

Veterans Assistance Commission of Kendall County
"Serving America's Finest"

Minutes

Date: Jan/14/2015

➤ Preliminaries:

- ❖ Called to Order: 7:02PM
- ❖ Prayer: Recited by Frank Kurtz
- ❖ Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by John Schwartz
- ❖ Meeting dedication: Dale Gilbreath, Judy Dixon, All servicemen.
- ❖ Roll Call:
12 Member Commission Board - Present: President Schwartz; Secretary Meier; Treasurer Kurz; Frank Kurtz; Art McGava, Jeff Cox, Sonny Ellen, Bob Leonard, Mike Donahue, Robert Tracy
KCVAC Staff: Steve Barrett, Chad Lockman, Cheryl Bullock.
County Board Liaison Jeff Wehrli;
Absent: Board Members VP Dahm, Ted Simpson.
- ❖ Concerned Citizens - Introduction of guests:

➤ Commission Officer's Reports:

- ❖ President's Report: (John Schwartz)
 - Thank You letter from Karen Pacheco for Aldi Certificate given during holidays.
 - Welcomed Steve and Chad to their new positions with the VACKC.
 - Requested only one person speaking at a time during board meetings.
- ❖ Secretary's Report: (Norm Meier):
 - Motion passed to accept November 5, 2014 minutes.
- ❖ Treasurer's Report (Ed Kurz):
 - Motion passed to accept the Treasurer's Report of \$11321.57 checking account which includes donations of \$500 from Marilyn Langhart, VA dialysis patient, and \$1000 from Gjovick Chevrolet.

➤ VAC Superintendent's Report: (Steve Barrett)

- Written Superintendent's Report was submitted along with the following attachments:
 - Updated VACKC Board Directory.
 - Updated VACKC budget expenditure spreadsheet, including fund balances, veterans assistance totals, and transportation metrics. FY 2015 capital forecast was estimated at \$4000; actual cost was \$2,287.93.
 - Vehicle use for post events is posted.
 - Replaced Equinox tires at cost of \$470.
 - Governor's annual report submitted to Springfield.
 - KAT vehicles are now transporting our dialysis patients.

VAC Committee Reports:

- BUDGET COMMITTEE -
- ELECTION COMMITTEE -
- IACVAC REPORT - IACVAC Conference in Decatur on Jan. 16-17.
- SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE - Sonny Ellen offered to be the fourth member of the committee. The committee will meet to discuss modifications to the criteria for eligibility for the Gene White Scholarship.
- BYLAWS COMMITTEE - The VACKC Bylaws need to be reviewed and updated.

➤ Unfinished Business:

- Update given on Grundy County Case # 13-L-73 for wrongful termination.
- Annual VACKC Christmas dinner will be replaced by a cookout in the spring or summer .

➤ New Business:

- Motion passed to reimburse Cheryl for expenses for Ed Dixon's retirement party. She will submit her bills.
- Ed said the new VACKC bus is working great.

➤ Good of the Commission:

- Art reported that a sewing business in Yorkville is making free lap quilts for veterans in need of them.
- Ed Kurz reported on his experience using the eye clinic at Hines. He was very impressed with how well he was treated.
- Chad mentioned the notices that were sent out to veterans about the VA Mobile Medical Unit in Kendall County.

- Yorkville American Legion - Friday chicken dinner followed by super lightning raffle.
- Plano American Legion -
- Oswego American Legion -
- Newark American Legion -
- Yorkville VFW -
- Tri County Vietnow -

➤ Closing Prayer - by Frank.

➤ Salute the Flag

➤ Adjournment: 8:20pm

➤ Minutes prepared by Norm Meier, VACKC Secretary.

Veterans Assistance Commission of Kendall County
"Serving America's Finest"

Minutes

Date: 04/1/2015

➤ **Preliminaries:**

- ❖ Called to Order: 7:02PM
- ❖ Prayer: Recited by Frank Kurtz
- ❖ Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by John Schwartz
- ❖ Meeting dedication: All servicemen around the world defending our nation.
- ❖ Roll Call:
12 Member Commission Board - Present: President Schwartz; Vice President Dahm; Secretary Meier; Treasurer Kurz; Jeff Cox; Frank Kurtz; Jerry Salois; John Schwartz; Bob Leonard; Ted Simpson; Robert Tracy; Mike Donahue; Ed Dixon.
KCVAC Staff: Steve Barrett, Chad Lockman, Cheryl Bullock.
County Board Liaison Jeff Wehrli;
Absent: Art McGava; Sonny Ellen.
- ❖ Concerned Citizens - Introduction of guests:

