

St. Michaels Veterans Organization (SMVO) Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 6, 2026

- I. Meeting Call to Order at 6:046pm
- II. Invocation: Given by Becky Miles
- III. Review and Adopt Agenda
1st Motion: Gary Curtis 2nd Motion: Jerry Hoskie
Vote: Yes 7 No 0 Abstain 2
- IV. Roll Call of VA Official
Commander Jeffrey Kirk Present
Vice Commander Ronnie Peshlakai (NOT Present)
Secretary Lita Sam Present
- V. Announcement:
a. 1/1/2026 New's Year Day
b. 1/19/2026 Martin Luther King Jr.
c. Check and update your registration documents at Fort Defiance Veterans Office. Remind the Veterans on their Registration Form to be done every year. Check your file at the Veteran Office or you will not be funded or if you are missing document(s), name does not match, etc. Make sure all is up to date.
- VI. Recognition of Guest and Official(s):
No Guest or Official attended this SMVO meeting.
- VII. Commander/Vice Commander Report:
- Talking Circle on Thursday, January 15, 2026, at 10 am to 12 pm at Fort Defiance Veteran Administration Conference Room at 2553 Morgan Blvd, Window Rock, Arizona. Lunch will be provided. You can join online at Televeda.com
 - HAC Seeks Proposal for its 2026 Affordable Housing for Rural Veterans (AHRV) Initiative. Supports local nonprofit housing development organizations that meet or help meet the affordable housing needs of veterans with low incomes in rural places. Grants typically range up to \$30,000 per organization and must support bricks-and mortar projects that assist low-income, elderly and/or disabled veterans with critical home repair, accessibility modifications, support homeless veterans, help veterans become homeowners, and/or secure affordable rental housing. Application is due by 4:00 pm (EST) on or before Monday, January 19, 2026. Program staff will be available to answer questions during the Grant Funding Opportunity HAC 2026 AHRV RFP Overview webinar on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 2 pm (ET).
 - February 13-20, 2026, Native Intensive Clinical Program in Globe, Arizona. Programs include daily schedules from 7:00 am to 5:30 pm MT. Free program includes: Seven days of care, Native health partners, SCAHC, help from therapists, doctors and support staff, Individual and group therapy sessions, fitness and wellness activities, Family support and cultural care. What you'll gain: Decrease in symptoms of trauma, anxiety and depression, tools to feel better and manage stress, support for you and your family and a plan for continued care. Registration deadline is January 29, 2026. Contact toll free 833-865-0500 from 6 am to 3 pm MT. Contact email address mdenetdale@mgb.org Marcus Denetdale, Regional Associate Director, Home Base Arizona.
 - Tribal Veterans Conference and Services Event taking place at Bluewater Resort and Casino in Parker on January 23-24, 2026, from 9 am to 4 pm MT. Address Bluewater Resort and Casino, 11300 Resort Dr, Parker, Arizona. A resource fair is open to the public from 9 am to 4 pm at the resort's main conference room, Veterans can receive assistance with housing, employment, mental health services and much more.



- On January 13, 2026 - The People's State of the Nation Address by President Buu Van Nygren will be held In Shiprock, New Mexico. President Buu Nygren will present his vision, priorities and commitments to the Dine people. The address outlines the progress made over the past year, the challenges ahead, and the shared responsibility for building a stronger, healthier future of the Navajo Nation. All are welcome to attend President Buu Van Nygren's address to the Navajo people.
- There are funds available in the amount of 13,250.00 for Hardship and Energy of \$400.00 each. 92.00 for Traditional Healing. You may apply for the 2nd quarter for these funds.
- St Michaels Chapter House has \$5,000 for food and award. We can discuss this further or plan to use the funds.
- St Michaels Chapter House has Housing Discretionary funds for house improvement. You can apply for from the St Michaels Chapter for these funds. The official will do an assessment of your housing needs/improvement.
- For assistance for low-income, elderly and/or disabled veterans with critical home repair, accessibility modifications support homeless veterans, help veterans become homeowners and/or secure affordable rental house you can go to ahrv@ruralhome.org to inquire.
- The VSO email address for Fort Defiance Veteran Office is fallyn.begay@navajo-nsn.gov

VIII. New Business:

- a. No new business.

IX. Financial Assistance:

- a. Kirk reported St Michaels Veterans Organization are out of funds for Home Improvement.

X. Adjournment: At 7:43 pm

- a. Next meeting February 3, 2026, Wednesday @ 6:00 pm at St Michaels Chapter House.

Meeting minutes submitted by:

 1/30/2026

Lita Sam, Secretary

Attachment:

Agenda, General Claim Forms/W9 JKirk, & LSam, Veterans Sign In sheet & Guest Sign In sheet.