

Business Meeting Minutes – Steve Ray, Secretary

VIETNAM SECURITY POLICE ASSOCIATION OCT 9, 2004 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES Tucson, AZ

1. Call to Order - Meeting called to order by Steve Gattis, President at 0915 hours.
2. Steve Gattis requested a moment of silence for those that did not return from Southeast Asia.
3. Invocation was given by Don Poss
4. Pledge of Allegiance – Steve Ray led the Association members in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Steve Gattis announced the VSPA Sisterhood was holding a meeting at 0900 and Frank Ybarbo and David Adams were making presentations to that group.
6. Officers of the Association were introduced.
7. Reading of the 2003 minutes – Steve Ray read the business meeting minutes of the 18 October 2003 business meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. Motion passed.
8. Treasurer's Report – Steve Ray read the treasurer's report in Den Cook's absence. Ending balance as of September 30, 2004 was \$39,166.11. A motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed.
9. Membership Report – Terry Morris, Member Chairman, gave the membership report. There are 760 paid members for 2004. There was a net gain of 67. Motion was made and seconded to accept the Membership Report. Motion passed.
10. Historian Report – Don Graham presented the History Report. He reported receiving a large amount of historical data on Phu Cat from CMSgt (Ret) John Forgette. He expressed thanks to VSPA member Bill Wagonlander for his assistance in providing contact information for Chief Forgette. Don assisted member Wallace Goudeau by submitting information to Fox cable network (War Stories) about Air/Security Police history. Don advised he submitted information on undocumented Air Base attacks to the Air Force Office of History. This was done to document attacks that are not listed in the Airbase Defense in the Republic of Vietnam book. Don reported he had provided information in Guardmount about how to receive the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross. VSPA representatives, Steve Ray and Ed Wilson attended a dedication ceremony of the "Defender" statue held at Maxwell AFB (Gunter Annex), AL on July 17, 2004. The "Defender" resides at the entrance (guarding) all the other memorials, at the Enlisted Heritage Hall. Motion made and seconded to accept the Historian Report. Motion passed.
11. BX Sales Report – Van Digby gave a report on sales. The BX sales are now in the black. Van reported receiving assistance in shipping products to Tucson and after discussion a plaque was approved by the membership to be presented to the company who assisted. Van reported he would add youth sizes for product shirts, etc.
12. Web Site Report – Don Poss gave an update on the new web pages. The new web site has pull down menu's and members can make changes to their personal data, e.g. e-mail, address, etc. His bother, Larry Poss, continues to provide VSPA a free server. He reported BX sales would soon be added on the site. Don stated that Monty Moore was handling the K-9 pages and that archive pages are available on the site. Members needing assistance with the web site can contact Don and he will assist. *(Continued page 15)*

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13. New Life Members in attendance were presented their Life Member Pins.
14. Guardmount Report – Steve Gattis gave a report for Den Cook, editor, who could not attend. Past issues of Guardmount are on the web site under "Guardmount Reload". Members are urged to submit their stories.
15. VSPA History Book – Steve Gattis reported the publisher has extended the deadline several times. VSPA needs 300 orders and only 80 orders have been placed. A handout was made available to all in attendance and all were urged to send in their biographical data. The deadline for submitting information and reserving a book is November 30, 2004.
16. VSPA Incorporation - Steve Gattis reported VSPA has not been incorporated as of this date. He had made contacts and progress is being made toward becoming a 501 (c) 19 organization. Draft By-laws and Constitution have been written. Information on incorporation will be published in Guardmount.
17. Scholarship Report – Steve Gattis gave an update. Brian Thorne, Vice-President and Scholarship Committee Chairman could not attend the reunion. Steve reported there were no applications received for the scholarship in 2003. A new committee Chairman was selected. Committee member Jim Lebowitz was selected as the new Chairman. The scholarship is for \$500.00. Members were urged to submit an application for the year 2005. Applications are available by contacting Jim Lebowitz. A call was made for volunteer's to replace committee member Steve Ray. Dave Adams and Bud Owens agreed to serve. Members of the scholarship committee are Jim Lebowitz (Chairman), Dave Adams, Bud Owens and Albert Habercorn. Motion made and seconded to accept the scholarship committee report. Motion passed.
18. Reunion Site Selection – VSPA members selected by vote the following future reunion sites. Valdosta, GA (Moody AFB).
Selection of the reunion site for 2006: Las Vegas, NV (Nellis AFB).
2007 Washington D.C. The 25th anniversary of the Vietnam Memorial.
The 25th anniversary of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, DC would be in 2007. He requested consideration for a reunion in November 2007 to be held in Washington DC and for the VSPA is to march as a unit in the 25th anniversary parade. Dates of reunion will have to be moved to November 2007. November 11 is on Sunday in 2007. Hotel contacts will need to be made ASAP.
19. Election: An election was conducted with the following results:
President: Steve Gattis
Vice-President: Hector Ramos
Secretary: Bruce Hadley
Treasurer: Den Cook
Historian: Don Graham

Appointed positions:

BX Sales: Van Digby
Chaplain: Steve Janke
Guardmount Editor: Den Cook
Membership: Terry Morris
Photographer: Tony Morris
Web Master: Don Poss

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Service Officer (New Position): Junious "Bud" Owens

20. For the Good of the Order:

Many ideas/subjects discussed: Agent Orange exposure, membership types, uniform (updated membership brochure), DAV National Service Officer Program and request to have DAV NSO attend and provide briefing at next meeting, and the names of former Air/Security Police that belonged to the Air Force Security Police Association who had passed away in the last year were read.

In addition three motions were made:

1. Have a design committee come up with an Association Flag to be carried in the parade at the 2007 reunion. There was discussion. Don Graham will serve as Chairman. Members are John Langley, Ken Neal, Ed Way, Don Poss, Terry Morris, Earl Cary. Motion made and seconded. Motion passed.
2. Come up with a recruiter pin to give out to members who recruit new members. Motion made and seconded. Motion passed.
3. Make Kim Bayes an Associate Member of VSPA. Motion made and seconded. Motion passed.

21. Adjournment – Steve Gattis adjourned the meeting at 1250 hours after a motion was made and seconded. Motion passed.

Steven F. Ray

Secretary, Vietnam Security Police Association

