



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 January 28, 2021

Call to Order:

President Joanna Henshaw called the online meeting of the AVVA Board of Directors to order at 4:14 PM (PDT) on Thursday, January 28, 2021. The meeting was conducted using the GoToMeeting conferencing application.

Opening Ceremonies:

Equipment problems prevented National Chaplain, Bobbie Morris, from participating in opening ceremonies. President Henshaw therefore recognized the Reverend Orlando McGruder, to lead the assembly in a short prayer, followed by a Moment of Silence. Region 9 Director, Tim Von Bon, was then called on to lead the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board of Directors Roll Call:

Secretary Nina Schloffel called the roll.

President: Joanna Henshaw
Vice President: Kaye Gardner*
Secretary: Nina Schloffel
Treasurer: Kathy Andras
Region 1: Frances Guevremont
Region 2: Bobbie Morris*
Region 3: Hope Summers

Region 4: Susan Henthorn**
Region 5: Cecilia Essenmacher for Don Jones
Region 6: Rick Talford*
Region 7: Terri Rangel*
Region 8: Vacant
Region 9: Tim Von Bon

A quorum was established.

*Region 2: Bobbie Morris, present, but no audio
*Region 6: Rick Talford, joined the meeting at 4:25 PM (excused)
*Region 7: Terri Rangel, joined the meeting at 4:49 PM (excused)
*Vice President: Kaye Gardner, joined the meeting at 4:50 PM (excused)

**Region 4: Susan Henthorn, left meeting at 4:45 PM (excused)

Other Attendees:

Cecilia Essenmacher – National Chair, Policies and Procedures Committee/Deputy Region 5
Kathy Mattingly – National Chair, Finance Committee
Nancy Montgomery – National Chair, Elections Committee



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Agenda:

President Henshaw amended the Agenda as follows:

- **Section III**, to delete item 'b.',
- **Section IV**, to replace the word '**Validate**' with the word '**Confirm**', and
- **Section V**, to add a new item 'a', **Budget Discussion**, and renumber subsequent items accordingly, then add a new item 'd', **Assignment for Regional Directors**.

Motion (# 1) – moved by Region 9, Tim Von Bon, second by Treasurer, Kathy Andras, to accept the agenda as amended. **Adopted Without Objection**

Policy & Procedure:

Motion (# 2) – moved by the Membership Committee, no second required, to change Policy and Procedure, Section 7.I.F.1-3, Membership, by replacing existing text with new verbiage to simplify processes associated with Upgrading An Active Membership. **Adopted Without Objection**

Electronic Motions:

Motion (# 3) – moved by Secretary Nina Schloffel, second by Treasurer Kathy Andras, to confirm and enter into the permanent record, all electronic motions made between the October 2020 BOD meeting and the January 2021 BOD meeting. **Adopted Without Objection**

Budget Proposal, Fiscal Year 2022:

Motion (# 4) – moved by Region 5, Cecilia Essenmacher (for Don Jones), second by Region 9, Tim Von Bon, to adopt the budget for fiscal year 2022. **Adopted by Unanimous Vote**

Assignment for Regional Directors:

Treasurer Kathy Andras gave a short talk about the funding opportunities available to AVVA with Amazon Smile and the PayPal Giving Fund.

With Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate a portion of your total purchases (on qualifying products) to the charity of your choice. Treasurer Andras advised that signing up for Amazon Smile is easy. If you are an Amazon user you can sign up by going to the AVVA website, click on the Donate Now button, then select the Amazon Smile button and you



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will be guided through the signup process. If you prefer, you can instead follow these steps to sign up for Amazon Smile:

1. **Go to amazon.com.**
2. **Sign** in with your **Amazon.com** credentials.
3. Visit **smile**.
4. Choose or search for a charitable organization
5. Select your charity (Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.)
6. That's it! You're done.

The PayPal Giving Fund provides a means to donate to an enrolled charity (e.g. AVVA) using PayPal. PayPal processes, then distributes the donations to the charity's PayPal account at no cost to the charity. Donors are provided receipts for their donations. This is a great way for members and the general public to donate to AVVA.

Kathy reminded the board that we should never lose sight of fundraising opportunities. Kathy challenged each Regional Director to promote Amazon Smile and the PayPal Giving Fund with their respective states. She strongly suggested that the RD's encourage their states to do the same with their chapters.

Convention Information / Assignments:

President Henshaw reviewed the following tasks and assignments for the AVVA National Convention. Since the last board meeting, some tasks have been updated, and others added.

President Henshaw noted that the board needs to consider that this convention may be a virtual one. Should this come to pass, convention tasks will change; some will become unnecessary and new tasks/assignments will arise.

National Convention:

Prior to this meeting, President Henshaw provided the board with a list of items to be considered and/or modified if our National Convention is held on a virtual platform. Considerable discussion followed on how best to address these issues.

Concerns included:

- Virtual platforms
 - What is available?
 - Available vs desired features
 - Administrative/technical support



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- Technical proficiency of our board and general membership
 - Training
- Technology requirements
- Delegate books
 - Necessary
 - Delivery options, process
- Conducting business
 - Elections
 - Candidate forums
 - Voting process
 - Ballots requirements
 - Processing paper ballots
 - Deliver to delegates
 - Collecting, tallying
 - Uncontested positions
 - Can we proclaim winner by acclamation?
 - Electronic votes
 - Tracking
 - Bylaws
 - Pro/con discussion
 - Voting
 - Electronic tracking
 - Documentation
 - Requirements
 - Delivery modes
 - Security

President Henshaw suggested that this discussion continue at a subsequent meeting. The meeting is to be held within the next two weeks. In the interim, Treasurer Kathy Andras will explore the viability of using GoToMeeting, with possible upgrades, as a platform for a virtual convention.

Adjournment:

Having no further business, President Henshaw adjourned the meeting at 5:55 PM (PDT).

Submitted by,

Nina D. Schloffel
AVVA National Secretary