

**Clark County Veteran's Resource Committee
Clark County Public Service Center
1300 Franklin St, 6th Floor, Ste #679
Vancouver, Washington
May 12, 2010**

**Chair: Morris Giesler
Secretary: Robert Nichols**

**Vice Chair: Michael Gibson
Contract Service Officer: CRMHS**

Meeting Called to order by Michael Gibson @ 1406

Roll Call: [Bold script indicates presence at meeting]

POST

40 et 8
American Legion #14
American Legion #122
American Legion #168
American Legion #176
American Legion #189
American Legion #208
DAV Chapter #4
Marine Corps League #826
VFW #1927
VFW #4278
VFW #12028
Vietnam Vets #512

American Legion 5th District
Creekside Mortgage
DSHS Veteran's Project
WorkSource Vancouver

PRIMARY

Morris Giesler
Karla Bean
Richard Puttkamer
Robert Nichols
Michael Gibson
Clinton Nelson
Brad Hunt
Bruce Maas
Lou Baste
Jim Chisholm
Stephen Stetson
Ray Saranto
Greg Whitson

Members at Large

Thomas Dombeck
Kevin Lawson
Bill Allman
Sally Garcia

SECONDARY

Jan Wojciechowski
Peggy Sheehan
Michael Edwards
Richard Langenbach
Philip Yasson
Charlotte Elznic
Robert Blevens
Michael Riley
Ron Brandon
Eino Suomi
Robert Hitchcock
Mark Woods
Jerry Keen

CLARK COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Samantha Whitley, Pete Munroe, Rebecca Royce, Kate Budd

GUESTS

Jerry Keesee – 5th District; Pat Stryker and Mike Jajan – CRMHS; Emily Stoutsenberger – PIC; Beth Brown - MOAA

Meeting Minutes: Steve Stetson motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting on April 14, 2010. Motion seconded by Clinton Nelson and passed.

Community Presentation: Morris Giesler briefly discussed a new project on behalf of Rich Axtell for a veteran's complex near the Clark County and Cowlitz County border. The project would include a monument to veterans, athletic fields for baseball, soccer, etc and a building that will contain a

restaurant/bar, office space for nonprofit and veteran organizations, and a veteran's museum. Morris explained that the project is estimated to cost \$6.9 million. Once the project is developed further Morris will invite Rich to make a presentation to the committee.

Committee Reports

Strategic Planning: Bob Nichols asked the committee if they had any questions or comments on the Strategic Plan that was developed last year. No comments were given.

Appeals: Ray Saranto stated there were no appeals to discuss.

Budget: Samantha noted that property taxes were due by April 30, so the fund received its semi-annual allocation and that it was slightly more than April 2009.

Nominations: Bob reminded the committee that the elections process will begin in September. Please inform Bob Nichols if you are interested in running for office.

Policies & Procedures: Richard Langenbach presented the following changes to the Policies and Procedures for the committee to vote on:

- Section 3.6 Food – addition of “Personal hygiene items and household cleaning products are also allowable.”
 - Richard Langenbach motioned to accept this addition, seconded by Steve Stetson. Discussion included if applicants were getting food from Share and the VAF. After some clarifications on the subject, motion carried as proposed.
- Section 3.11 Other – move the wording “Limited to \$500 per 12-month period.” This is now specified under Section 3.11.1 regarding Auto Repair.
 - Richard Langenbach motioned to accept this change, seconded by Thomas Dombeck. Discussion included if there were other sub-sections that the \$500 limit pertained to. The current Policies and Procedures do not have any other sub-sections in the “Other” category. Motion carried.
- Section 3.11.2 – addition of “Other” sub-section “Eye Care: Including, but not limited to, exams, treatment, eyeglasses or contact lenses. No prescription sunglasses. Up to \$200 per 36-month period.”
 - Richard Langenbach motioned to accept this addition, seconded by Steve Stetson. Discussions included the acceptance of contact lenses, increasing the allowance to \$250 and decreasing the timeframe to 24 months. With the deletion of contacts, the wording “but not limited to” would not be needed. Steve Stetson motioned to amend the original motion to reflect these changes, seconded by Clinton Nelson. After some discussion, the amended motion carried.
 - The wording for the proposed change to the Policies and Procedures is now, “Eye Care: Including exams, treatment and eyeglasses. No prescription sunglasses. Up to \$250 per 24-month period.” The original motion by Richard Langenbach to accept the addition to the Policies and Procedures with the changes was voted on by roll call and carried.

Richard Langenbach proposed the following changes to the By-laws:

- Change “Letter of Intent” to “Letter of Appointment” to match the RCW. This change would take place throughout the document.
- Section 2 – addition of “Members At Large must be approved by a vote of the CCVRC membership. If approved, Members At Large will have full membership with voting rights and will serve until the end of the calendar year. Members At Large can be reappointed annually in December by a vote of the CCVRC. Members At Large do not have alternate representatives.”
 - Richard Langenbach motioned to accept the changes, seconded by Peggy Sheehan. Discussion included why Members At Large cannot have an alternate representative. After some clarification on the subject, motion carried as proposed.
- Section 4.1 – addition of “All officers of the CCVRC must be members of a nationally recognized veterans organization.”
 - Richard Langenbach motioned to accept this addition, seconded by Steve Stetson. Motion carried.

Case Management Report: Samantha Whitley distributed the case management report for April. She mentioned that the report has each check listed separately rather than combined by veteran. Samantha will send out a revised report with the corrections. Mike Jajan mentioned that he helped 50-60 veterans in April.

Old Business: Samantha Whitley discussed the Project Homeless Connect report. The version that was distributed at the meeting is a condensed version; she mentioned that the full version is available upon request. The VRC approved funding up to \$2,500 for the event. The total invoiced was \$1,275.50. The event assisted 25 veterans.

Morris Giesler briefly discussed the Veterans Stand Down. They have collected \$3,000 in donations and are looking for supplies for the event.

Sally Garcia discussed the progress of the Veterans Assistance Center. She mentioned that they have found a location in downtown Vancouver and are negotiating the details. They have also adopted a basic Constitution and will be holding special elections for officer positions soon.

New Business: Morris mentioned that there is a WDVA Housing Summit June 2nd in Burien, WA. Committee members that are interested in attending can be reimbursed for travel. Information on the event is in May’s meeting packet. Samantha Whitley will provide the exact address of the event for those interested in attending. She can be reached at 360-397-2130 or Samantha.whitley@clark.wa.gov.

Open Forum: Charlotte Elznic gave an update on the Memorial Wall coming to La Center from August 4-8th. It will be displayed at the Community Center next to the library at the end of 4th Street. There will be computers to help locate names on the wall along with tracing materials. There will be limited parking for the event.

Charlotte also mentioned that the La Center post voted to award Clinton Nelson the Medal of Valor.

Jerry Keesee displayed several photographs of a memorial dedication for PFC Chris Waltz, a local veteran killed in Afghanistan in October 2009.

Several events will be taking place this month in honor of Memorial Day:

- Friends of the Carpenter flagpole dedication ceremony; May 29th
- Barracks Memorial; May 31st at 1100
- Amboy Territorial Grounds Memorial; May 31st at 1100
- Washougal Cemetery Memorial; May 31st at 1100
- La Center Post Memorial; May 31st at 1000

Meeting adjourned at 1532.

Next meeting: June 9, 2010 at 1400.