

VFW Post 6258 Membership Meeting March 12, 2020

Halifax Town Hall, Massachusetts

Presiding Officer: Commander, David Walsh

Meeting 1900 to 2009

Salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance – Opening Prayer.

REPORTS FROM THE COMMANDER: (a) Junior Vice Commander Jones is the Service Officer and is the Assistant Chaplain. See Stephenie Jones for help in your paperwork for claims. (b) The Halifax Council of Aging is looking for a part-time driver at 5 to 19 hours per week. \$14.88 to \$18.81 per hour send your resume to Susan Lawless pick up the applications across the street at the Council of Aging. (d) We have a book available to Vietnam Veterans for the asking titled “VIETNAM WAR 50th COMMEMORATION – A TIME TO HONOR” – “STORIES OF SERVICE, DUTY, AND SACRIFICE”. (e) Welcomed new members. Marine Henry Moniz, Marine Fred Branham, and Army Josh Curtis. You are now part of an Elite Group of Combat Warriors who have each others backs long after the fight is over! (f) We were told that there are two top chapters in Massachusetts and our Post 6258 is one of them. (g) We nominated a teacher from Pembroke Paul MacDonald and won the National Citizen Education Teacher Award from the VFW and also won the State Award. (h) Last Year Chief Jason Viveiros (Halifax) was nominated by our Post 6258 was awarded the VFW NATIONAL FIREFIGHTER AWARD. We have a good track record of choosing nominees. Next year we will be nominating an EMT or Paramedic. (i) Talked about our Honor Guard and Memorabilia loaned to the Town Library for their display.

QUARTERMASTERS FINANCIAL REPORT: We have a balance of \$7,107.44 Credits were \$114.75 Total \$7222.19

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER: Nothing to Report

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER & SERVICE OFFICER: Because of Coronavirus to “Wash Your Hands”.

TRUSTEE JOHN DORNEY: Experience with the Brockton VA. I’ve been trying to do this for 12-15 years. I went in for a procedure and they made you do a lot of paperwork. I went in and all I needed was my DD-214 and how much money I made last year. I sat down for an intake which took about 15 to 20 minutes and I went home. 3 days later I get a phone call that your enrolled, come in to take a picture, 3 days later I get my VA Card in the mail. Less than a week for the whole thing. 2 days later get a call asking if I want a Primary Care from the VA? Next day I get a call for a hearing test. And later I got \$6000 worth of hearing aids. The whole experience was transparent.

JUDGE ADVOCATE: Spoke about the Veterans Luncheon the 2nd Wednesday of the month at D’Anns Restaurant in Abington. Time we meet 12:00 noon. Cost \$13 includes drink and gratuity.

SURGEON: Spoke about the Burn Pits. K2 VETERANS TOXIC EXPOSURE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT. 7,000 U.S. Troops deployed from 2001-2005 at Karshi-Khanabad, a former Soviet base. They were exposed to depleted uranium, chemical weapons such as cyanide in the showers, and fuels and solvents as toxic black goo. Out troops have a 500% higher cancer rate and are now dying at an increasing rate. The VA and DOD refuse to acknowledge relationship between deployments and cancer. Our troops suffered from Agent Orange from Vietnam and from burn pits in Iraq and Afghanistan.... THIS CANNOT HAPPEN AGAIN! Write a letter of Support to Rep Mark Green, M.D. R-TN and Rep Stephen Lynch D-MA. Would like Post 6258 to send in a letter.

Also Metoquin (malaria drug) was discussed which causes brain stem damage. And has lots of side effects causes mood swings, anger, etc.

COMRADES IN DISTRESS: We have a WWII Vet Jim Ingargiola from Iwo Jima and Korea. He has cancer in the neck and is in a wheelchair but he is as sharp as a tack! He also has cancer in both lungs and they say its under control. And the VA is providing for a lot of his prescriptions but, they are sending him bills \$600 to \$800 dollars and expect him to pay out of his pocket. No Veteran should be going through this no matter who they are. So, we are helping Jim as much as we can.

NEW BUSINESS / OLD BUSINESS: (a) We will be displaying (6) 45 foot to 90 foot flags across the street by the Elementary School May 1st. Out of respect for the American Flags we will be laying them on top of tarps. We will meet around 11:30am or (to be announced). (b) Next year for the parade we will have a Marching Band from Kingston. We will lead with our Honor Guard. (c) Due to the coronavirus our visit to the Childrens Hospital is delayed to the Fall. (d) Discussed our reading program at the Hobomock Elementary School. (e) Talked about our monthly district meetings. (f) Discussed Poppy Drive locations and member shifts.



(g) Dave Walmsley was the presenter for an Award to North Easton Savings Bank in Halifax on February 27, 2020. They pay us a quarterly dividend for keeping our money in their bank. His daughter Kristen Barrows is the manager of the bank.

(h) We will be planting about 1000 Flags on the hill like they do at the Boston Common. We agreed we can pull this off by one member drilling into the ground at a predetermined depth and the other member planting the flag. With a bunch of teams we can achieve this in a few hours.

MEMBERS NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE

Commander : Dave Walsh, **Senior Vice Commander :** Bill Finn, **Junior Vice Commander :** Stephenie Jones, **Quartermaster :** David M. Walmsler, **Chaplin :** David McPhillips, **Staff Judge Advocate :** Wieslaw (Vinnie) Burdziuk, **Post Surgeon :** Warren (Buzz) Smith, **One Year Trustee :** Dennis Olson Sr., **Two Year Trustee :** David Gaspar, **Three Year Trustee :** John Dorney

Adjutant : Wieslaw (Vinnie) Burdziuk (Appointed Position by Commander)

Service Officer : Stephenie Jones (Appointed Position by Commander)

REQUEST FOR ADJOURNMENT

FINAL SALUTE TO THE FLAG (SALUTE ONLY) OFFICER OF DAY

(Clothing issue items may be secured at the Quartermasters table after adjournment)