

Meeting Minutes

Veterans Assistance Commission of Kendall County, Illinois

Meeting Date: June 7, 2017

➤ Preliminaries

- ❖ Called to Order: 6:02 PM
 - ❖ Prayer: Recited by Frank Kurtz
 - ❖ Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by Jeff Cox
 - ❖ Meeting dedication: All the names on Oswego's Moving 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
- Alternate Tom Wagner – American Legion Post 489
- VACKC Liaison Scott Gryder *Absent
- VACKC Staff:
- Superintendent: Chad Lockman
- Asst. Superintendent: Olivia Laschober *Absent
- CVSO Coordinator: Donovan Torres *Absent

• Guests and concerned citizens:

Louis Smith, Aurora University Senior and Army veteran majoring in social work and working with a veteran's community newsletter.

• Correspondence

Commission Officer's Reports

- ❖ President – Mentioned the new law which states that alternates to VAC boards do not have to be veterans, but they still must be selected to their position by each Post.
- ❖ Secretary -- Motion passed to accept the 4/5/2017 minutes as presented.

- ❖ Treasurer -- Motion passed to accept the balance of \$16,576.70. Motion passed to reimburse Norm Meier for his purchase of a recorder to be used at VACKC meetings.

Superintendent's Report

- Chad submitted current VACKC fund balances, Veterans Assistance Expenditures and totals, and transportation totals.
- Updated assistance policy regarding employment of able-bodied recipients.
- Veteran face-to-face appointments have increased 68% since this time last year and 170% since 2015.
- Veteran face to face appointments have increased over 90% since this time last year.
- Fill-the Bus Food Drive at the Plano Walmart on April 29th collected \$120 and two vehicles full of non-perishable food items to be donated to MSHV.
- A 2015 Jeep Patriot was purchased on 4/7/17 for \$17000 from Ron Westphal Chevrolet.
- Upcoming national conference in San Diego 6/8 to 6/19. Part time drivers will be manning the KCVAC phones.
- Chad and Donavon attended IACO Conference in Springfield; significant veteran's legislation was discussed.
- The County Board voted to proclaim Kendall County as a *Purple Heart County* on 5/16/17.
- VACKC staff attended the Walter & Connie Payton Foundation Sweetness Run on 6/3/17; meaningful contact was made with members of the community, including several Vets who were not aware of the VACKC.
- Chad went on WSPY TV/Radio on 5/25/17 to discuss the meaning of Memorial Day and the purpose of the VACKC.
- VACKC sponsored a veteran's breakfast at the Beecher Center on 5/8/17.

➤ **Commission Committee Reports**

- ❖ Budget Committee – The executive board is also the budget committee.

➤ **Unfinished Business**

➤ **New Business**

- ❖ Olivia is working on a VAC Sponsorship Program for business to donate to the VACKC. Application forms are available.
- ❖ Discussion was held concerning preliminary FY-17 VACKC budget review. Chad passed out a comparison chart of Chicago Area VAC Budgets, 2017 Superintendent Salaries, and a rough draft of the FY-18 budget proposal to be voted on at the September VACKC Board meeting.
- ❖ Motion passed to hold a special board meeting at 5:00pm on September 6th to discuss the FY-18 budget.
- ❖ Discussion was held concerning a local veteran whose family is requesting a burial plot and financial assistance for burial or cremation and funeral when he passes away. He is not qualified for financial assistance. Motion passed to provide him with one of the burial plots that the KCVAC has at the Lincoln Cemetery.

➤ **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 –

The Moving Wall coming to Oswego end of June needs volunteers and escorts to help.

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

➤ **Salute the Flag**

➤ **Adjournment** 7:10 PM.

Submitted by Norm Meier, VACKC Secretary, 6/12/17.