Valencia Lakes Military Veterans' Club, Inc. Meeting Minutes 1 February 2021

- 1. The meeting held by Zoom was officially Called to Order by Charlie Brown at 1104 hours
- 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by William Schaefer
- 3. Recognition of new member Scott Smith and Guests led by Charlie Brown
- 4. Charlie asked if there were any information on Health and Welfare of Members to be reported. It was noted that Daryl K had no updates to his treatment and Rodney D has had an implant to help with pain management. No other reports. Only first names reported to shield possible private health information.
- 5. Sandra Shipton reported we currently have 187 members and as of today 66 have fully paid their 2021 dues. It was pointed out that effective today, with the opening of the Club House, members or perspective members can drop off dues at the VLMVC Box at the Club House, drop at the Box located at Sandra's front door, or as Joe pointed out, can be paid on-line at our Web Site: www.vlmvc.org
- 6. The brick report was given by Sandra Shipton. 710 Bricks have been installed and one additional is on order. Forms are available at the Club House in the VLMVC Binder or at our web site: www.vlmvc.org
- 7. Our guest speaker was Ms. Karen Powers, Veterans Service Officer at Hillsborough County Veterans Service Office in Ruskin. She was introduced by Charlie Brown. The presentation was entitled: UPDATE ON CHANGES IN VETERANS BENEFITS – NEW PRESUMPTIVE SERVICE-CONNECTED CONDITIONS – COMMON MISTAKES IN VETERANS' APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICE CONNECTION – DEPENDENTS INDEMNITY COMPENSATION ("DIC") – BURIAL BENEFITS AND MORE! PLUS, QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION
- 8. The actual presentation consisted of a narrated Power Point Presentation as well as free form discussions of veterans medical and disability claim applications and was filled with common sense guidance and recommendation by both Karen and Charlie Brown's practical experience gained from years of helping veterans through the sometime challenging application and approval or rejection and appeal process. The exceptional presentation was quite informative and well received followed by almost 30 minutes of follow-up questions related to specific situations and conditions of importance to our members. Most were asked to follow up for one-on-one discussions with Karen to address their individual needs.
- 9. Joe added Karen Powers' contact information to the presentation. Karen can be reached at (813) 641 6996 or powersk@HCFLgov.net
- 10. Charlie Brown closed out the meeting by describing our next upcoming meeting first at 1100 hours on the 15th of February and next after that at 1100 on the 1st of March. The February 15th meeting will have a presentation by Dr. Michelle Holcomb, DDS. She is a local Sun City Center Dentist who will

focus on dental issues of the mature and elderly patients and treatments. The March 1st meeting will feature a presentation of his personnel experiences by Peter Reed, a former US NAVY Aviator during Vietnam and a veteran of numerous aircraft carrier flight missions. Peter is a VL resident who has served in a variety of interesting positions aboard Naval Carriers and shore assignments, and he is a veteran sailor and sailing competition including the Olympic Trials.

11. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1220 hours.

This 1st Day of February 2021

By: Ron McKenzie, Director, VLMVC, acting Secretary pro tem

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