

Minutes

Vietnam Veterans of 2D BN 1st Marines Inc Annual Business Minutes – Arlington Virginia November 14, 2021

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance than called to order by Vice President Tony Kilroy (Fox 69-70).

- 1) Treasures Report presented by **Mario Sagastume** (Fox 67). Our Balance Sheet Fiscal Year goes from October 1st 2020 to September 30th 2021. Petty cash \$56.45. General Balance \$27,000.00 in Checking Account. Inventory \$3,800.00. Total assets \$30,800.00. Prepaid Deposit to the hotel was \$5,000.00 and what we owe will be deducted from our bill at end of Banquet. Our Total Assets \$35,000.00. Liabilities are paid within the year. We sold 2 bricks \$600.00 which were added as a liability and \$420.00 check was written to the Heritage Museum. Deferred Revenue \$850.00 money collected for meals since 9:30am. We have also collected \$540.00 for the bus ride which was put in Liabilities and when we pay it will be adjusted. This last year we had a loss of \$3,500.00 and you will see it when we do the income statement. We had to adjust some PX sales and Raffle money. In 2019 we sold \$2,158.00 in tickets and from what we spent we made \$300.00 on the raffle. We collected \$12,095.00 and paid out \$10,000.00 so we made \$2,095.00. Mario said we are not in the business of making money (we have no stock holders) but make our reunions affordable to the members. We had a good gross profit before we had the expenses. \$788.00 went to Plaques that were awarded. And we pay a percentage of our proceeds when members pay us through PayPal. We had a deficit for the Hospitality Suite of \$154.00. At Reunions we purchase Liability Insurance and supplies for our printer. We also have pretty good expenses for the Newsletter, Post Cards, Get Well and Taps Cards. We also had some travel expenses \$220.00 to send Jesse Tipton to 29 Palms as our representative to a function there and paid for a hotel room night. We had 2 charitable contributions \$1,000.00 to Doc Adams and \$1,000.00 to a Scholarship Fund. We had (2) Years of Website Expenses (not counting printing costs) \$2,200.00. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to explain it.
- 2) **DISCUSSION ON OUR MEMORIAL BRICKS.** **Dale Willams** (Fox 69-70) held a discussion with members about our memorial bricks. We make \$90.00 a brick and it guarantees your brick gets placed at our monument. Its for Members, Family and Friends of 2/1. Order Form can be downloaded from our website homepage.
- 3) **Trustees Report.** **Vin Burdziuk** (H&S 66) Reported on our Website and Card Program. 2001 we had 676,650 visitors to our website. We had 39 new postings of membership submissions. We mailed out a Newsletter and Post Cards to all our members, family and friends of 2/1. (We have 1,144 in our mailing list). We sent out 41 Email Newsletter Updates. Our membership was sent and we posted 19 TAPS Cards for our members who had passed. We sent 5 family Sympathy Cards for family members who have passed, and 7 Get Well Cards and a 90th Birthday Card for Colonel Bill Duncan. The cost for our Domain Names for the year was \$319.12. Cost for our Website, Blog, Newsletter and Backup for the website was \$687.20. Total cost for the Card Program for the year was \$75.00. Total printing cost for our post-cards was \$989.51. For a Total of \$2,070.83 for 2021.
- 4) **Vice President Tony Kilroy** (Fox 69-70) made it known that half of our website cost is for printing. And presented an option to receive our printed Newsletters and Post Cards by email to save money. Also, for our ID Name Cards we had 40 members order them who never came to the reunion. Where it cost us to have them made, we should charge a deposit for them which is refundable when you come to the reunion.