➤ **Commission Officer's Reports:**

- ❖ President's Report: (John Schwartz)
 - John announced the Gene White Scholarship winners. Discussion was held concerning changes in the award for next year.
 - Bylaws committee needs to set up a meeting.
 - Jeff reminded us that we need to adhere to the Open Meetings Act. John notified three of the new board members that they need to take the training for it.
- ❖ Secretary's Report: (Norm Meier):
 - Motion passed to accept Jan 14, 2014 minutes.
- ❖ Treasurer's Report (Ed Kurz):
 - Motion passed to accept the Treasurer's Report of \$13,116.44 checking account including a donation of \$2010.00 from the Kendall County Salute to Veterans and \$10 from Carol Gabow.

➤ **Correspondence:**

- Thank You letter for our donation to the 416th Engineer Command Association.

➤ VAC Superintendent's Report: (Steve Barrett)

- Written Superintendents Report for August was submitted along with the following attachments:
 - Updated VACKC Board Directory.
 - Updated VACKC FY-2015 budget expenditure spreadsheet and budget tracking report.
 - FY-2015 Meeting Dates
 - Veterans Assistance expenditures and transportation summary for December through March.
 - CVSO transition timeline including additional transition costs.
 - FY-2016 Budget Proposal
 - Ed Dixon questioned Steve's method of rounding budget items to the nearest one hundred dollar amounts. Advice was taken and discussion was held regarding this issue.
 - The annual county audit was conducted in January and no VAC issues were reported.
 - John, Chad and Steve attended the IACVAC Conference in January and will attend the NACVSO Conference in June. Cheryl will staff the office that week.
 - Cheryl will retire on July 1 and the VAC is seeking a new CVSO.
 - Lincoln Memorial Park donated 4 more cemetery plots for use by Kendall County indigents.

VAC Committee Reports:

- BUDGET COMMITTEE - Reviewed, discussed, and passed (by roll call) the 2015 Capital Expenditure budget proposal.
- ELECTION COMMITTEE - Nothing to report until September meeting.
- IACVAC REPORT - Steve Barrett reported on the April IACO Conference.

➤ Unfinished Business:

➤ New Business:

- The next VAC meeting has been changed to June 10. All future meetings will start at 6:30pm due to the Health Department building being closed at 8pm.

➤ Good of the Commission:

- Plano American Legion - April 16, Mystery Comedy Dinner Play.
- Oswego American Legion -
- Newark American Legion -
- Yorkville American Legion -. May 31st, College of Dupage Canoe Trip for Veterans.
- Yorkville VFW -.
- Tri County Vietnow - April 20 pizza night.
- Kendall County American Legion Posts Council will have a booth at the county fair July 31, Aug. 1-3. They are also running a beef raffle fundraiser.
- "West Town Barbershop Chorus" is putting on a show to help raise money for Wounded Warriors.
- "Naperville Responds for our Veterans" is having a benefit luncheon in Lisle.

➤ *Closing Prayer* - by Frank.

➤ *Salute the Flag*

➤ *Adjournment:* 7:50pm

➤ Minutes prepared by Norm Meier, VACKC Secretary.

Veterans Assistance Commission of Kendall County
"Serving America's Finest"

Minutes

Date: 06/10/2015

➤ **Preliminaries:**

- ❖ **Called to Order:** 6:32PM
- ❖ **Prayer:** Recited by Frank Kurtz
- ❖ **Pledge of Allegiance:** Lead by John Schwartz
- ❖ **Meeting dedication:** Mike Schwartz, 6th Cavalry helicopter pilot in Afghanistan.
- ❖ **Roll Call:**
12 Member Commission Board - **Present:** President Schwartz; Vice President Dahm; Secretary Meier; Treasurer Kurz; Jeff Cox; Frank Kurtz; John Schwartz; Bob Leonard; Robert Tracy; Mike Donahue.
KCVAC Staff: Steve Barrett, Chad Lockman, Olivia Laschober
Absent: Ed Dixon; Sonny Ellen; Ted Simpson; Jeff Wehrli.
- ❖ **Concerned Citizens - Introduction of guests:**
Cheryl Bullock introduced Olivia Laschober who is replacing her as CVSO.
Jeremy Weatherly spoke about the Home for Life home modification program.

➤ **Commission Officer's Reports:**

- ❖ **President's Report:** (John Schwartz)
 - John announced a retirement party for Cheryl on July 1st at the Health and Human Services building.
- ❖ **Secretary's Report:** (Norm Meier):
 - Motion passed to accept April 1st, 2015 minutes.
- ❖ **Treasurer's Report** (Ed Kurz):
 - Motion passed to accept the Treasurer's Report of \$10,116.44 checking account.

