

# Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

*An advisory board to the Clark County Council*

March 9, 2023

**Chair: Michael Harding**

**Vice Chair: Shannon Roberts**

**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 #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**

**Ron Fryer**  
Gene Couture  
Darren Wertz  
**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**

## **ALTERNATE**

**Steve Slegers**  
  
**Charles Ingalls**  
**Michael Gibson**  
Vanise Pratt  
Shawn O'Neil  
Tom Cousino  
**Dixie Hotaling**  
John Stofiel  
Dana Difford  
  
Nick Herber

**Clark County Representative:** Emily Langston

**Guests:** Janet Snook (Clark County); Judy Russel, Sharon Tyre (Clark County Veterans Assistance Center); CVTV23, Eli Gonzalez (Clark College); Bob Nichols (Post 168)

**Approval of February 9, 2023, meeting minutes**

The minutes were approved following a motion by Thomas Phillips that was seconded by Ron Fryer.

**Committee Reports**

**Appeals:** None

**Policies and Procedures:** Proposed changes to Policies and Procedures are being heard by County Council March 21. Website to be updated with May 2022 revision and CCVAC revised application.

**January 2023, Contractor & Fund reports and 2022 Year-End report**

The fund assisted 43 Veteran households. The Veterans Assistance Center received 355 veteran visits. December 2022 year-end fund balance was \$587,570. A report on denials for over-income will be provided. Spending exceeded revenue in 2022. Interest in approaching County Council to raise the levy amount was expressed.

**Veterans Assistance Center (VAC) Update**

- Center's 990 completed for 2022. Veterans received 97 percent of all monies received, thanks to the assistance of volunteers.
- Looking for part-time hire. Must be a veteran.
- Newsletter to include stories of favorite veterans being produced for Veteran's Day.

## **Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

### ***An advisory board to the Clark County Council***

March 9, 2023

- CCVAC golf tournament June 6 at Tri Mountain golf course; \$150/person. Looking for players and sponsors.
- Stand Down will be September 29 at the Armed Forces Reserve Center. Storage unit price increasing 13 percent, or nearly \$10,000 this year.
- Thrive to Survive event March 18 at Living Hope Church, to include Department of Licensing for issuing IDs. CCVAC to have table there.

#### **Old Business**

National Wheelchair games July 4-9. Volunteers needed. Link on Portland VA website.

#### **New Business**

- Clark College resource center has expanded services available for veterans, to include tutoring, book purchases, some online fees, and veteran benefits. Open house, 10-2pm, April 17-18, to achieve more community involvement. Will include CCVAC and VA services. For additional information, contact Eli Gonzalez at [egonzalez-roman@clark.edu](mailto:egonzalez-roman@clark.edu).
- Ron Fryer may be able to apply for a grant for the women's village.

#### **Open Forum**

Ron Rasmussen, Air Force veteran, suggests using part of the 4,000 acres of County-owned Camp Bonneville for homeless veterans, having previously spoken with County and City Councilmembers. Ordinance removal has been conducted repeatedly. Most buildings would need to be demolished and new buildings constructed. Housing would focus on those with PTSD.

#### **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting April 13, 2023