

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
An advisory board to the Clark County Board of Councilors
June 11, 2015

1300 Franklin Street, Room #680
Vancouver, Washington

Chair: Bruce Maas

Vice Chair: Thomas Kula

Secretary: Mike Gibson

Meeting called to order by Bruce Maas

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

Sam Grooms
Dixie Hotaling
Elisa Cotton
Robert Nichols
Michael Gibson
Bubba Conway
Thomas Kula
George Raynor
Lou Basté
John Raynor
Bruce Maas
Skip Bengé
Greg Whitson
Kevin Lawson
Candis Oliver

ALTERNATE

Steve Slegers
Dean Collins
Shawn O'Neil
Richard Langenbach
Jonathan Frederick
John Lovejoy
Frank Hyatt
Randy Warneke
Ron Brandon
Gary Dowler
Dale Rex
Dave Barton
Joseph Fettig

Clark County Representative: Samantha Whitley

Guests: Judy Russel, (Veterans Assistance Center); Eric Erickson, Dick Halvorson, Jerry Keen, Mike Wilson (CDM); Christopher Driggins (Parrots for Patriots); Jarrine Shaw (Exotic Bird Rescue); George Golden (LINKS)

Members at Large

Joseph Fettig made a motion to accept Candis Oliver as member at large. Thomas Kula seconded. Motion carried. Candis is an Army veteran and National Guard.

May 14, 2015, Meeting Minutes

Bob Nichols moved to approve the May minutes. Thomas Kula seconded. Motion carried.

Parrots for Patriots

Christopher Driggins explained the Parrots for Patriots program provides birds for qualified disabled and elderly veterans at a reduced cost. The program will soon expand to include service dogs. For more information, visit www.parrotsforpatriots.org or www.rescuebird.com.

LINKS

George Golden explained that LINKS needs a new warehouse for storing food to supply to military and veteran activities. He has an offer from an anonymous donor to match \$1,000/month.

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Committee Reports

Appeals

Two gas voucher appeals were approved last month.

Policies and Procedures

The Policy and Procedures committee received three suggestions to be discussed at the July 11 meeting:

1. Policy 2.6, definition of indigence does not consider applicant's savings.
2. Policy 3.7 requires veteran to live outside C-Tran service area for gas vouchers.
3. Policy 3.5.1 requires a utility disconnect notice, however shut-off notices are not provided for delinquent sewer payments.

Nominations

No discussion at this time.

April Contractor Reports & Fund Revenue and Expense Report

The Veterans Assistance Center received 461 visits, served 253 veterans, and welcomed 564 volunteer hours. Emergency assistance was provided for 47 veterans at a cost of \$19,085. The Free Dental Clinic treated seven veterans, for which the fund was billed \$2,165. The Veterans Assistance Fund balance was \$467,764 at the end of April.

Veterans Assistance Center Update

Remodel of the storage area is complete. Remodel of two offices will begin next week. A stair lift is available but has not yet been installed. Through May, \$122,000 of the \$300,000 budgeted has been spent in direct veterans' assistance.

Old Business

A letter was sent to the Councilors in support of CDM's veterans services. CDM requested \$50,000 from the Council. The Advisory Board reiterated their support for funding but did not recommend that the funding come from the Veterans Assistance Fund.

New Business

The August meeting will be the day after the Stand Down.

Open Forum

- The Women's Veterans Connect will meet Saturday, June 27, 11:00 a.m., at 40et8.
- The Viet Nam Memorial Traveling Wall will be at Milwaukie High School, July 23-26.
- The CCVAC gala was a success. They will have a golf fundraiser June 23 at Cedars Golf Course.
- Veterans Patriots Day Baseball is July 4 weekend at Volcano Stadium in Salem-Keiser.
- Veterans Military Appreciation Day, sponsored by Hillsboro Hops is the third week of August.
- The USO PDX Canteen golf tournament fundraiser is August 27 at Camas Meadows.
- Post 7824 is hosting an Army Birthday party this weekend.

Adjournment

Bob Nichols moved to adjourn the meeting. Thomas Kula seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting

July 9, 2015, at 1400 hours, in the Councilors' Hearing Room.