➤ **Correspondence:**

➤ **VAC Superintendent's Report:** (Steve Barrett)

- Written Superintendents Report for August was submitted along with the following attachments:
 - Updated VACKC Board Directory.
 - Updated VACKC FY-2015 budget expenditure spreadsheet and budget tracking report. Motion passed to approve.

- FY-2015 Meeting Dates
- Veterans Assistance expenditures and transportation summary.
- Revised Veteran's Assistance Policy and Assistance Rates. Motion passed to approve.
- OME training is an annual requirement for all board members.
- FY-2016 budget is available for approval.
- Chad and Steve attended the IACVAC Conference in Springfield April 27-28.
- Chad, Olivia, and Steve attended the NACVSO Training Conference in Appleton, Wi. On June 1-2.

VAC Committee Reports:

- BUDGET COMMITTEE -
- ELECTION COMMITTEE - Jeff and Frank are on the nominating committee.
- IACVAC REPORT -
- SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE - John, Jeff, Sonny, and Ed Kurtz met.

➤ Unfinished Business:

VACKC summer picnic date to replace Christmas dinner was not set.

➤ New Business:

Bob Tracy requested support for the St. Mary's golf outing. Request denied for lack of a motion.

➤ Good of the Commission:

- Plano American Legion
- Oswego American Legion -
- Newark American Legion
- Yorkville American Legion
- Yorkville VFW
- Tri County Vietnow
- Kendall County Salute to Veterans meal at county fairgrounds on June 19th.

➤ Closing Prayer - by Frank.

➤ Salute the Flag

➤ Adjournment: 7:35pm

- Minutes prepared by Norm Meier, VACKC Secretary.

Veterans Assistance Commission of Kendall County

Minutes

Date: 09/2/2015

➤ Preliminaries:

Called to Order: 6:35PM

Prayer: Recited by John Schwartz

Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by John Schwartz

Meeting dedication: to Judy Dixon

Roll Call: 10 Member Commission Board

- Present - President Schwartz, VP Dahm, Secretary Meier, Treasurer Kurz
Ted Simpson, Jeff Cox, Frank Kurtz, Brian Clason, Bob Leonard
- Absent - Sonny Ellen
- County Board Liaison - Jeff Wehrli
- KCVAC Staff - Steve Barrett, Chad Lockman, Olivia Laschober

Concerned Citizens - Introduction of guests:

➤ Commission Officer's Reports:

President's Report: (Jeff Cox)

No Report

Secretary's Report: (Norm Meier):

Motion passed to accept July 10, 2015 minutes.

Treasurer's Report: (Ed Kurz):

Motion passed to accept the Treasurer's Report of \$10,037.91 checking account balance including a \$100 donation from Dennis Schumacher.

➤ VAC Superintendent's Report: (Steve Barrett)

Written Superintendents Report for August was submitted along with the following attachments:

- Updated VACKC Board Directory.
- VACKC FY-2016 Budget Proposal which includes a 0.3% increase.
- 2015 Veterans Assistance Expenditure and Transportation totals.

Superintendents Highlights:

- Public Act 97-0739 enacted Jul 1 which allows veteran designator on IL. Drivers Licenses.
- President Obama signed HR91 which creates a Veterans Identification Card.
- Governor signed SB0107 which enhances disabled veteran tax exemptions.
- Scheduled Drivers License certification event for Sept. 9 at Yorkville Legion.
- Reorganized the Veterans Assistance policy effective Jul 1.
- Implemented eBenefits enrollment policy.
- FOIA Information was updated and posted on the County website.
- Updated the database for the Oswego Sr. Meals program.
- Identified seven Vietnam DIC recipients; processed five \$1000 bonus applications. (widows)
- Hines is reviewing the MMU program.
- VACKC is receiving good reviews.
- Olivia received her VA accreditation credentials and completed TRIP training.
- States Attorney employees donated clothes and school supplies for assistance recipients.

➤ *VAC Committee Reports:*

Budget Committee - Steve will met with the County Board on September 11 to present our 2016 Capital Expenditure budget proposal.

Election Committee - Current 2015 VACKC officers were renominated by acclamation. Voting will take place at the November meeting.

➤ *Unfinished Business:*

- Motion was passed to approve the revised guidelines for the Gene White Scholarship as suggested by the Gene White Scholarship committee.

➤ *New Business:*

- Motion was passed to spend \$200 maximum on flowers for Judy Dixon funeral.
- A golf outing and auction that Jeff Wehrli is involved in donated \$630 to KCVAC.
- Motion was passed to purchase additional KCVAC caps.
- KCVAC Christmas meeting will be held at Sunfield's Restaurant in Yorkville on December 5th.

