

## **Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. Minutes of April 27, 2017**

**Officers present:** Chairman Bill Dudley; Vice Chairman Ray Quinn, Secretary Michael Rothfeld, Absent J Mountcastle, Treas.

**Chairman Dudley** called the meeting to order at 1902 hours

**Chairman Dudley** led the Pledge to the Flag

**Vice Chairman Quinn** gave the Invocation

Last month's Minutes were approved as presented at the meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented at the meeting

**Introduction of Guests: none**

**SGM Ray Quinn presented the COL Ed Taylor Award to St Johns County Sheriff David Shoar.**

This is the highest honor the Council can bestow to an individual or group that goes Above and Beyond in the Support of our County's Veterans, more on the Council's

**Speaker: Dave Seamans, President, Florida Fallen Heroes Foundation**

The Timothy J. Seamans Memorial Foundation will dedicate a fallen hero's monument at each home town high school for all of the fallen heroes of the Iraq / Afghanistan conflict. We will commemorate in red brick the name of each fallen alumni from past wars and conflicts. We strive to make certain that every fallen hero is not forgotten.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Mac** spoke about the Veterans Choice program that will continue until its funds run out and about veterans needing a limited Power of Attorney on file so records can be more easily accessed.

**Michael** spoke about how the Council uses Social Media to get its message out and read a letter from History students at Interlachen High School thanking the Council for its local veteran's documentary series.

**Ray** spoke about the Vietnam Commemoration Ceremony and wreath laying held at St Augustine National Cemetery.

**Kathy:** MIAP is looking for volunteers, they have interred 3387 veterans since 2007. The next interment will be in south Florida on June 17, 22 will be interred. Five Vietnam veterans were recently interred in GA.

**Jim Crutchfield, Mentor Program Coordinator**

There are currently 10 veterans in the VTC program, they are working well with their mentors. Mentors are needed, please contact Jim.

**Eric West,** Veteran organization can advertise in Military Deals at half off, and at no charge for website ads.

**Steve Spickelmier**, Memorial Day Ceremony at Jacksonville National will be at **10:00 am on Saturday, May 27**. Volunteers are needed to place over 12,000 flags in the ground. This will start at 2:30 pm on Thursday May 25.

**Chairman Dudley:** Memorial Day Service at St Augustine National Cemetery will be on Monday May 29. B. Gen Brian Simpler will be the speaker.

Plans are underway for the Third Annual Veterans Day Parade.

Council members attended a Dining With Dignity Dinner by Home Alone St. Johns which provided free nightly dinners. The Air Force JROTC from Bartram Trail worked as servers and Honor Guard.

For the Good of the Order: Long time Council member & WW II Veteran Herb Neumann is in the hospital. Prayers needed.

**The next meeting of the Veterans Council will be on Thursday, May 25, 7 pm in the Health & Human Services Building.**

**Our speaker will be RADM Patty Wolfe, USN ret, of the NE FL Woman Veterans Org.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.