

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

An advisory board to the Clark County Board of Councilors

June 9, 2016

1300 Franklin Street, Room #680

Vancouver, Washington

Chair: Bob Nichols

Vice Chair: Randy Warneke

Secretary: Candis Oliver

Meeting called to order by Bob Nichols

Roll Call: [Bold script indicates presence at meeting]

POST

40 et 8
American Legion #14
American Legion #27
American Legion #168
American Legion #176
American Veterans #6
DAV Chapter #4
Korean War Assoc. #321
Marine Corps League #826
VFW #4278
VFW #7824
VFW # 12028
Vietnam Vets #512
Members at Large

PRIMARY

Steve Slegers
Dixie Hotaling
Elisa Cotton
Robert Nichols
Michael Gibson
John Lovejoy
Thomas Kula
Randy Warneke
Lou Basté
John Raynor
Bruce Maas
Skip Benge
Greg Whitson
Kevin Lawson
Candis Oliver
Jennifer Hibbs
Kelly Jones

ALTERNATE

Sam Grooms
Dean Collins
Shawn O'Neil
Richard Langenbach
Jonathan Frederick
Michael Langsdorf
Frank Hyatt
Morris Giesler
Ron Brandon
Michael Cassel
Dale Rex
Dave Barton
Joseph Fettig

Clark County Representative: Samantha Whitley

Guests: **Emily Stoutsenberger** (PeaceHealth Hospice), **Michael Stacey** (Veterans Village), **Linda O'Leary** (citizen), **Judy Russel**, **Nick Herber** (Veterans Assistance Center); **Michael Torres** (Clark County)

April 14, 2016, Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion by **Greg Whitson** that was seconded by **Steve Slegers**.

Committee Reports

Appeals: There were no appeals for April or May.

Policies and Procedures: The Policies and Procedures committee makes the following additional recommendations:

- Policy 3.7: Allow transportation assistance to veterans looking for housing.
- Policy 3.4: Allow up to \$2,000 in a 24-month period to help a veteran acquire or maintain housing.
- Allow housing Assistance for households earning 200 percent of the poverty level for housing assistance only. This will require a code change and must be reviewed by the County attorney.

A motion was made by Randy Warneke and seconded by Bruce Maas to accept the proposed changes. The motion carried.

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March and April Contractor Reports & County Fund Report

The Veterans Assistance Center received 615 veterans' visits in March, and 451 visits in April; 67 veterans received emergency assistance in March, and 48 veterans received emergency assistance in April. The Free Clinic treated six veteran dental patients in both March and April, for which the fund was billed \$816 in March and \$1,000 in April. The Veterans Assistance Fund balance was \$425,122 at the end of April.

Veterans Assistance Center Update

Judy Russel provided the following updates for the Veterans Assistance Center:

- A Golf Tournament will be held June 21, at the Tri-Mountain Golf Course in Ridgefield.
- The Warriors on Wheels car show is August 27, 10:00-2:00, at Kings Way School.
- The Annual Gala was a success, raising \$4,000 more than 2015's event.
- The stair lift installation begins next week.
- The Center has seen an increase in veterans seeking housing, rental, and food assistance.
- Donations of phone cards for veterans are being accepted.
- Nick Herber reminded that the Stand Down is August 10, at the Armed Forces Reserve Center. Due to a fire at the DOD warehouse, many supplies were destroyed. The Stand Down committee is seeking donations of cash or supplies a homeless veteran would need.

Bob asked staff to draft a letter requesting support for this year's Stand Down. The letter could be sent to veteran posts and other agencies asking that time, money or materials be donated to the Assistance Center for the Stand Down in August.

Old Business

Veteran Village consists of 18 micro-homes being built in phases at 5118 NE St. James Rd. Groundbreaking is anticipated August 13, at 11:00 a.m., with completion of the first phase before the end of the year. Michael Stacy provided a report that will be sent to all advisory board members.

New Business

No discussion at this time.

Open Forum

- Emily Stoutsenberger asked for volunteers to support veterans through PeaceHealth Hospice.
- Women Veterans Connect meets June 25, 11:00 a.m., at the 40 et 8. They will be putting together bags for the 192nd Avenue Costco Veterans event on June 25, all are invited.
- July 30-31, is the Hillsboro Hops veteran appreciation weekend
- Clark County fair also has a veterans recognition day
- Vietnam Veterans of America Welcome Home barbecue on August 27, 4:00-8:00 p.m., is open to all veterans.

Adjournment

Randy Warneke moved to adjourn the meeting; Greg Whitson seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting

July 14, 2016, at 1400 hours, in the Councilors' Hearing Room.