDT).

Submitted by,

Nina D. Schloffel
AVVA National Secretary