



KALAMAZOO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

In the Pursuit of Extraordinary Governance...

Unofficial Minutes of
Regular Meeting of Kalamazoo County Veterans Affairs Committee
August 28, 2019

I. Call to Order by Chair, Bob Hencken at 9:08 am.

II. Roll call

Members/Liaisons Present: Bob Hencken, Bruce Binns, James Jeakle

Members/Liaisons Absent: Arthur Harris, Maury Kaercher, Laura Misner, David Brewer

Others Present: Lauren King, Celia Bañuelos, Heather Corbett, Denise Ulrich, Jim Rutherford, Roger Tuinier, Anthony Bradley, Robert Barton, Robert Reynolds

No quorum

III. Approval of Agenda

No quorum

IV. Approval of Minutes

No quorum

V. Veterans Service Office Report

L. King says the Stand Down is coming up on September 6th from 9 am – 1 pm at Anna Whitten Hall. If anyone has the time and would like to volunteer we could use your help.

L. King went to a workshop regarding the County Veterans Service Office Grant on August 16th. There will be some changes for the grant next year. There will be some mandatory trainings and there is still a lot of information to learn.

L. King says the office data is up significantly from last year. The number of claims submitted has gone up. Soldiers and Sailors relief is up from last year, but still down overall. It has been decided that applications for the new grant will no longer be taken. The internal auditing process needs to be worked on to get ready to report to the state.

Discussion ensued regarding the grant.

VI. Financial Review

D. Ulrich says there is some internal auditing that will be happening through finance. The state can call at any time and do a desk assessment. D. Ulrich states that there are not any issues with the Veterans Affairs budget.

VII. Chairman's Report

B. Hencken says he attended the block party on August 24th with L. King. There were a few veterans that stopped by.

VIII. Report from Budget Committee

No one from the Budget Committee was present at the meeting.

IX. Report from Benefits Committee

B. Binns discussed benefits that are service connected. B. Binns says we need to get more information out so that veterans know what we do in this office.

X. KCMHSAS' Time

J. Gonzalez was not in attendance to report on KCMHSAS.

XI. Presentation by Robert Barton from South County Veterans Services

R. Barton presented information regarding what they do in South County to help veterans.

XII. New Business

None at this time.

XIII. Old Business

None at this time.

XIV. Committee Member's Time

J. Jeakle asked if there could be alternatives for committee members so that there could be a quorum. B. Hencken informed him that that is not an option.

XV. Commissioner's Time

R. Tuinier discussed that there are veterans out in the community that do not know who or where we are. Discussion ensued regarding new grant.

XVI. Public Comment Time

None at this time.

XVII. Any other items

None at this time.

XVIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 am.