- 5) **Hospitality Room. Jesse Tipton** (H&S 65-66) Normally we have cashews and peanuts etc. but because of the circumstances with Covid we couldn't do it. I've always asked if there was something you wanted me to add for the Hospitality Room. We had requests for more Diet Soda's. If there is something we need next year let me know? On our left-over items please take some home as we can't have any stuff leftover as I can't take it back home. We found that this year people are not drinking as much beer but the water is going well.
- Jose Perez** (Golf 69-70) said we try to meet every-ones request. Its hard to drive around D.C. so we pick up our supplies over at Cosco and over at Henderson Hall. At Cosco we found the most popular beer and they come in cases. At Henderson Hall they have better selection but come in 6 and 12 packs and they have a better selection if Wine. So, it's a matter of running around to find everything. Jesse takes care of the snacks and everything and I take care of the beverages and Coffee. Every city is different so the items are different. \$875.49 was spent on beverages. Donations brought in \$807.00. We pay for the snacks and beverages out of our own pocket and through the donations we pay ourselves back.
- Jesse Tipton** is from Los Angeles and is close to Camp Pendleton and has got real close to the 2/1 Marines in Camp Horno. Jesse said he is close to the Sgt Major and on October 29th went down and represented us at the Ceremony for the Marines that were killed in Afghanistan. I wore my Red Jacket so they knew who we were and they appreciated me being there. The Gold Star Families were there along with the Commandant of the Marine Corps and Sgt Major of the Marine Corps was there. It was a private Ceremony but I was invited. **Tim Stanton** (Echo 70) and myself coordinate and help assist Marines at Camp Horno and they appreciate us supporting them.
- 6) **There was a question about membership and not being listed.** Replies were from **Vice President Tony Kilroy** (Fox 69-70) and **Mario Sagastume** (Fox 67). Tony said he would get together with the member after the meeting. Mario said that there are other groups out there but as an organization we are the VIETNAM VETERANS OF 2D BN 1ST MARINES that's our name. All of you know that as for our membership because of your time in Vietnam with 2/1 you don't have to sign up to be a member, you don't have to apply to be a member, you don't have to pay to be a member. We all earned our membership with Blood Sweat & Tears in a far away land. We ask for donations when we feel the need and you guys are always very generous. So, whether you want to or not. If you served with 2/1 or supported 2/1 in operations you are an automatic member.
- Jesse Tipton** (H&S 65-66) said that Echo 2/1 has an organization and that he and **Tom Isenberg** (Echo 65-66) has gone to a couple of their Reunions in Prescott Arizona. Some of their members I've seen there have come here. So, there are other groups like Hotel 2/1 are all out there. But, they are not our organization.
- 7) **Old Business. Vice President Tony Kilroy** (Fox 69-70) A couple of years ago we decided we were going to stop donations and will use the funds to manage and reduce our costs so our members can participate in the banquet and our excursions and things like that. We could save \$50 to \$100 per member based on if they have their wife or guest with them. We have pledged \$1000.00 to Doc Adams every year. Doc Adams agreed that will end. Our membership is dwindling and we need to make sure our money is maintained. **Paul Mangan** (Fox 65-66) asked that the membership vote on this and it was passed. Member asked why attendance was low this year. The Covid changed 44 members minds on not coming after they signed up to attend. Also, the last 12 months we lost 19 members who has passed on.
- 8) **New Business and Nominations.** This year we several nominations for Board of Trustee Seats and a Secretary. Bruce Oliver (Golf 68-69), Doc Paul Stein (Golf 68-69), Jose Perez (Golf 69-70) and Jesse Tipton's (H&S 65-66) positions are open and the Secretary position needs to be filled. Nominations were made for the membership to vote on.

Members Nominated for (4) Year Term and Voted in Are:

Secretary **Wieslaw (Vin) Burdziuk** (H&S 66), Trustee **Lansdale (Dale) Williams** (Fox 69-70), Trustee **Roy Greenleaf** (Fox 67-69), Trustee **Jesse Tipton** (H&S 65-66), **Jose Perez** (Golf 69-70), Vice President **Tim Dunn** (Hotel 68) stepped down from President, **Tony Kilroy** (Fox 69-70) stepped up to President from Vice President. (Done According to Bylaws).

- 9) **Discussion of Future Reunions. Tony Kilroy** (Fox 69-70) Fort Worth, Texas **2022** Nov 9 - 13. In **2023** San Diego, California Nov 8 - 12.

2024 is open for discussion. Milwaukee, Charleston, Savannah, Tampa and Branson were under nomination. **Milwaukee was chosen for 2024** Reunion it will be in September.11 – 15 as of now. For **2025** we will be back in DC. It will be in May so we can attend 8th & I Evening Parade.

