

17 Construction Squadron Workshop Vietnam Association

Minutes of the Meeting

Held at The Civic Centre, Albany City Council Offices, North Road, Albany, WA

DATE: 15 Oct 2019

The meeting was opened at 1000 hour by the President George Jones.

1. APOLOGIES

Tres Adams, Dave Bullock, Brian Burke, Eric Campbell, Steve Chapman, Brian Coates, Ian Craft, Steve Fanetti, Dan Garlin, Don Goldman, John Lynch, Ken Kelly, Allan (Derro) Lennox, Wes Lugowski, Rex Martin, Graeme Robinson, Andrew Smithett, Ray Spackman, Clive Steart, Alan Thornton, and Geoff Williams.

It was moved by Bob Callinan and seconded by Greg Carson that all apologies be accepted CARRIED

2. NAMES OF MEMBERS PASSED SINCE LAST MEETING

Mick Bikoff, Bob Cook, Roger Dive, Robert McGregor, Kevin Pearce, Allan Puli, Roger Stafford.

The President then called for members to stand and observe a one minute silence in memory of those departed members.

3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting were discussed, there was no business arising and it was moved by George Jones and seconded by Stewart Brett that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting. CARRIED

4 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer opened his report by presenting the current financial status of the association. He gave a brief rundown on how the reunion budget was set and the Income, Expenditure and Bank Balance as it was on the day of the meeting.

The Treasurer spoke about how important sponsorships and donations were to the reunion. He stated that budgeting for future reunions could not rely on a given amount of sponsorship. He then acknowledged, and thanked, the significant donations made to this reunion budget from the following members. John Fenton, George Jones, Dan Garlin, Peter and Helen Ingre, Wes Lugowski, Tres Adams, Grant Young and Snowy Whykes

The Treasurer then raised the subject of Registration Refunds to members who were unable to attend the reunion for various reasons. In some instances, members withdrew from attending the reunion after they had paid their

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registration fee. This fee is normally refunded, in a lot of instances, members donate their fees to the reunion coffers. However, some members requested a refund after hand-out merchandise had been purchased. The Treasurer suggested that in this instance, the amount of the merchandise hand-out fee should be deducted from the refund and the merchandise given to the member.

The subject was discussed and the Treasurer (Snow Whykes) moved that the recommendation be adopted. Seconded Bob Fleiner. CARRIED

The Treasurer then stated that the estimated closing balance at the completion of the reunion would be about the same as the Opening Balance we had at the beginning of preparing for this reunion (around \$5,000.00). He also stated that he was in the process of applying for a DVA Grant and if it was successful, would add up to \$4,000.00 to the balance.

The Treasurer (Snow Whykes) then moved that the Treasurers report be accepted. Seconded by Paul Jenkinson. CARRIED

5. NEXT REUNION

There were three suggestions as a venue for our 2021 reunion. John Fenton suggested the Hume Weir Resort in the North East of Victoria. Dan Garlin, in an email to the Secretary, suggested the Ordnance Field Park Memorial, Canberra. Peter Ingrey suggested Port Macquarie in NSW.

The President opened the topic for discussion. John Fenton gave a brief rundown on the Hume Weir. Snowy Whykes presented Dan Garlin's Canberra suggestion and Peter Ingrey spoke at length about Port Macquarie.

It was then moved by Peter Ingrey and seconded by Dave Lindeman that the 2021 reunion be held at Port Macquarie. CARRIED

6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Peter Ingrey was proposed by Bob (Ruffy) Fleiner for the position as President. As there were no other nominations, Peter Ingrey was elected unopposed.

Snowy Whykes stated that he was stepping down from the position of Secretary/Treasurer and the position was declared vacant. Filling the position was quite difficult as nobody was prepared to take on the role. Snow indicated that the position was vital to the association and in particular to the continuation of successful reunions. He also stated that the person elected must want to do the job and not be shanghaied into the position. Snow also indicated that he would continue in the role of editor of the newsletter and would also take on the position of assistant Sec/Treas. The meeting took a break while the Sec/Treas rang Andrew Smithett to find out if he would take on the role. Andy was not in attendance at the Albany reunion but stated that he was not interested in the position.

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Peter Ingrey then proposed that his wife Helen, would be available to take on the position of Secretary/Treasurer if we could not fill the role from within the ranks of the meeting. Helen Ingrey was then elected in absentia unopposed, with Snow Whykes accepting the position of Assistant. Snow indicated that he would go over to NSW early in 2020 and help the newly elected committee get the reunion started.

Bob Callinan and Dave Lindeman offered their assistance if they could help in any way.

The President then spoke of the commitment that was needed for a successful reunion and gave his support to the newly elected committee.

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

- (i) Should we continue to send the newsletter to members who show no interest in the Association. The Treasurer showed the meeting the cost of producing the newsletter and sending it out to all ex-members of the unit. He stated that the biggest cost was the printing, production and mailing out of the newsletter to members who show no interest in the association. He suggested that the next newsletter contain a questionnaire regarding the subject matter and if the member did not respond, they would be removed from the mailing list.

Moved: Snow Whykes Seconded: Steve Macfarlane CARRIED

- (ii) Should we publish the minutes of our meeting in the newsletter. The subject was discussed generally and it was decided that the minutes should be put up on the website, but NOT published in the newsletter.
- (iii) Alan Pratt raised the subject that he felt members were not given enough opportunity to purchase a reunion shirt. He asked the Sec/Treas if a second run of shirt orders could be made if the numbers warranted this action. The meeting was asked by a show of hands if they wanted another production of the shirt. There was only one hand shown. A second shirt production was not warranted.
- (iv) There was a general consensus that we should stop the production of reunion "Stubby Holders". The decision was made that this would be the last reunion with "Stubby Holders".
- (v) A discussion took place about reunion hats. The majority of the members indicated that they would prefer the cloth "Floppy Hat" for future reunions.
- (vi) The matter of the length of the next reunion was raised. Members discussed the length and times of the next reunion, it was apparent that cost was a major factor as well as the number of activities on the reunion schedule. It was suggested that the Port Macquarie reunion committee give consideration to having three major activities ie. The Meet and greet

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camaraderie, the dinner and meeting and one outing, over a period of four days.

- (vi) Graham McDonald raised the subject of the ladies attending the meeting. He stated that the wives/partners of the members were very supportive of the men and he thought that the ladies should be part of the meeting. The matter was discussed at length and the Sec/Treas stated that from the beginning of the association's existence, the men's meeting was adjudged to be the one reunion activity that was to be kept as the men's activity. This was the basis of the association's inaugural meeting and that has been the one item that has remained as such. After discussing the matter further, the decision was made, by show of hands, that the status quo would remain in place. It was mentioned however, that the incoming Secretary/Treasurer was the wife of the incoming President. The Committee positions are elected positions and as such, committee members will attend the men's meeting. The Sec/Treas also stated that the wives/partners were an integral part of our reunions and that they must be acknowledged as such.

There being no further business to discuss, the President declared the meeting closed at 1150 hours.

**George Jones
PRESIDENT**

**Garry Whykes
SECRETARY**