



## **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

### **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes January 15, 2026 Virtual Meeting - GoToMeeting**

#### **Call to Order:**

President Sharon Hobbs called the regular board meeting of the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America to order at 12:08 PM (EST) on Thursday, January 15, 2026. The meeting was conducted virtually using the GoToMeeting conferencing application. Secretary Nina Schloffel was in place.

#### **Opening Ceremonies:**

President Hobbs recognized Chaplain Barabara Coan to observe a moment of silence and deliver the invocation. Vice President Kathy Andras led participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Board of Directors Roll Call:**

Secretary Nina Schloffel called the roll:

|                 |                  |           |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------|------------------|
| President:      | Sharon Hobbs     | Region 4: | Mary Anne Newman |
| Vice President: | Kathy Andras     | Region 5: | Tony Gigli       |
| Secretary:      | Nina Schloffel   | Region 6: | Barbara Coan     |
| Treasurer:      | Joanne Blum      | Region 7: | Terri Rangel     |
| Region 1:       | Vacant           | Region 8: | Jennifer Ellis   |
| Region 2:       | Bobbie Morris    | Region 9: | Michelle Mackey* |
| Region 3:       | Wynella Bethards |           |                  |

\* Excused

A quorum was established.

#### **Other Attendees:**

|                     |                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Lori Calamita-Paton | Deputy, Region 2                    |
| Jeannette Cox       | Deputy Region 6                     |
| Ruth Feliciano      | Deputy, Region 8                    |
| Barbara Miller, PRP | National Parliamentarian            |
| Nancy Montgomery    | Chair, National Elections Committee |
| Brendia Nix         | Deputy, Region 4                    |
| Beverly Pounds      | Deputy, Region 3                    |
| Susan Price         | Chair, National Finance Committee   |
| Anita Washburn      | Deputy, Region 7                    |



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### **Agenda:**

**Motion (#1)** Moved by Region 2, Bobbie Morris, and it was seconded, to adopt the agenda as presented.

***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***

### **Approve October Minutes:**

**Motion (#2)** Moved by Region 6, Barbara Coan and it was seconded, to adopt the October minutes as written.

***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***

### **Out of Committee Proposals:**

**Motion (#3)** Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Incorporation Committee, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 2, Incorporation, (Incorporated Subsidiaries: State Associations), subsections I.E.1 to, after the word 'provided.', strike the word 'Requests' and insert the phrase 'Any request'. Then, after the word 'extensions', strike the phrase 'of time will' and insert the word 'shall'. Then, after the word 'be', insert the phrase 'for a one (1) time approval of thirty (30) days. Then, after the word 'Committee', insert the word 'Chair', and strike the subsequent phrase 'on a case by case basis'.

***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***

**Motion (#4)** Secretary Schloffel, moved on behalf of the Incorporation Committee, to amend Policy and Procedure Section 2, Incorporation, (Incorporated Subsidiaries: Chapter Incorporation), subsections II. B.4 to, after the word 'extensions', strike the phrase 'of time will', then insert the word 'shall'. Then, after the word 'be' insert the phrase 'for a one time approval of thirty (30) days'. Then, after the word 'Committee', insert the word 'Chair', and strike the subsequent phrase 'on a case by case basis'.

***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***

### **Electronic Motions:**

*The following electronic motions were made between the October 2025 National Board Meeting and the January 2026 National Board Meeting.*

**ITEM401: The Awards Committee, A1-5 to insert the new subsection designation 5 and text as follows: 5. Nominations must be for one category only and cannot exceed more than one page**

***Adopted Without Objection – November 14, 2025***



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ITEM402: The Election Committee moves to change Policy and Procedure Section 5, Elections, Subsections V.C.7-.14 to insert a new subsection C.7 that allows states to hold virtual elections under very specific conditions. See attached policy change request for specific language and format changes associated with this e-motion.

***Adopted Without Objection – December 13, 2025***

**Motion (#5)** Region 7, Terri Rangel, moved and it was seconded, to accept into the permanent record all electronic motions made between the October 2025 National Board Meeting and the January 2026 National Board Meeting.

***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***

### **Budget Approval:**

**Motion (#6)** The Finance Committee moved to accept the overall budget for 2026.

***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***

**Motion (#7)** The Finance Committee moved, in the event it becomes necessary, to move funds, not to exceed \$20,000, from our investment account to supplement the budget.

***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***

### **Legacy Update:**

**Motion (#8)** Secretary Schloffel moves, on behalf of the Executive Committee, that AVVA shall work with VVA to either consolidate our organizations, or to merge VVA into VVA in AVVA.

***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***

### **Mailchimp Update:**

Secretary Schloffel noted that there are over 9,000 in the Mailchimp audience.

### **Resignation:**

**Motion (#9)** Region 5, Tony Gigli moved and it was seconded, to accept Michelle Mackey's resignation as Region 9 Director.

***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***



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### **990 Approval:**

**Motion (#10)** The Executive Committee moved to accept the IRS 990 as prepared.  
***Adopted by Unanimous Consent***

### **2026 Leadership Updates:**

#### **A. Awards Deadline:**

Awards Chair, Tony Gigli, announced that the deadline for AVVA National Awards is May 30, 2026.

#### **B. Luncheon:**

Mary Anne Newman and Jennifer Ellis are in charge of the Awards Luncheon. They will bring samples of proposed luncheon gifts to the April Board Meeting. Price range for gifts is between \$6.00 to \$8.00.

#### **C. Project Friendship:**

Until a city is determined for the Leadership Conference, we cannot begin the selection process for Project Friendship. Details, including the city, for the Leadership Conference should be forthcoming at the forthcoming VVA BOD meeting.

### **Announcements:**

President Hobbs announced that the next BOD meeting is April 9<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be at the new hotel in DC. AVVA will be announcing Project Friendship in April. Once the city is selected for the Leadership Conference, the appropriate regional director will begin the search for our Project Friendship charity.

### **Adjournment:**

Having no further business, President Hobbs adjourned the meeting at 1:14 PM (EST).

Submitted by:

Nina Schloffel  
National Secretary  
Associates of Vietnam Veterans Of America, Inc.