- 10) **A drawing was done for Banquet Table Assignments.**

- 11) **Sergeant Tyler Vargas Andrews Visit on Saturday November 13, 2021**



On Saturday November 13, 2021 Colonel Bill Duncan, 2/1 President Tony Kilroy, Doc Paul Stein, and Doc Dale Ferguson, visited Sergeant Tyler Vargas Andrews and his mother Tiffany Andrews at the Walter Reed Hospital in Bethesda MD.

Tyler was the Marine who was injured in Kabul and we met his mother and his brother. And we went over there with the feeling and idea that we were going to try and cheer him up and make him feel better but it turned out to be the opposite.

That young man was so inspiring to us that we left there just full of joy. It was amazing what this kid has gone through. He lost his right arm at the elbow and lost his left leg at the hip which there is no prosthesis for that.

Tyler told us how it all happened. He was a Marine Sniper doing Over-Watch and after his duty was over, he came down to help his fellow 2/1 Marines passing out water and getting people through the gate. It was 110 degrees and he was down there to help like every good Marine and he remembers the blast.

He remembers laying there in excruciating pain and Tyler remembers the Corpsman saving his life. It had to be so difficult for him. He has been through 29 operations since that happened so far. Tyler will be there at Walter Reed till, into January, February.

And an interesting note is that Colonel Duncan's grandson was the Orthopedic Surgeon that amputated his arm. It was amazing how this whole turn of events came through. And so, the surgeons mother lives here in Alexandria and has invited Sergeant Vargas Andrews, his mom and the other two children that she has for Thanksgiving dinner and they have accepted.

This young man was just an inspiration to us, he really was, and we talked a little about this stuff and we will have to take him under our wing whether it be cards, texts, or whatever to let him know that the 2/1 Brotherhood is with him all the time.

We brought him 3 shirts and he was ecstatic about it. He said he didn't have any shirts like that and hasn't since Boot Camp and he was very happy about it. We gave him 2 Vietnam Veterans coins and he loved it.

Doc Ferguson gave him a coin that he has been carrying around for 15 years. When he gave him that coin he asked he give it to the Corpsman that saved his life. That coin will carry on to pay forward, basically.

It was just so exciting to see this kid. It was amazing. So, along with the other Marines that were killed and wounded who need our help, prayers and just knowing that we are there for them at any time.

Mario Sagastume, Doc Ferguson and Michael Braxton do not live too far from their home, and they have their phone numbers so if they need anything or whatever Jesse Tipton who is the Liaison at Camp Pendelton can help out.

As a side note the Commandant came to see Tyler and he was flabbergasted that here he was E-5 and the Commandant is talking to him like he's his brother. So, that was really cool.

Mario Sagastume said he will find out where the rest of the Marines are. So, if anyone has connections get their names and where they are we can look at our roster and see who lives close to them to pay them a visit.

When Colonel Duncan talked to Tyler it was a sight to be seen. An old warrior and a young warrior. Tyler didn't look at us as a bunch of old guys sitting around. He looks at us as Combat Marines and Combat Corpsman. You can really tell he believed it too! That its a Brotherhood of the Marine Corps and that he was all in.

* Below from **Tony Kilroy** (Fox 69-70) *

- 12) **Cake Detail.** Right now we have Dennis Smith, Andy Anderson was going to do it and didn't come to the reunion. We needed 3 volunteers for the Cake Detail. We got Doc Ferguson and two more volunteers.
- 13) At the end of our presentation Instead of a speaker we are going to Honor Colonel Duncan at our Banquet who is 91 years old. We will Honor him and present the Colonel with a plaque. We have a Video that General Jones made for us honoring Bill Duncan. And have a Dedication Video with pictures from previous Reunions and more. We will also mention Phil Leslie and his contribution as president for all his years here.
- 14) For every (40) room nights we get (1) Free Room. So, what we'll do is have a drawing out of the box and whose ticket we pull out gets one Free night for your stay here.
- 15) Motion was made to adjourn for pictures.

Semper Fi
Vinnie Burdziuk
Secretary