

Minutes of Sep 18, 2025, Village Vets Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by Bob Bechill at 3:00 pm in the Music Room of the OHCC Club Facility. In attendance were Bob Bechill, Greg Coffey, Jim McDonough, Mike Welch, Jack Shabel, Martin Budoff, and Bob St Laurent, Robert “Smitty” Smith, Pat Battles and Dave Hefler. Not in attendance was Susz Clark. There were two guests at the beginning of the meeting Linda McGrath and Dennis Alls.

Funds and Minutes:

- **Treasurer Report:** Robert Smith presented the following report: total deposits \$598.00, total expenses \$75.81, with an ending balance of \$4,195.16 and membership stands at 250. One member’s dues continue to be waived due to WWII status. Robert Smith noted that the bank charges \$5 for hard copy statements, which he must have to maintain proper records. The Board noted this and motion for approval was made by Pat Battles and seconded by Marty Budoff, the entire Board then voted for approval of this expense. Bob Bechill commented on the quality of the financial statements and thanked the treasurer for his hard work. Thanks, Smitty!
- Robert Smith will continue responding to requests for Village Veterans shirts.
- **Minutes:** July 19, 2025, late approval due to Secretary’s computer problems, and August 21, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting minutes were motioned for approval by Greg Coffey and seconded by Martin Budoff.

Continuing Business:

- The Disabled American Veterans at the Elks Lodge in Oceanside was attended by Bob Bechill who stresses that he has asked for assistance in having a representative discuss VA issues with the membership. Several Board members raised their hand when Bob inquired if they could use this presentation and help.
- Guests at the BOD meeting, Linda McGrath and Dennis Alls discussed the Serve and Love Together (SALT) Club in detail and Bob suggested the Village Vets could be part of this Club.
- Mike Welch has the letter of appreciation for the Navy personnel who made our tour to Navy Base Point Loma. This letter will be sent as soon as possible. (Post meeting, the letter was sent on September 26, 2025)
- GOVERNING DOCUMENTS the BOD approved the addition of the following statement be added to governing documents, “Village Veterans Club understands and accepts that the edition of the Rules and Regulations of Ocean Hills Social Club’s Corporation most recently approved by the Corporation’s Board of Directors constitutes the basic Rules and Regulations governing this Club. Specifically, this Club understands and agrees to abide by the Code of Conduct and the Code enforcing regulations articulated therein.” This statement was added to Village Veterans Governing documents by the Secretary.

- MCB, Camp Pendleton Veteran and Retiree Expo event was successful. Attending the meeting were Bob Bechill, Mike and Marta Welch. The information presented and documents handed out was very helpful to all in attendance.
- **Period of 2025/2026 Village Veterans 2025 Schedule, (all rooms and locations confirmed):**
 - 09/25/2025: B-2 Stealth Bomber “bed-down” at Whiteman Air Force Base presentation will be provided by BOD member Lt Col Greg Coffey, USAF (Ret.).
 - 10/23/2025: For the General meeting on Thursday, 23 October, the guest speaker is BOD member, Colonel Suzanne “Susz” Clark, U.S. Army (Ret.). She will also be our Challenge Coin speaker and, with David Hefler, will manage the annual club officer elections. Challenge Coins developed and procured by Martin Budoff was available and shown to the BOD. Everyone agreed the coins looked fabulous. Good job Martin!
 - 11/11/2025: Veterans Day is planned and organized with all organizations ready to participate. This is all set. A Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M) document has been produced and presented by BOD commander, Bob Bechill. The items to be accomplished are too numerous for these minutes but are succinctly listed in the POA&M with times for accomplishment prior to Veterans Day. POA&M is attached to these minutes. Highlights are as follows:
 - ✓ Supporting participants are lined up. National Anthem Singer is Amanda Wright. Important issues will be accomplished by Keystone’s Julie Van Dam. The Audio Visual team is set, etc.
 - ✓ Colonel Scott Battles, USAF (Ret.) will be the principal speaker.
 - ✓ Challenge Coin distribution Coins designed and procured by Martin Budoff. Coin distribution to Veterans will be accomplished by Board members handing out sticky labels as Vets enter the hall. Board members will, at a point during the agenda and as this honor is explained by Bob Bechill, will hand out coins with a handshake to those members with the label. Label printing cost is \$50. The funds were motioned to be approved by Greg Coffey and seconded by Dave Hefler and voted for by the Board members present.
 - ✓ The Veterans Day activities and program will include Rancho Buena Vista High School band and other organizations and speakers. The band leader will be recognized for participation over several years.
 - ✓ The theme will be “The Cold War.”
 - ✓ Stipend amounts approved by the board president are: for the Rancho Buena Vista High School band, \$200 and for the Oceanside High School Marine Corps ROTC color guard, \$100.
 - 12/12/2025 Holiday Party scheduled for this date with the first and second planning meeting of the subcommittee completed. The Subcommittee is made up of: Ros Nesler, Pat Battles, Marta Welch and Patty “Perf” Coffey. Bob Bechill is working with Tracy Owens, who is with Support the Enlisted Project (STEP), on a Coast Guard families active-duty guest list, directions and support, etc. Their participation will be paid for by volunteer funds from friends of the Village Veterans. An advertising poster has been designed and funds to print the poster motioned by Robert Smith and seconded by Mike Welch.

- 1/6/2026 or 1/13/2026 Due Dues Day set up in Abravanel Hall with manning required to accept dues. Suggested manning is like last year and includes Robert “Smitty” Smith, David Hefler, Pat Battles, Mike Welch, Bob ST Laurent and any others who would like to join.
- 1/22/2026 First January General Meeting the guest speaker will be a F-14 pilot. Darell “Condor” Gray with Robert Genat as a contact.
- Still in planning is the potential March 2025 off-site trip to a museum. The location is tentative for either the USS Midway or March Air Reserve Base Air Museum. The decision as to which venue will be made at future BOD meetings.
- More information will be discussed in future BOD meetings concerning a April 2026 North County Veterans Standdown. Susz Clark will have more information at a later BOD meeting.

● ***Additional Business:***

- Continuing issue: Bob Bechill related that Frontwave Arena Luxury Box could be offered to the Village Vets Board of Directors to enjoy a sports or entertainment event. President, Bob Bechill stated this item will be considered at the October BOD meeting. This continues to be a discussion issue.
- Continuing Issue: Korean conflict and Vietnam War of OHCC Veterans tribute plaques are not on display in the Clubhouse Library. These plaques would be like the WWII veterans that are currently displayed. This issue is under consideration. This item will continue to be listed in the minutes until all decisions are complete.
- Village Vets name tags are still available from BOD member, Martin Budoff.
- BOD additional member “civilian employee of the military” is still under consideration.
- Website September 2025 BOD minutes and the General Meeting document will be posted on the Web by Jack Shabel.
- Bugle – no additional information or discussion.
- Flags – no additional information or discussion.
- “Battle Buddies” discussion was to include this program as part of SALT Club (Serve and Love Together). This will be presented at the General Membership meeting on 25 September.
- September Honor Flight will return to San Diego International Airport, Alaska Airlines #9676 on 28 September 2025, support this event if possible.

Other Information:

- Adjournment motioned by David Hefler and seconded by Bob St Laurant. The adjournment was at 4:15 p.m.
- The next Board Meeting will be on October 16, 2025, at 3:00 pm in the Music Room.
- Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary, Mike Welch