

# Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

An advisory board to the Clark County Council

October 14, 2021

Meeting held remotely.

**Chair: Kelly Jones**

**Vice Chair: Michael Harding**

**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

Gene Couture

Darren Wertz

**Michael Gibson**

**John Lovejoy**

**Bruce Maas**

**Steve Slegers**

**Shannon Roberts**

**Michael Harding**

David Daly

**Greg Whitson**

**Jim Jensen**

**Kelly Jones**

Michael Langsdorf

**Kevin Lawson**

**Bryan McGillis**

**Tonya Wark**

**ALTERNATE**

**Steve Slegers**

John Rose

Les Schreiber

Vannis Pratt

**Tom Cousino**

John Stofiel

Dana Difford

**Bruce Maas**

Nick Herber

**Clark County Representative: Samantha Whitley**

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

**Approval of September 9, 2021, Meeting Minutes**

**The minutes were approved with a motion from Steve Slegers, seconded by Michael Harding.**

**VA Updates – Senior Veterans**

Alan Martinez with the VA notified the board that Veterans who are aging are underserved. Service organizations are instrumental in identifying and outreaching to them to connect them with assistance. Homeless and transitional housing services are provided for all ages by the VA CRS. HUD VASH has extended eligibility for Veterans.

**2022 VAF Contract Budget Approvals**

Kelly Jones provided an overview and brief discussion on the current Veterans Fund contracts and the requests for renewal of funding for 2022. The following budgets were approved:

- **Veterans Assistance Center: Services and Stand Down \$834,798: unanimously approved after a motion by Shannon Roberts, seconded by Steve Slegers.**
- **WDVA: Two full-time Veteran Service Officers \$138,000: unanimously approved after a motion by Michael Harding, seconded by Steve Slegers.**

# Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

## An advisory board to the Clark County Council

October 14, 2021

Meeting held remotely.

- **The Free Clinic: Dental Program \$24,900: unanimously approved after a motion by Greg Whitson, seconded by Shannon Roberts.**
- The SWACH Pathways Health Navigators pilot program ends in July 2022. It was awarded \$30,000 in July 2021. SWACH will be asked to report at board meetings quarterly.
- Veterans Therapeutic Court will request up to \$10,000 for a mentor program starting in 2022.

### Committee Reports

**Appeals:** None.

**Policies and Procedures:** Veterans who have been assisted during an emergency declaration should not have to wait two years for additional assistance. **A motion to add this clarification to Emergency Declaration policy 3.12 was made by Greg Whitson and seconded by Michael Gibson. Motion carried.**

**Nominations:** Michael Harding has been nominated for chair. Send additional nominations to Bruce Maas.

### August 2021 Contractor Reports & Fund Report

The fund assisted 25 Veteran households. The Veterans Assistance Center received 186 Veteran visits. The Free Clinic served 2 Veterans in August. The Fund balance at the end of August was \$831,561.

### Veterans Assistance Center (VAC) and Stand Down Update

- 101 Veterans were served at the Stand Down; 49 were homeless.
- 130 providers and volunteers served 203 meals and gave out 800 lbs. of DOD clothing and supplies and 1,425 lbs. of civilian clothing, along with 50 pairs of boots. 13 Veterans served by the dental van.
- Helping our Heroes radiothon on KPAM November 12.
- Online auction raised \$4,350 and Give More 24 raised \$30,000.
- Children's Sharing Project will provide holiday toys and the CCVAC is looking for holiday meals, gift cards are easiest.
- CCVAC has been nominated for Veteran's Advisory Committee Distinguished Award by Rep. Kraft.

### Old Business

No discussion.

### New Business

2022 Letters of Interest need to be returned by end of year, please send to: [janet.snook@clark.wa.gov](mailto:janet.snook@clark.wa.gov)

**A motion to cancel November's VAB meeting was made by Steve Slegers and seconded by Shannon Roberts. Motion carried.**

### Open Forum

- Veteran's Day Parade is canceled but CMAC will have a program at the Artillery Barracks.
- Post 176 is looking for a full-time bookkeeper. Contact the Post at 360.573.2331.
- VFW Post 7824 pavilion project is nearing completion.
- Partners in Careers is looking for a GPD specialist.
- Post 4278 is doing Wreaths Across America.
- Farewell and best wishes were extended to Samantha.

### Adjourn

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting December 9.