

Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. Minutes of July 25, 2019

Officers present: Chairman Bill Dudley, Secretary Michael Rothfeld, Vice Chairman Ray Quinn, Treasurer John Mountcastle
Chairman Dudley called the meeting to order at 1902 hours

Chairman Dudley led the Pledge to the Flag and SGM Ray Quinn gave the Invocation

Minutes were approved as presented

Treasurer's Report were approved as presented

Introduction of Guests: Celeste Sheble, Vince Hoelscher, Viggo Melin, Bruce Salyer

Speaker: Bruce Thompson, Vets4Vets NE FL (brucethompson4v@gmail.com) : **MISSION: INFORM** our Veterans about policy changes, resources, and issues; **CONNECT** our Veterans with organizations that will build a better future for tomorrow's Veterans. **UNITE** our Veterans to one another in an effort to build strong relationships. **ORGANIZE** the voice of our Veterans so that we are heard within our Community, our State, and our Country. **TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER!**
VISION: Ensure Veterans are respected and recognized for their service, always receive the benefits and entitlements they were promised and earned and ensure all veterans especially disabled Veterans are given a fair deal.

Michael Ricketts, Pres., Special Forces Assoc. , Chapter 88 Jax. (maricketts1@gmail.com) The Special Forces Association, North East Florida Chapter 88 Serves as the Local Voice for the Special Forces Community; Perpetuates Special Forces Traditions and Brotherhood; Advances the Public Image of Special Forces and Promotes the General Welfare of the Special Forces Community.

The purposes for the formation of the "Green Beret" Special Forces Association, North East Florida Chapter 88 are to unite fraternally all persons who are now or have been assigned to the United States Army Special Forces, to perpetuate the traditions of Special Forces and to commemorate the memory of Special Forces soldiers who have given their lives in defense of the United States and the free world.

Committee Reports:

Mac: Mac spoke about the new Mission Act, Blue Water Bill and will talk more about it as info becomes available

John L: Veterans treatment Court update- 18 Mentors, Nov. 13, 14 Mentor training, Melbourne, FL.

VVA 1084 received VVA National Award for Annual Member Growth, **Dave Treffinger's E-Recon** received an award for best newsletter

Steve S: Sept. 21. 10 am to 3 pm, all invited to Cecil Field for the annual Gathering In The Pines

Kathy, MIAP: 21st Call To Honor in Sarasota on Sept. 26.

Bill: new **CBOC** Groundbreaking Oct. 3 at 10 am., Veterans Day events Nov. 11 at Anastasia Baptist Church & SA Beach

For the Good of The Order: Chris Vedvick, Purple Heart Ceremony @ Jax Wall, August 8.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm, The next meeting of the Veterans Council will be on **Thursday, July 25, 2019**, 7 pm in the Health & Human Services Building, 200 San Sebastian View.

Future speakers:

Aug. 29 Gerald Timoney, Military Museum of N. FL

Crystal Timmons, Veterans Garden Project

Sept. 26 Bob Buehn, Capt. USN, (Ret), former Commanding Officer, Guantanamo Bay

Char Miller, Community Hospice, Veterans Programs

Oct. 24 Chris Vedvick, Commander Dept of FL Military Order of the Purple Heart

Derek Collins, The Mission Act explained

Nov. 21 Emily Jane Murray, Public Archeology Coord, Flagler College, The Seminole Wars and How it Changed All of Us

John Powell, Historic Firearms

Dec. 19 Veterans Day Event: AAR

Shiva Thompson, Yoga 4 Change

