

DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2017
Community Outreach Building

Meeting started at 7:05 PM with President Bob Bend presiding and leading us in the pledge of allegiance.

Board members: President Bob Bend, Vice- President Celeste Latham, Secretary Luz Maria Gilkey, and Treasurer John Davis were present.

Employees: Tammy Anderson, Luz Maria Gilkey, Jill Peacock and Renee McGuan were present

New In Attendance: None

Public Comment: None

Meeting Minutes:

Correction to January 9th Meeting Minutes under Superintendent's Report Restricted Fund Balance of 2015 changed to 2016. Mike Boorsma made the motion for approval of the January minutes. Don Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report:

There is \$4,563.30 currently in the checking account. Mike Boorsma made the motion to accept the Treasurer's report subject to audit. Don Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Secretary of State's report paid and deposited dues

Superintendent's Report:

Tammy Anderson reported that last month, the Commission helped 14 Veterans and their families with shelter. There were 31 Veterans transported in 14 trips to VA Hospitals. The Commission helped Veterans collect \$1,581.00 in monthly benefits and \$4,347.00 in retroactive benefits. Mike Boorsma made the motion to accept the report and pay the bills of \$30,527.60 subject to audit, Donald Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call of votes.

Committee Reports:

Frank Beierlotzer was not present but was recommended to be our Communications Committee per say. He did provide his flyer with various functions and added the Wall that Heals Information for distribution.

Old Business:

Renee McGuan reported that the meeting for The Wall That Heals working on program and security. There is \$7,028.82 in the Bank. A second payment would bring the total to \$3,278.82. Funds are still needed. Bracelets & T-shirts are still for Sale. The Wall meetings will be held the 2nd Monday and 4th Tuesday of every month. Speakers lined up will have Colonel Larson, who has spoken the previous times, will be speaking on Sunday. They are working on obtaining Sergeant Allan Lynch, Medal of Honor recipient from Vietnam as an additional speaker. Program Thursday & Friday evening at 7 Saturday & Sunday at 2. Working on getting information on the Website. Corporate contribution so far has been a disappointment, but we have sold \$3,500 in bracelets. A suggestion was made to contact the DeKalb County Foundation for contribution. We are waiting on a letter from the School district to go through to the community. Please let the committee know if you need anything.

New Business:

Don Anderson would like to see the board members names on the Header in Meeting Agenda.

Superintendent Anderson stated that the VA has released a list of Presumptive Disabilities for anyone stationed at Camp Lejeune from 08/01/53 to 12/21/87. Please contact the office for further details on eligibility of VA Healthcare and eligibility of filing disability claims with the VA. Don Anderson asked about Camp Ginger & New River AFB-the VA does

not have anything listed for those locations at this time. Additionally, Ft. McClellan, AL is being looked at by the VA, nothing to report at this time.

We are also waiting for the release of additional Presumptive Disabilities of Bladder Cancer, Hypothyroidism and Parkinson's-Like symptoms associated with exposure to Agent Orange/Herbicides.

Additional reminder to all Veterans that served in the military – we are all susceptible to ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease).

For the Good of the Commission

Illinois House Bill 6560, amendment to the Military and Veterans Assistance Act:

- (1) "Beginning on January 1, 2017, and every January 1 thereafter, all Veterans Assistance Commissions shall publish a notice to each post, camp, unit, chapter, ship, or detachment or a Military Veterans Organization within their respective county calling on them to select Delegates and Alternates for that county's Veterans Assistance Commission by the methods provided in this subsection. The Veterans Assistance Commission shall allow each post, camp, unit, chapter, ship, or detachment of a Military Veterans Organization 60 days to respond.
- (2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4), posts, camps, units, chapters, ships, or detachments of a Military Veterans Organization shall be permitted to select one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate.
- (3) In counties with 5 or more posts, camps, units, chapters, ships, or detachments of the same Military Veterans Organization, all the constituent posts, camps, units, chapters, ships, or detachments of such Military Organizations shall be permitted to select a single Delegate and a single Alternate to represent that Military Veterans Organization instead of each constituent post, camp, unit, chapter, ship, or detachment selecting one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate. For the purposes of meeting the majority requirement of this subsection, when the constituent groups of a Military Veterans Organization choose to select a single Delegate and single Alternate, the single Delegate and single Alternate shall represent the aggregate percentage of the constituent groups.
- (4) If a post, camp, unit, chapter, ship, or detachment of a Military Veterans Organization serves more than one county then it shall be permitted to select one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for the Veterans Assistance Commission in each county in which at least 25% of its members reside."

This addition to the Military and Veterans Assistance Act was caused by an on-going lawsuit with another county VAC (Grundy). Without this change, we would have to have 100% participation by all Veterans organizations in our county at every meeting in order to be a valid VAC.

If there are no changes next month, we can approve this as an addition to our by-laws.

5 Post need to provide Delegate & Alternate paperwork: VFW-Genoa, AL-DeKalb, Hinckley, Somonauk. Amvets a Commander's signature is still needed. An email was sent out of the required DD214s still needed.

There is a blood drive in Sandwich sponsored by the VFW & AL February 25th 2017, 11:00am to 4:00pm.

VSO Continuing Education Units plus Accreditation Training will be held in San Diego June 10th-17th.

Adjourn

Motion by Steve Walz to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Mike Boorsma with no opposition.

Meeting closed at 7:34 PM

Respectfully Submitted – Luz Maria Gilkey – Secretary



DEKALB COUNTY VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBURARY 2017
STATE OF THE BUDGET



VA COUNSELING

Communication	Quantity
Phone	190
Office	103
Outreach/Home Visits	6
Email/Mail	29
Fax	23
Other	343
Total Employee Communications	694

VA AWARDANCE

	Monthly	Retro	Total Amount
This Month	\$264.12	\$3,280.75	\$3,544.87
To Date	\$1,845.12	\$7,627.75	\$9,472.87

EXPENDITURES

Direct Assistance to Veteran	(Itemized Below)	\$6,646.00
Vehicle Expenses	(Itemized Below)	\$3,555.55
Salaries & Benefits		\$25,484.73
Training & Meetings		\$4,054.23
Office Expenses		\$2,013.78
Public Relations		\$200.00
Total		\$41,954.29

DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO VETERAN

	Number Assisted	Amount
Shelter	16	\$6,295.00
Other		
Drivers Per Diem		\$351.00
Total	16	\$6,646.00

VEHICLE EXPENSES

	Quantity	Amount
Trips	22	
Transported	16	
Miles	2809	
Fuel (gallon)	191.2	
Fuel Cost		\$367.10
Maintenance	(Insurance Premium & LOF)	\$3,188.45
Total		\$3,555.55

SUMMARY

	Percentage of Budget	Amount
BUDGET	100%	\$500,000.00
PREVIOUS EXPENDITURES	-6%	-\$30,527.60
EXPEDITURES	-8%	-\$41,954.29
BALANCE	86%	\$427,518.11

Restricted Fund Balance **\$619,300.79**



DeKalb County Veterans Assistance Commission
Report for the month of February 2017
Veterans Assistance / Transportation



Towns	Shelter		Transportation
	Amount	# of Vets	# of Vets
Cortland			0
DeKalb	\$ 3,495.00	9	13
Fairdale			
Genoa			3
Hinckley	\$ 400.00	1	
Kingston			2
Kirkland			
Lee			
Malta			
Sandwich			
Shabbona	\$ 400.00	1	
Somonauk	\$ 400.00	1	
Sycamore	\$ 1,600.00	4	4
Waterman			
Total	\$ 6,295.00	16	22