

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
An advisory board to the Clark County Council

March 14, 2024

Chair: Michael Harding

Vice Chair: *Bob Nichols*

Secretary: Bruce Maas

Meeting called to order.

Roll Call: [Bold script indicates presence at meeting; italics indicates excused]

POST

40 et 8

American Legion #14

American Legion #44

American Legion #168

American Legion #176

American Veterans #6

Camas Post 27

DAV Chapter #4

Korean War Assoc. #321

Marine Corps League #826

VFW #4278

VFW #7824

Vietnam Vets #512

Members at Large

PRIMARY

Bob Brennan

Gene Couture

Darren Wertz

Bob Nichols

Thomas Phillips

John Lovejoy

Wes Forgey

Bruce Maas

Earl Edwards

Steve Slegers

Shannon Roberts

Michael Harding

Greg Whitson

Kelly Jones

Bryan McGillis

Tonya Wark

Tamara Elam

Megan Anderson

Eli Gonzalez

Michael Langsdorf

Lloyd Bowman

ALTERNATE

Steve Slegers

Charles Ingalls

Michael Gibson

Vanise Pratt

Shawn O'Neil

Tom Cousino

Dixie Hotaling

Ron Brandon

Dana Difford

Nick Herber

Clark County Representative: Abby Molloy

Guests: CVTV23, Janet Snook (Clark County); Judy Russel (Clark County Veterans Assistance Center); Tony Sprague, Emma (VA representative for Congresswoman Glusenkamp-Perez); Larry Smith (CMAC)

Approval of February 8, 2024, meeting minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion by Kelly Jones that was seconded by Thomas Phillips.

Committee Reports

Appeals: None

Policies and Procedures: Consider adding to policies to cover Homeless Veterans Support Fund (HVSF), to state only homeless veterans may be assisted with HVSF. Homeless includes no rent or lease, and veteran may be couch-surfing. Allowable fees detailed. Assistance is available for twelve months and limited to twice in a lifetime. A change to the lifetime allowance is requested and will be discussed further.

Nominations: Michael Harding to resign following the meeting in April. Bob Nichols will become Chair. Nominations are being taken for replacement Vice Chair. Contact Bruce Maas.

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CMAC presentation (Larry Smith)

CMAC began in 2010 to recognize all veterans for their service. It was started as a free community organization to fill a void for doing ceremonies to show appreciation for military. Events are for community, not veterans. Events include: Welcome Home, Our Community Salutes; Memorial Day, Heroes Night, Independence Day, Patriots Day, POW/MIA recognition day, Veterans Day, and recognizing Gold Stars.

2023 year-end and January 2024, Contractor & Fund reports

In 2023, revenues were \$927,863 and expenditures were \$944,033, for a net fund decrease of \$16,170. The fund balance at the end of the year was \$568,897.

The fund assisted 49 Veteran households. The Veterans Assistance Center received 527 veteran visits. The Free Clinic billed \$707 for 0 veterans. The Fund balance was \$571,065.

Veterans Assistance Center (VAC) Update

- Case manager needed. Mental Health Sales Tax funds may be available.
- Continuing to look for additional space.
- Red, white, and blue gala at ilani on July 16. Tickets are \$150.

Old Business

- Camp Bonneville may not be used for a veteran cemetery or housing, based on the property covenant. Additional research is being conducted.
- Two organizations are not in good standing based on attendance. They will receive a letter to attend the next meeting or be dropped from the roles. Posts are: Camas Post 27 and Korean War Veterans 321.

New Business

- Ron Brandon confirmation as member at large to be considered at next meeting.
- Member binders: copies emailed and available in the meeting.
- Legislative update: WDVA sent a list of bills of interest to the Board. Once passed, updates will be sent.

Open Forum

- Virtual attendance option appreciated.
- Kiggins Safe Stay housed first veteran.
- Service officer requests outside of the Veterans Center are now voicemail based.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting April 11, 2024