

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
An advisory board to the Clark County Board of Councilors
May 10, 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 Bengé
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, Michael Torres

Guests: Judy Russel, Sharon Tyre, (Veterans Assistance Center); Cyndi Tanner (Veterans Administration); Kate Budd (Council for the Homeless); Tiffany Plouse (WorkSource); Michael Harding (VFW 7824)

April 12, 2018, Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion by Greg Whitson that was seconded by Steve Slegers.

Veterans Administration VASH Vouchers

The Community Resource and Referral Center assesses and assists Veterans to be application-ready for housing with VASH vouchers. Obtaining birth certificates and funding for background checks often delays completion of the process. The Veterans Assistance Center may be able to assist applicants that meet other assistance qualifications.

Clark County Homeless Action Plan Update

Council for the Homeless is conducting community forums and distributing surveys to engage the community and to identify what is working, what solutions are recommended, and what populations to prioritize. A draft of the revised plan will be available by the end of the year. Clark County has seen a 22% increase in persons experiencing homelessness and a 400% increase in rent costs since 2014.

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Committee Reports

Appeals: Four appeals that would have violated the policies and procedures were denied, and one appeal was approved.

Policies and Procedures:

Meetings are held 12:30-1:30 pm, preceding the Veteran's Advisory Board in room 680. **Dixie Hotaling made a motion to accept the compilation of all proposed changes previously approved throughout the year. The motion was seconded by Steve Slegers and carried.** The changes will be presented to the County Council for approval, staff will inform the advisory board once a date has been set.

March 2018 Contractor Reports & Fund Report

The fund provided assistance to 50 Veteran households at a cost of \$22,451. The Veterans Assistance Center received 638 Veteran visits, including 367 visits from Veterans who are homeless. The Free Clinic treated four patients. The Veterans Assistance Fund balance was \$417,548 at the end of the month.

Veterans Assistance Center Update

- The Center's front window was broken by a large rock over the weekend. The violator was arrested.
- Tickets are available for the Sixth Annual Black and White Gala at the Heathman, May 18, 2018; Vancouver Mayor McEnerny-Ogle will be the keynote speaker.
- The Warriors and Wheels car show is August 25, on SE 164th Avenue and SE Village Loop.
- The new website, CCVAC.net, is live.
- Kleen Street has requested a part time service officer at their new office space to assist Veterans who are homeless.

Old Business

- The Veterans Assistance Center needs more space. Morris has spoken with Vancouver's mayor.
- The board is speaking with the County Manager regarding funding for CVTV.
- Parking remains an issue at the Public Service Center. Other meeting locations are considered.

New Business

No discussion at this time.

Open Forum

- Crockpot cook-off fundraiser at 40et8, is May 31, 6-8 pm.
- Breakfast is served 7:30-9 am on Friday mornings at 40et8.
- Clark College Veterans Resource Center Bingo fundraiser is at 40et8 on May 16.
- WorkSource Veterans hiring event is May 16, 4-6:30 pm at the Armed Forces Reserve Center
- Vancouver Barracks Association is conducting a WWI Centennial, Memorial Day weekend.
- The USS Portland was commissioned in April.
- New Medicare cards with ID numbers in place of Social Security Numbers are being mailed.
- American Legion Post 176 is hosting the Pinups Tour, June 30 at 7 pm.
- The VVA is selling car washes in Hazel Dell at the Union 76 on Highway 99 on June 9.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned. The next meeting is Thursday, June 14, 2018.