

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
An advisory board to the Clark County Board of Councilors
September 10, 2015

1300 Franklin Street, Room #680
Vancouver, Washington

Chair: Bruce Maas

Vice Chair: Thomas Kula

Secretary: Mike Gibson

Meeting called to order by Bruce Maas

Roll Call: [Bold script indicates presence at meeting]

POST

40 et 8
American Legion #14
American Legion #27
American Legion #168
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
Elisa Cotton
Robert Nichols
Michael Gibson
John Lovejoy
Thomas Kula
George Raynor
Lou Basté
John Raynor
Bruce Maas
Skip Bengé
Greg Whitson
Kevin Lawson
Candis Oliver

ALTERNATE

Sam Grooms
Dean Collins
Shawn O'Neil
Richard Langenbach
Jonathan Frederick
Bubba Conway
Frank Hyatt
Randy Warneke

Gary Dowler
Dale Rex
Dave Barton
Joseph Fettig

Clark County Representative: Samantha Whitley

Guests: Judy Russel, (Veterans Assistance Center); Michael Langsdorf (citizen)

Moment of Silence in honor of 9/11

August 13, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Thomas Kula moved to approve the August minutes. Robert Nichols seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Appeals

Four August appeals for gas vouchers and licenses were approved.

Policies and Procedures

A change to the policy to allow veterans to obtain licenses or identification for needs other than for work was recommended.

Thomas Kula moved to amend the policy. Robert Nichols seconded. Motion carried.

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Nominations

No discussion at this time.

July Contractor Reports & County Fund Report

The Veterans Assistance Center received 571 veterans' visits and 966 volunteer hours; 79 veterans received emergency assistance at a cost of \$30,731.

The Free Dental Clinic treated eight veterans, for which the fund was billed \$810.

The Veterans Assistance Fund balance was \$392,095 at the end of July.

Veterans Assistance Center Update

The Center's remodel is complete. A grand re-opening is planned for early October.

Approximately 414 people attended the Stand Down, August 12, 2015.

September 20, 2015, the Center is sponsoring the Warriors and Wheels Cruise-In at Battle Ground Village.

The Veterans Assistance Center was a finalist recipient for Nonprofit Network Excellence in Volunteers.

Old Business

2015 Strategic Plan Update

Updates were made to data. Funding priorities remain the safety net emergency assistance and Stand Down. Other needs identified included: housing, case management, benefits, education, and resources.

Bob Nichols moved to accept the updated Strategic Plan. John Lovejoy seconded. Motion carried.

New Business

Stand Down funding should be raised next year to \$7,000.

John Lovejoy moved to increase the funding for next year; Bob Nichols seconded. Motion carried.

Open Forum

- September is suicide prevention month. Remind veterans of toll-free number for help. Clark College has a Stop Loss 22-Boots display on September 22. Twenty-two boots will be provided, since 22 veterans are suicide victims each day.
- Clark College is hosting a Veteran's Day participatory event to form a human shield.
- Some larger VSOs and the Veterans Assistance Center have Facebook pages for veterans. Whether the board can have a page through the County will be investigated.

Adjournment

Bob Nichols moved to adjourn the meeting; John Lovejoy seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting

October 8, 2015, at 1400 hours, in the Councilors' Hearing Room.