



Vietnam Veterans Of America

Chapter One

www.vvachapter1.com

JANUARY 2010



MINUTES OF CHAPTER MEETING

Jan. 13, 2010

Three members attended.

Chapter 1 notes with sadness the death of Dudley P. Berry, 76, of Brandon, a life member of the chapter. He died Dec. 1, 2009.

Treasurer Dave Mathis reported \$23,080.36 in the chapter's accounts.

President Andy Megrath reported that the VVA State Council will meet Jan. 30 at the Chapter 1 headquarters in Rutland at 10 a.m. All members are welcome to attend.

Andy and Christina Morgan, director of the Dodge House for homeless veterans in Rutland, will travel to Montpelier on Thursday, Jan. 28, to speak with legislators on veterans issues. (Andy is also on the Dodge House board.) Jack Crowther moved to allow Andy to use the chapter credit card for gas for the trip and to pay for Christina's meal. Seconded by Dave Mathis. Approved without dissent.

Andy reported that the Dodge House is in line for a \$31,000 federal grant for improvements to the Dodge House, including a redo of part of the foundation of the adjoining "small house," removal of the deck and some landscaping. Requirements of the grant are very stringent, but the process is going forward, and the group is close to soliciting bids for the work.

Jack Crowther moved to again donate \$50 to the Vietnam Women's Memorial Foundation. The foundation erected the memorial to women, military and civilian, who served their country during the Vietnam War. The group also educates the public about women's roles with the military, facilitates related research and promotes healing. The motion was seconded by Dave Mathis. Approved without dissent.

The local chapter of the Disabled American Veterans requested a donation for the purchase of a new van to transport vets to the Veterans Administration Medical Center in White River Junction. The current van has nearly 90,000 miles on it. Jack Crowther moved to donate \$300 for the van, with the understanding that the chapter might donate more, depending on the need.

Jack Crowther proposed to invite Mark Skakel, who teaches forestry and natural resources at the Stafford Technical Center in Rutland, to our next meeting. Mark and his students work on community projects, an example being the CVPS solar energy array along Route 7 near the CVPS service center. The purpose of the invitation would be to see if Mark and his students might wish to help with maintenance of the

Rutland County Vietnam War Memorial in Rutland's Main Street Park. The chapter and Rutland Garden Club have been responsible for maintaining the memorial on city property since its dedication in 2000, but both groups would welcome assistance. Jack was told to go ahead and make the invitation.

Submitted by Jack Crowther, Secretary

**CHAPTER 1 WILL NOT MEET IN FEBRUARY.
THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, MARCH, 10, 2010 AT 6 P.M.
AT THE CHAPTER OFFICES AT THE VFW, 15 WALES ST., RUTLAND, VT.**