

TWB VETERANS ORGANIZATION MEETING
TSAILE/WHEATFIELDS CHAPTER

April 11, 2017

MINUTES

I. OPENING OF MEETING

- a. Meeting Call to Order by Commander Becenti at 5:06pm
- b. Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation: Group / Elwood Begay
- c. Roll Call
Willis T. Becenti Present, Calvin Halwood Absent, Kerbie Henry Present, David Tsosie Present, Irving Chee Present.
- d. Review/ Accept Agenda
Motion: Max Benally 2nd: Frank Begaye
Votes: For: 26 Against: 0 Abstain: 2
- e. Review/ Accept Last Meeting Minutes
Motion: Max Benally 2nd: David Tsosie
Kerbie Henry read March Veterans meeting minutes
Votes: For: 26 Against: 0 Abstain: 3
- f. Announcements
 1. Chapter Meeting April 12 @ 9:30am
 2. CNVO Meeting April 28 @ 9am Chinle Chapter
 3. Memorial Day Parade Concho, Az May 29 @ 10am
 4. Dine College graduation May 12 @ 10am

II. REPORTS

- a. Willis T. Becenti
 - Veterans wellness center in Pinion Az. Propose plans passed around, project will cost \$8 million. Wellness center sponsor by Pinion Chapter and Barten Hostiin. This facility will house various programs for veterans in need (PTSD, Brain injury, counseling) Doctor supposedly will be available to the veterans. Initial drawings and 3D model available for review by architect. Steering committee selected to move project along, convenience store also in the plans. Housing for Doctors will also be in the plans for short term stay. Auditorium will be available to all Navajo veterans for various functions (fundraising, welcome home parties, etc.)
 - Agency meeting might have new election but hoping to avoid.
 - Trust Fund increase still in the works and hoping it will pass so we can get more funds to the veterans.
 - VASH program finally has plan of operation down and ready to start helping the veterans. Ruth Hunter is liaison for NHA and currently working with the veterans in need.
- b. Calvin Halwood (absent)
- c. Kerbie Henry
 - Posted colors at presidential inauguration at Dine College with fellow comrades. Good experience and would like for other veterans to participate. Also, would like to maybe get some practice rounds in if possible.
- d. David Tsosie
 - Posted colors at Dine college presidential inauguration of Monty Roussele. Next posting of colors will be at Dine College graduation.

RECEIVED

MAY 15 2017

**Tsaile/Wheatfields
Chapter BY: DBB**

e. Irving Chee

- Spoke about tax repayment from State of Arizona. H&R Block knew nothing about it but legislation is in the works. New Mexico has already pass legislation and currently refunding to New Mexico Veterans only. This legislation is for veterans that enlisted on or after 1972 from the reservation and paid state tax elsewhere.

f. Added: Edith Phillips

- Shared with the veterans about openings at Ft. defiance Navajo Head Start for Bus Drivers position (Veterans or Non-Veterans) providing orientation/ training on April 26, 2017 @ Education Center in Window Rock. Class C Driver license will be paid for if candidate does not possess one. Interested in being around kids a plus. Submit application and resume if interested.

