

Minutes of the 589th Engineer Battalion Association (Vietnam)-Sept 26, 2009

The first regular meeting of the 589th Engineer Battalion Association (Vietnam) was called to order by Perry Blanchfield at 10:15AM on Sept 26, 2009 at the Waynesville, Missouri City Park.

Mr. Blanchfield gave a short report on how formation of the Association came about and activities that had taken place to this point in time. He explained that to proceed, we need to elect officers for the Association, appoint committees and adopt Association by-laws.

The group consensus was that we should proceed with forming the Association.

Dennie Pendergrass nominated Perry Blanchfield for the office of **President**. The nomination was seconded by Dennis Cluth and unanimously approved with the term effective immediately.

The President called for nominations for **Vice President**. Perry Blanchfield nominated John Hunt. The nomination was seconded by Larry Henderson and unanimously approved.

The President called for nominations for **Secretary** and Howard Getchell nominated Dennie Pendergrass. The nomination was seconded by Al Cochran and elected unanimously.

The President called for nominations for **Treasurer**. Donald Swensrud volunteered and Bob Spencer was nominated by Perry Blanchfield. Nominations were closed, the slate was presented and Bob Spencer was elected as Treasurer.

The President called for nominations for **Historian**. Al Cochran volunteered for that position to the point of writing the history from the Unit's organization at Fort Hood, Texas through the first year in country. He stated he would need help or someone else could write the history of the remaining time in country. Al Cochran was unanimously elected.

The President called for volunteers to staff the following committees:

Membership- Jim Payne and Robert Price volunteered and were appointed by the President.

Reunion- Cirilo Silva and Randy Joyner volunteered and were appointed by the President.

Newsletter- Fletcher Sapp and Randy McNichols volunteered and were appointed by the President.

Chaplin- Robert Price volunteered and was appointed by the President.

Audit- Tim Cameron, Howard Getchell and Larry Henderson volunteered and were appointed by the President.

Publicity- Sam Lamey volunteered and the President appointed him to the Publicity Committee.

The President presented a proposed set of By-Laws for the Association. Larry Jinkins moved to accept the By-Laws as written, seconded by Dennis Cluth and unanimously approved.

A letter from Pete Philbrick to the Association was read by the Vice President.

The President asked for a \$10.00 (individuals can feel free to make it larger) donation from each member to help start the Associations bank account.

It was determined that the newsletter should be prepared quarterly, at most, to start.

Dennis Cluth and Larry Jinkins recommended that everyone write recollections of their Vietnam Tour with the 589th for inclusion in the web site.

A lengthy discussion of reunion frequency and location was held. Tim Cameron made a motion, seconded by Larry Jinkins that Sept 24 and 25, 2010 be set as the next reunion date with the Baymont Inn & Suites to be the base location and outdoor activities conducted at the Waynesville City Park. After discussion, the motion was amended by Tim and seconded by Dennis Cluth to allow the Reunion Committee flexibility to evaluate alternate dates and locations to determine if better options are available or in the event Post activities at FLW would cause a problem with obtaining sufficient number of rooms. The motion as amended was unanimously approved.

CSM Clifford Moore, who was introduced by the President, gave a brief history of the unit after it was reorganized stateside. CSM Moore graciously offered to donate to the Association, a large 589th Castle he carved and his copy of the original 589th Engineer Battalion Plaque which is in the Engineer Museum at FLW, to the Association. His only stipulation is that they be used for Association activities and safeguarded. The President accepted the offer and made arrangements for the items to be picked up.

The President announced that CSM Frank Leeder had donated his castle to the Association. This item was presented to CSM Leeder by the 589th Engineer Battalion as a memento of his tour of duty with that organization.

The President announced that Joseph "Pineapple" Tancayo had traveled the longest distance from Hawaii to the reunion and that CSM Leeder was the oldest member attending the reunion.

By unanimous vote, Joe Silva was made an unofficial member of the Association in recognition of the support he had provided to the Reunion.

Last but by no means least, the ladies in attendance were given a warm round of applause in appreciation for their support of the reunion.

Respectfully Submitted
Dennie L. Pendergrass
Secretary