

**Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
*An advisory board to the Clark County Board of Councilors*  
**March 8, 2018**

1300 Franklin Street, Room #680  
Vancouver, Washington

**Chair: Morris Giesler**

**Vice Chair: Kelly Jones**

**Secretary: Bruce Maas**

**Meeting called to order.**

**Roll Call:** [Bold script indicates presence at meeting]

**POST**

40 et 8  
American Legion #14  
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**

**Steve Slegers**  
**Dixie Hotaling**  
**Michael Gibson**  
**John Lovejoy**  
**Morris Giesler**  
Earl Edwards  
**Ron Brandon**  
**Shannon Roberts**  
**Bruce Maas**  
**Skip Benge**  
**Greg Whitson**  
**Kelly Jones**  
Kevin Lawson  
**Alan Martinez**  
**James Mead**  
**David Daley**

**ALTERNATE**

**Patrick Locke**  
  
Jonathan Frederick  
Michael Langsdorf  
**Frank Hyatt**  
**Jason Atkins**  
**Steve Slegers**  
Sarah Aktepy  
Tonja Wark  
  
Nick Herber

**Clark County Representative: Samantha Whitley**

**Guests: Judy Russel, Sharon Tyre, Rena Bennett (Veterans Assistance Center); Dr. Philip Blair, George Golden, Roger Philips, Michael Stacy, Roger Morrison**

**February 8, 2018, Meeting Minutes**

***The minutes were approved following a motion by Greg Whitson that was seconded by Dixie Hotaling.***

**Post-Traumatic Stress and CBD Research**

Dr. Blair is recruiting veterans with PTSD for clinical trials using cannabidiol (CBD), an industrial hemp food supplement without the psycho-active agent, and whole-body vibration. Humans create endocannabinoid (ECS) that is useful for the neurologic, immune, and endocrine systems, however people suffering from PTSD have reduced levels of it. Using CBD has been shown to reduce fear, block reconsolidation, enhance extinction, and restore hormone and ECS balance with both immediate and lasting results. This study is not associated with the VA.

**Committee Reports**

**Appeals:** One appeal was approved in February and one was denied.

**Policies and Procedures:** The March meeting was canceled. Future meetings will be held 12:30-1:30 pm preceding the Veteran's Advisory Board in room 680. The next meeting is April 12.

**Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**  
**An advisory board to the Clark County Board of Councilors**  
**March 8, 2018**

**VAF 2017 Year-end report and January 2018 Contractor Reports & Fund Report**

The 2017 annual report is complete and shows that \$367,294 was spent for 1,253 services to Veteran households. The Center had 6,820 visits, of which 883 people identified as homeless. Volunteer hours were valued at \$265,226. The dental program served 54 Veterans. The Stand Down was attended by 249 Veterans, of which 105 identified as homeless. The Center will also provide a report of total private financial donations received throughout the year.

In January 2018, the fund provided assistance to 46 Veteran households at a cost of \$17,598. The Veterans Assistance Center received 600 Veteran visits, including 321 visits from Veterans who are homeless. The Free Clinic treated eleven patients at the clinic. The Veterans Assistance Fund balance was \$428,660 at the end of the month.

**Veterans Assistance Center Update**

- The Center is sponsoring the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce's Leads and Needs Breakfast, March 21.
- Tickets are available for the Sixth Annual Black and White Gala at the Heathman, May 18, 2018. Vancouver Mayor McEnery-Ogle will be the keynote speaker.
- Jakes Crawfish is sponsoring a fundraiser, March 17, 11 am-11pm. The Center will receive a portion of the proceeds.
- A raffle for a Golden Boy Henry 22 military edition rifle is ongoing. Drawing will occur at car show in August.
- Appreciation was expressed to Coldwell Banker for sponsoring the golf tournament for the past three years. No sponsor has been found for this year.
- Warriors on Wheels car show is scheduled for August 25. Location to be determined.
- The Center has new flooring to facilitate movement for wheelchairs.
- Rena Bennett, the new VSO, was introduced.

**Old Business**

No discussion at this time.

**New Business**

- Veterans Village, being built by PureKraze, is on hold.
- Veterans are invited to the Vancouver Mall on April 7, 1-3 pm for a ceremony honoring all veterans.
- More discussion is needed regarding helping veterans who are homeless. A committee was established. Funding has also been located to contract with Council for the Homeless for assistance.
- The Veterans Assistance Center needs more space. Let Chair Giesler know of any space that might be available.

**Open Forum**

- Jim Misner offers Homes for Heroes home loans for Veterans. He requests a modification to the bylaws to provide up to \$2,000 earnest money to help Veterans get into homes.
- Wind Haven Therapeutic Riding has served 250-300 Veterans since last January. They presented at the Clark County Fairgrounds Expo last weekend. More information to be presented next month.
- Members are encouraged to attend the Council for the Homeless sponsored Poverty Immersion event April 11, 9 am-1pm at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned. The next meeting is Thursday, April 12, 2018.