Motion: Frank Begaye 2nd: Wesley Begay

Votes: For: 22

Against: 0

Abstain: 3

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

Motion: Cherle Yazzie 2nd: Michael Halona

1. Raymond Jones Chinle Agency VSO

- I am coming from Navajo Nation veterans advisor council quarterly meeting, had an agenda but wasn't as organized as expected. New officers were sworn in as well. Discussion about housing for the veterans still in the works and might be on the spring session for vote if ready.
- Pinon wellness renamed to Black Mesa Regional Multipurpose Center and will be for surrounding Seven chapters. This project was presented to the council by Barten Hostiin and projected to cost \$4million.
- Veterans Summit in the works and tentatively scheduled for July 10-11, 2017 @ Dine College. This summit will allow straight discussion with President/Vice president.
- April 18th @ Twin Arrows meeting to discuss Homesite lease process also including Veterans Issues will be discussed.
- Chinle Veterans office has two vacancy for office assistant and accounts maintenance specialist. Veterans calling to Chinle Veterans office demanding checks, while the issue is at the delayed submittal of meeting minutes and application. All veterans guilty of being disrespectful to office staff will be reported back to chapter veteran's organization entity.
- Navajo Hopi honor riders will be stopping off at Rock Point Az May 12th 1:30-2:30pm. 15th annual Event will be from May 11th -14th and ask for support. This honor ride is for all KIA veterans, showing respect to the fallen.
- Please educate your local council delegate about legislation in the works such as increase to Veterans Trust Funds. The ten percent increase will help a lot of veterans in need.

Floor given to David Tsosie: Thanked Mr. Jones on his new position and wish him the best.

Floor given to David Kedelty: Where and how would we go about starting the process of Legislation? Response: Starts at local veterans organization and get support from CNVO. Support from local chapter as well. Rally all five agencies and select council delegate to submit legislation to the council for vote to be made law. This process can be done if the right person were to pursue it. Educate yourself about the policy and procedures tied to the Trust Fund.

- a. Requesting Veteran Financial Assistance from veterans Permanent Trust Funds.
- Decision to equally divide remaining balance of \$6,800 to eligible Veterans in the amount of \$200.

Motion: David Tsosie 2nd: Frank Begaye
Votes: For: 19 Against: 0 Abstain: 1

1. Jonathan McClanaham \$200 for Food
2. Willis T. Becenti \$200 for Food
3. Andrick J. Bahe \$200 for Food
4. Wesley Begaye \$200 for Firewood
5. Rose M. Davis \$200 for Food
6. Irving D. Chee \$200 for Firewood
7. Billy Francis Sr. \$200 for Food
8. Dorothy J. Edison \$200 for Food
9. Richard Anagal \$200 for Food
10. Michelle Mason \$200 for Food
11. Eddie Mason Jr. \$200 for Food
12. Roy Anagal \$200 for Food
13. David Kedelty \$200 for Food
14. Kerbie Henry \$200 for Food
15. Max Benally \$200 for Food
16. Ramon L. Slick \$200 for Food
17. William Begay \$200 for Food
18. David M. Tsosie \$200 for Food
19. Frank D. Begaye \$200 for Food
20. Elwood Begay \$200 for Food
21. Julia M. Yazzie \$200 for Food

Motion: Max Benally 2nd: Irving Chee
Votes: For: 20 Against: 0 Abstain: 1

- b. Requesting Veterans Financial Assistance from chapter veterans Funds
1. NO SUPPELMENTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE
- c. Veterans Trust Budget Revision
- Resolution have been submitted for 10% increase for spring session. If approved in 2017 we will be getting approx.. \$120,000. A form 4 will be developed at that time when these funds are approved. We can do a lot with these funds if approved and it would be available on October 2017.
- d. Veterans Plan of Operation
- Budget and finance approved, ready to go into law an order, and then after lawyer completes the review it goes back to Seth Damon.

e. Veterans Picnic at Wheatfields lake

- This will be a family event and will need to transfer funds of \$600. Willis to start process to have funds available for purchasing of food and supplies. Tentatively scheduled for June but final date will be decided in May meeting.

Motion: David Tsosie 2nd: Louise Begay

Votes: For: 15 Against: 0 Abstain: 1

f. Jacket Update

- Machine is broke and not sure when jacket will be available. Will report status of the remaining nine jackets next meeting.

g. Dine College Graduation May 12, 2017 @ 10am

- Volunteers needed but will have details in May meeting.

Motion by: David Tsosie 2nd by: Frank Begaye

Votes For:17 Against:0 Abstain:1

IV. NEXT MEETING

DATE: May 9, 2017 @ 5pm

V. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:15pm.

Motion: Max Benally 2nd: Frank Begaye

Votes: For: 15 Against: 0 Abstain: 1