

VIETNAM SECURITY POLICE ASSOCIATION

Business Meeting Minutes of 6 October 2001
(Chamberlin Hotel - Hampton, VA.)

Vice President Steve Gattis called the meeting to order at 0810 hours.

Steve Gattis lead the Association members in saying the Pledge of Allegiance

Steve Gattis read a statement from Kevin Fitzgerald, President VSPA who was not able to attend the reunion.

MINUTES READ: Minutes of the 7 October 2000 business meeting was read by Steve Ray (acting on behalf of Don Cook - Secretary/Treasurer who was not able to attend the reunion). A motion to approve the minutes as read was made by John Zolondz, seconded by several members. Motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT: The Treasurer's report was given by Steve Ray. The report was dated September 2001. The beginning balance was \$3885.02 and the ending balance was \$10,967.31. A motion to accept as read was made by Tony Morris, seconded by Jack Roberts. Motion passed. A copy of the report is included in these minutes as an attachment.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business to discuss.

MERCHANDISE SALES: Mike Daoust, product sales coordinator, reported all product sales records are on file and available for member reviews if desired. Mike stated the order form will be updated and some product lines will be dropped due to slow sales. By contacting Mike you may customize all shirts you purchase. Mike stated he felt a separate bank account was needed to handle transactions for merchandise orders and purchases. Steve Ray made a motion to allow Mike to open a bank account and send a monthly statement to the Secretary/Treasurer for inclusion in the Treasurer's record keeping to be reported with the annual Treasurer's report. Discussion followed and Steve Ray amended his motion to include the requirement for two signatures on the merchandise sales bank account and to keep \$500 minimum in the account.

Rex Hare will serve as second signature authority. Ed Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Vice-President Steve Gattis made remarks on recruitment and membership and reminded everyone that dues are payable and due in January of each year. There was general discussion on recruitment. Steve next spoke on the newly approved Life Membership program (information on Life Membership's is attached to these minutes in a separate report). Steve spoke on VSPA outreach efforts to reach potential members and reported good response received from ads in veteran magazines. There was a general discussion by several members on how to conduct outreach but no motions were offered. Some things mentioned were: put an ad in the publication "Tiger Flight", use web links, run advertisements in reunion publications, run a notice in the newsletter "Afterburner", and using the VSPA website to make contacts.

MEMBERSHIP: Terry Morris, Membership Chairman, reported that of the twenty rosters given out last year only six people who received the rosters actually took part in contacting people. Of the six who contacted people, Don Graham and Vaughn Hull each were able to get three members each to renew their membership in the Association. Terry stated the Association brings in 10-15 new members a month on average. He further reported 684 members on the paid roster with 104 of those not paid up for 2001 leaving 580 as the actual 2001 paid roster. Terry reported as of October 01, 2001: 1324 former AP's/SP's have been contacted by membership thus far. This represented 174 additional contacts for the period from October 2000 to October 2001. This would indicate a member sign up rate (using 580 as currently paid) of almost 44% and 52% if the 684 number is used.

HISTORIAN REPORT - Don Graham presented the Historian report as follows: VSPA continues to support the Louis Fischer Award at the SF Academy at Lackland AFB, Texas. The names of the 2001 recipients have not been received yet but will be reported later. Don has supported the SP museum at Lackland AFB by providing pictures from members who served in Thailand. Don further reported the updated Purple Heart recipients list has been sent to John Bandy, curator at the SP museum, and also posted on the VSPA website by Don Poss. Don has made up a binder for each base with information on the individual bases included in the binders such as duty rosters and mobility lists.

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REUNION: A motion was made by Brian Thorne and seconded by Rex Hare to use the services of the "Reunion Brat" for the 2002 reunion. There was discussion with members wanting to know how much the "Reunion Brat" received from each registration. Motion passed.

*Members requested that the final itinerary be mailed out to each member prior to the reunion. The actual times, dates, and activities, along with the location should be spelled out so members will know what time to arrive on Thursday and for all the other activities.

REUNION SITE SELECTION 2002: Several sites were nominated from the floor and then a vote on each site was taken. The top three were then voted on. The top three were (in order of votes received)

1. Wright Patterson AFB, OH.
2. Kirkland AFB, New Mexico
3. Maxwell AFB, AL.

Members then agreed to hold the 2002 reunion at Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio. The date of the reunion will be October 10-13, 2002.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD: Mike Daoust recommended VSPA begin a Scholarship award for the children, grand children, great grand children, and spouses of VSPA members in memory of JJ Chestnut. One member suggested VSPA try and contact the families of those AP's/SP's that died in service in Southeast Asia and see if they have children or grandchildren that are in need of a Scholarship. The initial Scholarship will be for \$500. Discussion was held on where the money would come from. Suggestions: add a check off of \$1.00 to the dues notice each member receives or use money from product sales. A motion was made (member who made motion not recorded) to begin the Scholarship fund named in honor of JJ Chestnut. Seconded by Rex Hare. Motion passed, however, no funding source was specified.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn by David Adams and seconded by several members. Meeting adjourned at 0950 hours.

*Steven F. Ray
Acting Secretary/Treasurer*