



Veteran Assistance Commission of Will County

Kristina McNichol – Superintendent
 Glenwood Center 2400 Glenwood Ave. Ste 110 Joliet, IL 60432
 Ph: (815)740-8389 Fax: (815)740-4329



8 June 2021

Executive Meeting

7:00 AM

In accordance with Executive Order 2020-18 issued by Governor Pritzker, meetings will be held via videoconference/telephonically through the ZOOM Meeting platform. VAC Will County Board Members will be attending meetings remotely and the general public is strongly encouraged to do the same. If a member of the public would like to attend the meeting virtually, please send an email to vacwc@willcountyillinois.com and a link will be provided.

- I. Call to Order:
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Opening Prayer: Tom Mlynek
- II. Roll Call of Attendees: Secretary

| VAC Commission | | |
|-----------------|----------------|--------|
| Attendee Name | Title | Status |
| Jack Picciolo | President | P |
| Nicholas Barry | Vice President | P |
| Denise Williams | Secretary | P |
| Amanda Koch | Sgt-At-Arms | P |
| Jim Singler | Chaplain | A |
| Tom Mlynek | Member | P |
| Janet Blue | Member | A |
| Steve Benicke | Member | P |
| Vic Martinka | Past Chairman | P |
| John York | Past Chairman | E |
| Wayne Horne | Past Chairman | A |

- III. Introduction of Guests and/or First Time Attendees:
 - Greg Roach, Past Commander, Plainfield AL
 - IV. Minutes of Previous Meeting (11 May @ 7:00 AM)
 - A. Motion: Benicke, Mlynek; Unanimous
 - V. Superintendents Report:
 - A. Award/VSO Productivity
 - a) VSO Papineau & Wiza working on Award Log: 2015 -> \$83.3M VA Benefits
 VSO Wiza reported minimal change to current, NPRC is still delayed, still processing emergency, homeless as priority
 - B. Project165 Report Valerie Tawrel
 - a) Homeless Prevention/Security Deposits: 7 House Holds
 - b) Total Served Hotel: 31 Vets; 36 Individual; Total Housed: 21 Total Ref: 14
- VSO Tawrel stated new initiative, veterans are being processed immediately, doing referrals, intakes on-site via Catholic Charities, VoA, states VACWC staff is there Mondays, Wednesdays;

states currently housing 6; states while other agencies are processing, they are paying for hotel; VACWC currently providing case management for 10

VI. New Business

A. Letter of Intent Smith Family YMCA (attached)

Letter not provided, discussion re:status, waiting for YMCA to respond, other entities are also interested in property

B. ESG Grant application accepted & awaiting approval from WC Executive

a) 6/10/2021 WCB Exec. Committee Agenda to add position to VAC Budget
County Board has to give final approval, VACWC has interviewed a potential candidate for an outreach person; Tawrel, Picciolo, Horne to attend, Solum to verify date/time of meeting

VII. Old Business

A. CARES Funding Update:

a) VAC on Finance Committee Agenda 7/6/2021 requesting remaining CARES (P165) to be moved to VAC budget

Solum reported request has been made to process reimbursement, change in process, has doubled in time for approval; funds stated approx. \$55k left, have various timelines in which to spend/receive reimbursement; Tawrel advised most have been extended through Sept 2022; Solum stated \$51k of Cares funding, \$30k of FEMA; Solum/Tawrel stated \$2500 per room/\$18k per month is current expenditure

VIII. For Good of the Commission/Public Comment

A. Veterans Day Ceremony 2021

a) Rialto has 11/14/2021 (Sunday) available – Thoughts?

Solum stated Rialto avail on the Sunday; Picciolo stated begin planning; unknown who/which entity will be organizing, i.e., City of Joliet, VACWC

Jennifer Roach advised AL magazine has an article on issues w/veterans and citizenship, re: last month's discussion; Picciolo stated there was a news report, stated VACWC is forming a committee; discussion of Oswego temporary Memorial Wall; discussion of 1969 anniversary of HMAS Melbourne in South China Sea accident, Mlynek discussed sailors lost, funeral detail; Picciolo stated looking for a hospital bed for a local vet, contact Alyssa at VAC; Greg Roach stated legislature has passed renaming of Rt. 59 as PFC Andrew Meari Memorial Hwy, stated details to come

IX. Motion to Adjourn: Martinka, Koch; unanimous

VAC Executive Committee Meeting
7/13/2021
7AM
2400 Glenwood Ave STE 110 Joliet IL 60435
VIA Zoom