

Johns Creek Veterans Association

Membership Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2021

First Meeting at Park Place since Covid surfaced last year:

Mike Mizell introduced Col. Rick White who then called for the Sunrise folks to come out from the kitchen. The members gave them a warm standing ovation as a thank you for providing the membership with a full Lasagna Italian dinner.

Rick then led the membership in the opening prayer.

Mike Mizell introduced Roger Wise who led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mike Mizell then asked the members present to reach out to any members they know who have not been active since the advent of Covid. He noted that our active membership list seems to have decreased and we need to determine if we have accurate information to enable contact with these members. We all need to reach out to any veterans we know who might be interested in joining JCVA.

John Meurer gave the Treasure's report for Richard Beggs who is doing well in his cancer fight but was not able to attend the meeting.

Dues: We are nearly halfway through 2021 and some members have not paid their \$35.00 dues. Now that we are meeting together at Park Place, please send in your dues or plan to pay at our next meeting which will be on **THURSDAY, MAY 27, 6-8PM. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE 4TH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH WILL BE OUR REGULAR MEETING DAYS.**

Due to an ongoing grout issue, the Wall That Heals has been closed temporarily. Mike is working with Johns Creek to find an acceptable, permanent solution. Plans are being made to dedicate the Wall That Heals this year on Veterans Day.

The white roses have been planted around the Soldiers Cross at the Veterans Memorial Walk. This year marks the 100th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington, D.C.

One of our young, new members, Harold Earls, was the commander of the Army Unit assigned to guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington.

Recent events: On March 29, Vietnam Veterans Day, a ceremony was held at The Veterans Memorial Walk. On April 3, a large gathering observed a beautiful Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame induction ceremony for the 2020 Class in the Amphitheater. This ceremony had been delayed due to Covid. There is a chance that Johns Creek and JCVA will host this ceremony every year at Newtown Park.

JCVA Color Guard Events:

Thursday, May 6, 70th Day of Prayer at the Roswell City Hall – 1200

Friday, May 15, Alpharetta Chamber of Commerce Blue Jean Ball

Saturday, May 22, Daughters of the American Revolution, Country Club of the South

Roger Wise informed the members that the Old Soldiers Day Parade will resume this year during the first week of August. A new alliance called the Northern Arc Old Soldiers Day, Inc. is making this event happen.

Rick White informed the group that the remains of 3 MIA servicemen have come home to Georgia. On June 29, there will be a procession from the Roswell Funeral Home to the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton. Details to follow.

9 Benches have been installed at the Wall That Heals. Mike indicated that there is space for 1 more bench at the far western end of the wall. Please let Mike know if you would like to donate a bench or if you know of someone who might want to donate (\$3000.00).

Mike indicated the Daughters of the American Revolution are interested in some sort of alliance with JCVA. He plans to meet with them soon.

The 2021 Johns Creek Memorial Bowl football game will be played on October 22 at Johns Creek High School – kickoff at 7:30PM.

Mike is interested in adding more plazas at the Veterans Memorial Walk – possibly for Chaplains, Working Dogs, Combat Medics, and Pilots. If you know of a potential sponsor, please let Mike know.

Mike is encouraging us all to reach out to veterans who might want to join JCVA. It is also very important to let our neighbors and friends know that the Veterans Memorial Walk and The Wall That Heals are located in Newtown Park. Lots of folks are not aware that they are there. Let people know that this part of Newtown Park is the second largest privately funded Veterans Park outside of Washington D.C.

REMEMBER: WE WILL NOW BE MEETING AT PARK PLACE ON THE 4TH THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH - 6-8PM. NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, MAY 27.