

Meeting Minutes - Rolling Thunder – Florida Chapter 7 June 14, 2008

Minutes of the Rolling Thunder – Florida Chapter 7 meeting held June 14, 2008. Meeting was called to order at 10:05am by President Thompson. All were present except Director Gooding and Alternate Director Harris. A quorum was present and declared an official meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance recited, a moment of silence of our POW/MIAs was held, mission statement was read, members and guests were welcomed.

Motion to accept the minutes of the May 10, 2008 meeting as presented by Secretary Stepanek and seconded by Ray Knisley. **Passed.**

Motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented and file for audit by Director Ealey and seconded by COB Parker. **Passed.**

Director Gilchriese has been replaced by Steve Melnyk. Steve will now serve out the remainder of Gilchriese's term. Alternate Directors Garnett and Harris will be off the Board as of July 01, 2008 as per the chapter's Standard Operating Guidelines.

Rolling Thunder XXI was attended by 12 chapter members who worked very hard providing stage security. President Bush was made an honorary RT member prior to RT XXI, (but didn't ride in the demonstration).

Memorial Day services at Fero Memorial Gardens was attended by about 10 members. Secretary Stepanek noted that the Young marines provided a color guard and some very old VFW members had a color guard and asked if anyone in the chapter would be interested in forming a color guard. There were only a couple of hands raised.

The chapter presently has 85 members and several boot and back patches were distributed.

There was no POW/MIA report because of a flood at the Garnett house.

Liz Bryant's last Veterans Affairs report told of HB687 which would have state contracts give preference to veteran owned small business's; HR819 which would reimburse veterans for emergency room care at a non-VA facility. The reimbursement stops after stabilization. Liz Bryant and Bill Bragg will be moving to Idaho so this was their last meeting. Good luck to you.

The Sunshine Committee sent cards to Rev. John Steer (open heart surgery), Al Courser (feet surgery), Bob Strange (knee surgery), Archie Gooding (Mom passed away).

State Director Moyer spoke about the upcoming Andersonville ceremonies. About 130 former POWs are expected to attend the weekend event. The chapter will donate \$1500.00 to the event.

The chapter has been invited to attend Flag Day ceremonies at Fort Cooper. The chapter will perform the POW/MIA Remembrance Table ceremony at 1:30pm.

The chapter will be going to visit the troops and their families at the Haley House in the near future. An email notice will be sent.

Our 2nd annual Independence Day Golf Tournament takes place June 28, 2008. President Thompson went over the list of names and the duties they volunteered to perform. Any door prizes should be delivered to the VFW Post 10087 on Friday evening at 6:30pm.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE July 12, 2008 AT THE BEVERLY HILLS VFW POST 10087 AND WILL START AT 10:00am.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:01pm.

Submitted by

Jim Stepanek