

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

September 10, 2020

Meeting held remotely. Audio at: <https://www.clark.wa.gov/community-services/veterans-advisory-board>

Chair: Kelly Jones

Vice Chair: David Daly

Secretary: Bruce Maas

Meeting called to order.

Roll Call: [Bold script indicates presence at meeting]

POST

40 et 8
American Legion #14
American Legion #44
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

Morris Geisler
Dixie Hotaling
Darren Wertz
Bob Nichols
Michael Gibson
John Lovejoy

Earl Edwards
Steve Slegers
Shannon Roberts
Bruce Maas
David Daly
Greg Whitson
Kelly Jones
Kevin Lawson
Bryan McGillis
Michael Langsdorf
Jim Jensen
Tiffany Plous

ALTERNATE

Steve Slegers
Karla Bean
John Rose

Les Schreiber
Vannis Pratt

John Stofiel
Dana Difford
Michael Harding
Doyle Flemming
Tom Mielke

Clark County Representative: Samantha Whitley

Guests: Judy, Russel, Sharon Tyre (Clark County Veterans Assistance Center); **Janet Snook** (Clark County)

August 13, 2020, Meeting Minutes

The minutes were unanimously approved.

Member and County Updates

- All current VAF contractors have requested continued funding for 2021 at the same level as 2020
- Nominations will be taken in October and November for the 2021 VAB officers
- Andy Silver will conduct a presentation on Permanent Supportive Housing in October
- VAB Letters of Intent for 2021 will be emailed and are requested to be returned electronically
- Small business assistance grants up to \$10,000, for businesses with five or fewer employees – Veteran preference: www.mercycorpsnw.org/clarkcounty/
- Housing Program Overview
 - **Diversion:** This approach is designed to help people experiencing homelessness find a stable home using their own strengths and resources. People with relatively low barriers to housing are typically a good fit for diversion.
 - **Shelter:** Interim Housing encompasses emergency shelter, motel vouchers, and healthcare respite beds. The role of interim housing is to provide immediate short-term safe place while other solutions are identified.

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- **Rapid Rehousing:** RRH includes assistance in identifying housing and with move-in costs, rent support, and case management. The amount of assistance and length of time of time a household is tailored to individual needs.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:** Ideal for people who are experiencing homelessness and have the greatest vulnerability which likely leads them to utilize jails, hospitals, law enforcement inpatient treatment and other systems of care often. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) combines affordable housing with intensive staff supports, behavioral and physical healthcare, caregivers and other essential services.

Committee Reports

Appeals: No appeals.

Policies and Procedures: No discussion.

July 2020 Contractor Reports & Fund Report

The fund assisted 31 Veteran households. The Veterans Assistance Center received 188 Veteran visits for essentials and food. The Free Clinic is referring Veterans to needed dental care. The Fund balance at the end of July was \$736,569.

Veterans Assistance Center (VAC)/Stand Down Update

- The Center is open daily 9am-1pm, providing breakfast and lunch and delivering food boxes. Other high needs include auto repair and housing assistance.
- Stand Down will be 9am-1pm, October 19-20, at River City Church, 2400 E Fourth Plain. Providers for housing, mental health, dental, and employment will be available, with resources from 19 additional vendors. Food boxes will be given out. A date and time are being determined for putting together DoD bags to hand out. Donations for the Stand Down are still needed. See the CCVAC website for more details.

Old Business

The Patriot Day Salute is viewable on CVTV.

New Business

None at this time.

Open Forum

Information was sought regarding addressing support needs of Veterans and their families. CCVAC helps all Veterans and their families and has resources for caregivers on their webpage.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned. The next meeting is Thursday, October 8, 2020.