

**VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS  
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

**MINUTES - FOURTH QUARTER MEETING**

14 October 2010

DRAFT (as of 3 Nov 2010)

The Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) held its 4th Quarter meeting in the Petersburg Country Club in Petersburg, VA. All VCOC Officers and Appointees, Chapter Presidents, Chapter VCOC Representatives, and Chapter Public Affairs Representatives (PAO) had been notified of this meeting via electronic means, the VCOC website, and "The Council Crier." Anyone desiring a copy, please contact the secretary by e-mail.

The meeting was called to order by President Col Sam Wilder shortly after 10:00 AM. President Wilder gave the Invocation, and Bud Winn led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. The attendees introduced themselves by chapter. This proceeded well, and 15 of 18 chapters were represented. We had a quorum.

President Wilder addressed the Agenda which had been previously publicized on the website, by The Council Crier and e-mail, and called for its approval. A motion to approve was made and seconded. There was no discussion and approval was unanimous. He thanked Col Revilla for arranging the meeting at the Petersburg country Club.

The Secretary announced that the Draft Minutes of the 3rd Quarter Meeting had been sent out by email, published on the website, and in the Council Crier with a suspense date for comment as of April 20. Three comments were received and the appropriate changes were made. A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded. In discussion, President Wilder said the reference to Fort Lee as the location of the 4th quarter meeting should be Petersburg. Subject to this change, voting for approval was unanimous.

As requested by President Wilder, the Secretary discussed the Tax Exempt Status of the VCOC, and in summary it is this: A nonprofit corporation that meets the requirements for a veterans service organization under section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia,

is a federally chartered corporation, and is considered to be tax exempt by the IRS. This applies to the VCOC and chapters. We do not have to apply for a formal Determination of Tax Exempt Status letter. If you do, there is a fee. What you must do is obtain an Employer Identification Number (EIN), and you must file an information return Form 990 or 990-EZ annually. Getting the EIN and filing the info return is easy and can be done on-line at [irs.gov](http://irs.gov).

Col Revilla presented the Treasurer's Report thru 30 September showing income exceeding the budgeted amount by just over \$1,300 due primarily to a \$1,000 check from MOAA, a recruiting bonus. Expenses to date are less than projected, and she recommended that dues not be increased for 2011. She moved that the chapter dues for 2011 remain the same as the dues for 2010. After being seconded, the 3rd VP/Membership Chair stated he would give the Treasurer the amount she should expect from each chapter after the 4th quarter reports based on membership. The vote was called and approval was unanimous.

Col Revilla then gave the 2nd VP's Public Affairs report in Maj Mallison's absence. A 3-page talking paper was provided including the Status of VCOC Public Affairs Objectives, Public Affairs Reminders, and a Current News Release Template for Chapter Use Now. The last page addressed the VCOC Newsletter, *The Council Crier*, and the VCOC Website: [VirginiaMOAA.com](http://VirginiaMOAA.com). Melva would like your feedback on both of these critical communication venues. Her report is on the website.

President Wilder spoke about the goals and objectives established back in January and indicated we are well on our way to achieving them and there is still a lot of work to be done. He mentioned that while we don't go around the tables with chapter reports anymore he still reads every one of them and gets a lot of good information from them, so keep up the good work on them. Legislatively, we're making good progress with the priority legislative objectives, and if we can get the veterans' lottery going this will have an enormous impact for years into the future. He mentioned that he and Cdr John Baumgarten were called up to national MOAA to discuss the Give-me-ten program and other membership issues. He talked about the new Paul and Phyllis Galanti center recently dedicated.

He presented an award from the VAWM, a small brick representing VCOC's and the Chapters' contributions to the Brick Walk of Honor, to 1st VP Don Kaiserman who spearheaded the effort. He then mentioned Col Kaiserman's recent appointment to the Virginia Board of Veterans Services, and the appointment of Joan Washburn, a valuable member in Roanoke, to MOAA's National Auxiliary Advisory Council. He commended everyone present for doing a good job and several chapters by name, Geo. C. Marshall, NOVA, and Richmond.

President Wilder brought up the matter of a Convention Cruise again and indicated he would entertain a motion to either HAVE or NOT HAVE a Convention Cruise. Discussion ensued with comments pro and con. Col Revilla talked about the National MOAA's Alaska Cruise and said it was well run, very nice, and 310 members showed up. Finally 3rd VP Cdr John Baumgarten moved that VCOC not have a Convention Cruise in 2011, the motion was seconded, more discussion, vote was called and received almost unanimous approval. There will not be a VCOC Convention Cruise in 2011.

3rd VP Cdr Baumgarten gave the Membership/Chapter Affairs Report which is also on the website and will be in the next Council Crier. Chapters have made substantial gains in membership, nine chapters received 5 and 4-star awards in the Levels of Excellence Program, the GCM Chapter has raised more than \$16,000 to date for the VWWP, the efforts of all chapters helped VCOC retain MOAA's Top Council place in the GMT competition. He emphasized MOAA's dues increase and the advantages of buying a life membership in MOAA.

1st VP Col Don Kaiserman and Col Stu Williams reported on Legislative Affairs, including the 2nd Amendment on the NOV 2 ballot; state legislative objectives for 2011, VCOC National Legislative Objectives for 2011, and how important is to get out NOW and start meeting with our elected officials, power brokers, and the voting public. President Wilder emphasized he wanted a one-sheet paper by the January meeting that Chapter Reps can vote up or down.

We broke for lunch at about 12:15, arranged by Col Revilla.

LTC John Clickener discussed the VAVET.org system, saying it is our emergency alert notification system for the Legislative Representatives, and emphasized GET OUT THE VOTE YES on Amendment #2 Tuesday, Nov 2.

President Wilder introduced Col Steve Strobbridge, MOAA's Director of government Relations, who gave the attendees a comprehensive update on national issues, the DOD budget, and legislative objectives. His presentation generated many questions, much feedback, and was well received.

President Wilder announced he is having a meeting of the immediate staff in November and asked everyone to send by email to him any ideas, suggestions for improvement, how VCOC can do better, etc. He announced the next VCOC meeting will be Jan 6, 2011 at the VWM Galanti conference Center.

The meeting was adjourned at about 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James T. Rose, Jr.  
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Colonel USA (RET)  
VCOC Secretary  
31 October 2010