

Veterans Council of St. Johns County, Inc. Minutes of May 25, 2017

Officers present: Chairman Bill Dudley; Vice Chairman Ray Quinn, Secretary Michael Rothfeld, John Mountcastle, Treas.
Chairman Dudley called the meeting to order at 1900 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: RADM Patty Wolfe, USN (Ret)

Chairman Dudley presented Council member Herb Naumann, a WW II Navy veteran with a certificate and plaque for his many years of service to nursing home and hospitalized veterans with his sock donations, numbering in the thousands. The Vilano Beach VFW presented Herb with a sock containing a \$ 200. check honoring and recognizing Herb's tireless effort in the sock donations. Thank you **SOCK MAN**.

Speaker: RADM Patty Wolfe, representing NE FL Women Veterans

The NE FL Women Veterans helps military women transition to life back home. They offer assistance, guidance, counseling, schooling, housing, help with resumes, one on one counseling, etc. in achieving their mission. There are 1.5 million women veterans in the US, with over 12,000 living in FL. Today's women veterans are younger, more racially diverse and better educated than their predecessors.

The NE FL Women Veterans wants to be the Advocate for Women Veterans.

The group has just been given a building in downtown Jax that is staffed by 100% volunteers.

Committee Reports:

Mac: spoke about the VA committing itself to speeding up the appeals process and going paperless across the country.

Michael: spoke about contacting the Duval School Board to donate the Council's documentary series and having its content integrated into the High School curriculum.

Ray: displayed his recently received Governor's Medal of Merit which was received with a standing ovation. The SGM invited all to the Jax and St Augustine Memorial Day Ceremonies.

Kathy: not present

Mike Cassata: invited all to the Jax City Hall to show support for the Bill that will grant the POW/MIA Memorial acreage to continue the project.

Chairman Dudley: He and Mac presented the veterans at the Westminster Home with a Proclamation and Governor's Award.

The FBI Convention to be held in the WGV on September 16 will present the VC with a donation of \$ 1500.00.

Chairman Dudley was appointed to the FL Defense Support Task Force for a term of 4 years.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

The next meeting of the Veterans Council will be on **Thursday, June 29**, 7 pm in the Health & Human Services Building, 200 San Sebastian View.

Our speaker will be **Megan Wall**, Legal Aid Attorney (June 29)

Future speakers:

June 29, Megan Wall, Legal Aid Attorney

July 27, Sara Slettebo, Association of Veteran Employers

August 31, Kimberly Gibbons, Atlantic Coast Young Marines

August 31, Derek Boyd Hankerson, Author, Lecturer, Producer, speaking about the Military History of Ft. Mose

September 28, Bob Buehn, Capt USN (Ret), Coordinator of the UNF Veterans Resource Center