➤ *Good of the Commission:*

- Newark American Legion - Hog Roast and Car Show October 24th.

➤ *Closing Prayer* - by Frank Kurtz

➤ *Salute the Flag*

➤ *Adjournment:* 7:35pm

Minutes prepared by Norm Meier, VACKC Secretary.

Veterans Assistance Commission of Kendall County
"Serving America's Finest"

Minutes

Date: 011/4/2015

➤ Preliminaries:

- ❖ Called to Order: 6:35PM
- ❖ Prayer: Recited by Frank Kurtz
- ❖ Pledge of Allegiance: Lead by Don Dahm
- ❖ Meeting dedication: to all War Dogs
- ❖ Roll Call:
10 Member Commission Board - Present: VP Don Dahm; Secretary Norm Meier;
Treasurer Ed Kurz; Frank Kurtz; Jeff Cox; Bob Leonard; Ted Simpson; Brian Clason;
KCVAC Staff: Steve Barrett, Chad Lockman, Olivia Laschober.
County Board Liaison Jeff Wehrli;
Absent: President John Schwartz; Sonny Ellen

Concerned Citizens - Introduction of guests:

➤ Commission Officer's Reports:

- ❖ President's Report: (John Schwartz)
 - No Report
- ❖ Secretary's Report: (Norm Meier):
 - Motion passed to accept September 2nd, 2015 minutes.
- ❖ Treasurer's Report (Ed Kurz):
 - Motion passed to accept the Treasurer's Report of \$10,467.91 checking account balance including a \$500 donation from Caterpillar UAW and \$50 from a family.

➤ VAC Superintendent's Report: (Steve Barrett)

- Written Superintendents Report for October was submitted along with the following attachments:
 - Updated VACKC Board Directory.
 - 2015 Veterans Assistance Expenditure and Transportation totals.
 - 2016 Meeting Dates: Jan. 6, April 6, June 1, Sept. 7, Nov. 7.

Superintendents Highlights:

- VACKC FY-2016 Budget Proposal which includes a 0.3% increase was presented by Steve to the county board without any apparent disagreement.
- Chad and Olivia staffed a Driver's License Certification event in Yorkville for 168 vets.
- Chad attended IAVAC Conference in Decatur and a Hines MMU meeting in Joliet. Hines will continue to have the Mobile Medical Unit in Oswego and Yorkville next year.
- Chad and Olivia attended DuPage VSO Seminar in Wheaton.
- KCVAC staff attended GATI training conference in Rockford.
- KCVAC staff notified disabled veterans of improvements to the real estate tax exemptions.
- KCVAC received three more cemetery plot deeds for Lincoln Memorial Park for indigent vets.

VAC Committee Reports:

- BUDGET COMMITTEE –
- ELECTION COMMITTEE – Motion was made and passed by acclamation to elect the current VACKC officers for 2016 office.
- SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE – Motion was made and passed to increase the Gene White Scholarship award to \$1500 for 1st place and \$1000 for 2nd place.

➤ Unfinished Business:

- KCVAC Christmas meeting will be held at Sunfield's Restaurant in Yorkville on December 5th, 6-8pm.
- OMA Training for the VAC board should be done in December.

➤ New Business:

- Motion was passed to buy a \$100 Aldi certificate (per family of VAC recipients) to be passed out this summer, date to be determined.
- KCVAC will be at the Plano Walmart on November 22, 9-2pm, to raise awareness of services offered and to participate in programs to help veterans and families in need.
- Motion was passed to set aside \$1000 in a discretionary fund to be used for clothing as needed by KCVAC recipients.
- The KCVAC Holiday Troop Tree will be decorated on December 5th at 10am.

➤ Good of the Commission:

- Oswego American Legion – Steak Fry November 7th. War Dog Memorial Plaque.
- Newark American Legion – Veteran's Dinner on November 8th.
- Yorkville American Legion – Raised \$30,000 for Northern Illinois Veterans during their Gala at Timber Creek restaurant.
- Oswego American Legion – Steak Fry November 7th. Holding Veterans Day services 9am.
- Plano American Legion – Holding Veterans Day services at Plano and at Sheridan. Jim Hill has a 50' x 80' American Flag available.
- Yorkville VFW --
- Olivia developed a new KCVAC brochure.

➤ Closing Prayer - by Frank

➤ Salute the Flag

➤ Adjournment: 7:35pm

➤ Minutes prepared by Norm Meier, VACKC Secretary.