

Sarasota County Veterans Commission

DRAFT Minutes: April 28, 2016

American Legion NO-VEL Post 159 1770 E. Venice Ave, Venice, FL

- Meeting was called to order by President Ted Smith at 1 pm
- Resignation of Rick Rogola as treasurer was accepted. Matt Erny will take Rick's place as Treasurer.
- **Commemorating the Vietnam War** (Jim Hesson, BGen.USA.Ret.)
Jim Hesson thanked everyone for participating in the event at Patriot Plaza. He presented to Captain O'Neill a book about the history of the submarine service.
- **Sarasota County Veterans Services** (Terry Acton, Veterans Service Officer) Terry reported on the April 16th Veterans Stand day and the upcoming memorial day parade which will end at 5 points part. He also reported that the Veterans Services still need help at the Venice Location.
- **Sarasota National Cemetery Updates** (John Rosentrater, Director)
John reported that flags will be set on Saturday, May 28, 2016
- **Monuments and Memorial Committee Updates** (Gene Sweeney, Committee Chair) Gene reported on the upcoming Memorial Day Parade at Lakewood Ranch which will take place at 7 pm. 42 additional names will be added to the 9-11 memorial at Patriots Park in Venice.
- **Women Veterans Committee Update** (Becky Ludwick, Committee Chair) Becky reported that the retreat will take place from September 19th to October 2nd. All women veterans attend free of charge.
- The retreat has set up a go fund me page and will do a fund raiser on August 25th at Golden Eagle.
- **Manatee County Veterans Council Updates** (Jerry Koontz, Liaison)
Jerry reported on the Memorial Day event at Herst Park on Monday May 30th at 9 am.
- SCVC President Ted Smith presented an award and proclamation to Patriot Guard Riders Ride Captain Kim McFarlane.

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- **Flag Curriculum** (Tom Piazze, Military Officers Association)
Tom reported on the Stars & Stripes Foundation and Flag day ceremonies at Patriot Plaza. There will also be a Veterans Day event to honor vets on Sunday November 13th and November 14th at Neal Auditorium and Riverview Auditorium. It will be a USO type of performance. The Flag curriculum is still taking place in the schools and veterans are needed to teach students.
- **Citizens Concerned About Education** (Frank Levey)
Frank reported on the current education seminar.
- **VFW 8118** (Chris Casey, Commander)
Chris presented 2 checks one to Wreaths Across America for \$500 and one to the National Cemetery for \$4,000
- **Reset Therapy Professional Institute** (George Lindenfeld, Ph.D & BGen Jim Hesson)
Presentation by both regarding research project on PTSD
- Veterans for Common Sense reported on the Veterans Farm and Give Day Tampa Bay.
- Meeting concluded at 2:30 pm
- Next meeting May 26th at the Community Foundation Sarasota.

Respectfully submitted,
Marlene M Hauck, Secretary