

**VFP Board of Directors
Teleconference Meeting via Zoom
September 27, 2020**

Meeting called to order; 10:10 AM PST- Kinne

Board Members present: Natasha Erskine Michael Dempsey, Marti GuyDowning, Willie Hager, George Johnson, Joey King, Adrienne Kinne, Patrick McCann, Miles Megaciph, Joshua Shurley, Ben Schrader, Dave Logsdon, Elliot Abrams and Garrett Reppenhagen

Check-in: Members asked to report on how they were doing since last meeting. Adrienne had an emergency and had to hand the meeting over to VP Dave Logsdon. Brief description of Adrienne's emergency, after which the meeting continued.

Approve Agenda: Agenda approved as submitted.

Approve Minutes: August minutes have not been submitted, Secretary gave brief explanation of lack of minutes for submission (battling deep depression for two months)

Competition Experience Update- Megaciph

Brief description of competition he entered, and informed BOD, a video is available for viewing, and how VFP can help him along in competition.

Live show was positive event, thinks he's going to be in the top five, tickets are still available
Some VFP members have purchased tickets

VFP StandDown Live Update- Megaciph

StandDown has been up and running for three months, one show a week with positive results and what to expect in coming weeks including, co-hosts and performers.

Patrick gave a short review and noted the standdown was a good recruiting event.

Attendance was in the upper nineties, but has dropped of due to lack of promotion on social media

ED Report -Reppenhagen

Attached as pdf, Quick Notes;

Office has been moved, safer location, sharing office space with other non-profits, there is some storage space available.

Local chapter members helped with the move

Space for Board meetings when travel is again possible

Personnel Committee approved raises for staff

Casey hired as part-time, updating website

Newspaper is ready for distribution

Black Voices will have slot on VFP social media

Protest to continue at Creech Air Force Base

Question and answer session followed ED Report;

1. Has new address been added to website? - GuyDowning
2. What is the cost of subscription for paper?
3. Who is Mike Marion?

Answers-Reppenhagen

1. Yes
2. Cost have not been fully worked out
3. Marion does layout and graphics, worked with him before and he's a friend

McCann

How often will paper be printed? Quarterly-Reppenhagen

Discussion of newspaper not being distributed because of lockdown, and moving some content onto social media as an alternative to print media.

Other venues discussed.

At this point Natasha has joined the meeting, and Logsdon asked her to give report on StandDown-Erks

Organizers of event having internal meetings and planning future formats

Speakers needed, asking for recommendations, Board members invited to speak, hold panel discussions and share on social media

Election Defense- Reppenhagen

Explanation of various tactics been deployed by some states to circumvent the popular vote.

Veterans' Groups are being asked to serve as; Poll Watchers, Escorts, Documentation, Deescalatory actions

Training required for above actions, Regional Coordinators will work with those trained.

This will be a yearly event to keep a core group available

Group needs name, various recommendations presented with pros and cons

Winter Soldier 50th Anniversary - (draft proposal is attached) - Garrett or Adrienne

Convention Follow up- Logsdon

Counter Recruitment Group - Ersk

Roundtable discussion of getting military recruiters out of schools

Working with like minded groups, and being involved with community groups, using our veteran experience to help counter recruiters

The need to have more involvement by VFP

McCann gave explanation of work he's doing with other counter recruiters and was impressed that this had come out of the convention as a working group

Open discussion of tactics being used by the military; video game arcades, attending school board meetings, advertising on TV, gaming competitions, and social media

Climate Change Group - Reppenhagen

Website is up and running, positive energy

VFP Book Club - "Be the Change" - Schrader

Club is active

China working group (see attached proposal for approval) - McCann

Motion to approve group-Hager, Second-Johnson Majority approval, 9 Yeahs, No Nays

Committee Updates - Logsdon

Membership Committee- Kinne-Reppenhagen

Needs Chair

Proposal, separate into two committees: Membership Committee (member/chapter outreach and support); Code of Conduct Committee (positive internal health of organization and member misconduct). Members of the Membership committee support this proposal with reservations, as does the Ex-Comm.

Arguments for;

These are two vitally important tasks and each has been interfering with the other getting the attention it deserves. It would be well worth us having some space for each.

Discussion and comments followed the above proposal; Clarification, Hager is still on the membership committee, committee had opposed his resignation, Chair action should have gone to EXCOMM instead of BOD. Clarification, The President has full power over Committee Chairs.

Personnel Committee is under used

More discussion of failure of previous boards to follow up on recommendations of membership committee.

Motion to table Membership Committee reorganization-McCann, Second-Shrader, vote called, 8 Yeahs, 3 Nays, motion passed

Code of Conduct Committee will not be formed until brought back up for discussion at later meeting

Nominations Committee - McCann

Ballot update, One nominee removed for lack of submitting required documents

There are eight nominees, Three are running as a slate, all info is on VFP website

Ballots go to printer this week, mailed the next

Comments; Should COVID-19 persist "computer skills" should become a requirement for BODs'

Fundraising Committee - McCann - Ex-Comm will be scheduling a meeting with Hazel in the next few weeks to discuss Board fundraising. If you would like to participate on this initial call please let me know. We will be having a full board fundraising call in the very near future though.

Golden Rule Update - Reppenhagen

Marshall Island sailing cancelled

Helen Jacquard is collecting unemployment, as boat is in dry dock
Insurance comes due in coming months
Discussion of bringing boat back to mainland, sailing or shipping, shipping best option due to current sailing conditions
Open discussion of cost of continued operation of boat, some would like to end project due to costs
Boat should be brought back to mainland before any decisions made on its future

Member Misconduct Update - Abrams

Did not follow up, too busy with other projects to proceed, EXCOMM should deal with matter

Update / Follow up on member misconduct bylaws/policy overhaul - Kinne (this is on a pause while the membership committee is being updated) Dempsey volunteered to help rewrite statement

November Actions/ Quarterly Board meeting - Discussion of future meetings going forward; Convention planning, online or in person? Agreed to wait until next year to decide on how to proceed. Clarification of rules regarding the staging of the convention

Date for next BOD Meeting set.

All BOD, Committee Meeting documents should be moved to Google Docs,

Other Business - Secretary Dempsey apologizes for not presenting minutes in a timely fashion

Meeting Adjourned; 12:31pm PST

Respectfully,

Michael Dempsey
Veterans For Peace
Board of Directors
Recording Secretary
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