

Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. Minutes of August 25, 2016

Officers present: Chairman Bill Dudley; Vice Chairman Ray Quinn, Secretary Michael Rothfeld;

Not Present: Treasurer John Mountcastle

Chairman Dudley called the meeting to order at 1903 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.

Visitors:

Don Foy, Sr and Ed O'Sullivan from the Korean War Veterans Association Jacksonville chapter 200

Selena Hernandez-Haines, Director of Military Recruitment, Flagler College

Christopher Tatem from Humana MarketPoint

Jim Bush, North Area Manager, FPL

Hala Laquidara, Special Events Coordinator, St Augustine Beach

Speakers:

Fred Dupont: Honor Guard performs Military Honors for Honorably Discharged Veterans only

Committee Reports:

Joe McDermott, SJC VSO: VA now provides approved service and guide dogs for vets with mental health issues.

CBOC negotiations with County are still ongoing for a permanent site.

Homeless Stand Down a huge success thanks to Tammy and the many volunteers who helped.

St Augustine DAV now has money to purchase a van, to take vets daily to Gainesville thanks to a \$ 8,900 donation from Beaver Toyota.

Ray Quinn: Ray will be in charge of the Wreaths Across America program again. WAA has to raise \$ 9,000 to cover all grave sites with wreaths. Please ask your organizations to donate to this very worthy cause.

Ray asked for Parade volunteers to meet at 8:30 am on Orange St.

John McGinty, VVA St Augustine chapter presented SGM Quinn with a check for Wreaths Across America.

Michael Rothfeld: Michael spoke about the dates, times, location of the Military Film Festival as well as who the speakers for each documentary would be.

Chairman Dudley: spoke in detail about the Veterans Day Parade, there will be a vintage plane flyover, a Coast Guard Helicopter, Foreign Consulate representatives from Spain, France and England, Miami National Guard Band, High School JROTC marching in the parade, military rolling stock, etc.

Lee Greenwood concert tickets are now on sale, presented by MOAA Ancient City Chapter.

The Veterans Council is initiating a new program it hopes will go national: **Vets 4 Cops**. A LLC and a 501 C3 have been formed for this purpose. Chairman Dudley asked us all to thank all First Responders that we meet to show them our gratitude for all that they do to keep us and our families safe.

The name sake of the Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home, the USS Lassen is now Homeported in Mayport. The Skipper and Master Chief presented Lassen with a shadow box flag that flew over the USS Lassen.

Meeting ended at 2012

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 29th, 7 pm, Elks Lodge # 829, 1420 A1A S., St. Augustine

Respectfully submitted by Michael Rothfeld, Secretary, Veterans Council SJC