

MINUTES

Veterans Assistance Commission of Kendall County, Illinois

Meeting Date: April 5, 2017

➤ **Preliminaries**

- ❖ Called to Order: 6:05 PM
 - ❖ Prayer: Recited by Frank Kurtz
 - ❖ Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by Jeff Cox
 - ❖ Meeting dedication: All the names on the Vietnam Wall.
 - ❖ Roll Call:
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- President Jeff Cox – American Legion Post 489
- Vice President Bob Leonard – VFW Post 8234
- Treasurer Ed Kurz – VFW Post 8234
- Secretary Norm Meier – American Legion Post 459
- Delegate Don Dahm – American Legion Post 675
- Delegate Frank Kurtz – American Legion Post 395
- Alternate Brian Clason – American Legion Post 395
- Alternate Herb Allen – American Legion Post 675
- Alternate Bernie Boeger – American Legion Post 459 *Absent
- Alternate Tom Wagner – American Legion Post 489
- VACKC Liaison Scott Gryder *Absent
- VACKC Staff:
 - Superintendent: Chad Lockman
 - Asst. Superintendent: Olivia Laschober
 - CVSO Coordinator: Donovan Torres

• **Correspondence**

VACKC has received IRS Tax exempt status under section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code retroactively effective April 15, 2011.

➤ **Commission Officer's Reports**

- ❖ President – Distributed new VAC hats and shirts. Noted that the new office door has been added after executive board decision. The executive board also voted to raise VAC food assistance amounts from \$50.00, \$75.00, \$100.00 to \$100.00, \$200.00, \$300.00.
- ❖ Secretary -- Motion passed to accept the 1/4/2017 minutes as read.
- ❖ Treasurer -- Motion passed to accept the balance of \$22,151.70

➤ **Superintendent's Report**

- ❖ Chad submitted current VACKC fund balances, Veterans Assistance Expenditures and totals, and transportation totals. 95% of the food assistance budget for FY-17 has been expended.
- ❖ A resolution was read at the February County Board meeting commemorating the life and career of former VAC Superintendent Steve Barrett.
- ❖ Q1 Veterans Assistance audits completed with 7 suspensions, all of which have been rectified.
- ❖ A homeless, unemployed veteran has obtained a steady job with help from the VACKC. Housing for this veteran is being worked on.
- ❖ Veteran face-to-face appointments have increased over 90% since this time last year.
- ❖ VACKC is currently holding a food drive to culminate with an appearance at the Plano Walmart on April 29th.
- ❖ Olivia continues to hold monthly meetings at various community organizations as well as holding outreach events. The staff averages five trips per week to make presentations to attract additional veterans.
- ❖ Olivia formed a women's veteran's committee within the IACVAC.
- ❖ VACKC Red Shirt promotion – over 250 orders; surplus funds donated to USO; MSHV; RED FOUNDATION.
- ❖ Chad formed the Kendall County Interagency Council (KCIC) through work with Kendall-Grundy Community Action – VACKC is an active participant.
- ❖ Donovan obtained official accreditation with the VA Office of General Counsel – manages social media pages, including Facebook and Instagram, where reach as increased exponentially; initiation of Operation Green Light.
- ❖ VACKC IRS 501(c)(19) status granted effective 4/15/2011.
- ❖ A volunteer office phone watcher is needed while the staff is attending the national conference 6/8 – 6/19.
- ❖ Finishing touches are being put on the new office door.

➤ **Commission Committee Reports**

- ❖ Bylaws Committee – No Report
- ❖ Budget Committee – No Report
- ❖ Election Committee – No Report
- ❖ Scholarship Committee – Scholarship winners were Matthew Pitstick, Brook Jensen, and Nichole Doles all from Yorkville High School.

➤ **Unfinished Business**

- ❖ OMA training has been completed by all board members.

➤ **New Business**

- ❖ Motion passed to send an email to the board containing minutes of previous meetings before each board meeting.
- ❖ Motion passed to donate \$2500 to the Vietnam Moving Wall coming to Oswego.
- ❖ Motion passed for Norm to purchase a new recorder for meetings.
- ❖ Motion passed to purchase an additional vehicle.

➤ **Good of the Commission** –

- ❖ Plano American Legion Post 395 –
- ❖ Newark American Legion Post 459 –
- ❖ Yorkville American Legion Post 489 –
- ❖ Oswego American Legion Post 675 –
- ❖ Yorkville VFW Post 8234 –
- ❖ Redshirt Friday T-Shirts; Village of Oswego may be designated a “Purple Heart Village”; The May 16th County Board meeting will include discussions to make Kendall County a Purple Heart County.

➤ **Closing Prayer** Recited by Frank Kurtz.

➤ **Salute the Flag**

➤ **Adjournment** 6:45 PM.