

Clark County Veteran's Resource Committee
40 et 8 Chateau
7607 NE 26th Avenue
Vancouver, Washington
November 4, 2009

Chair: Peggy Sheehan
Secretary: Robert Nichols

Vice Chair: Michael Gibson
Contract Service Officer: Mike Jajan

Meeting Called to order by Peggy Sheehan @ 1402

Roll Call: [Bold script indicates presence at meeting]

POST

40 et 8
American Legion 5th District
American Legion #14
American Legion #122
American Legion #168
American Legion #176
American Legion #208
DAV Chapter #4
DSHS Veteran's Project
Marine Corps League #826
VFW #4278
VFW #7824
VFW #12028
Vietnam Vets #512
American Legion #189
American Vets #6
VFW #1927
VFW #12011

PRIMARY

Daniel Tarbell
Thomas Dombeck
Peggy Sheehan
Richard Puttkamer
Robert Nichols
Michael Gibson

Bruce Maas
Bill Allman
Lou Baste
Stephen Stetson
William Weglage
Ray Saranto
Greg Whitson
INACTIVE
INACTIVE
INACTIVE
INACTIVE

SECONDARY

John Clapp

Charles Bailey
Jack Jones
William Romine
Philip Yasson
Jerry Keesee
Frank Samaya

Ron Brandon
Robert Hitchcock

Mark Woods
Jerry Keen

American Legion Service Officer **Mike Jajan**

CLARK COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Pete Munroe, Rebecca Royce, Samantha Whitley

GUESTS

Karla Bean, Morris Giesler – 40 et 8, Sally Garcia – WorkSource, John Russell – MCL 826, Bob Blevens – AL 208, Paul Richmond & Alex Strong – Vet Corps

Community Presentation: Sally Garcia with WorkSource made a special request to be considered a member of the Veterans Resource Committee with voting rights. She explained that she has been a regular participant in the committee and she is a veteran. Pete mentioned that he would look at the By-laws for the committee and discuss it at the next meeting.

Paul Richmond and Alex Strong with the Vet Corps gave a brief presentation on the Vet Corps program. The program was recently formed by a grant through the Washington State Dept of Veterans Affairs. The program is designed to help find veterans that qualify for benefits but have not been receiving them and to help veterans find benefits they may qualify for. They are located in Building 18 on the Vancouver VA campus.

Meeting Minutes: Stephen Stetson motioned to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2009 meeting. Motion seconded by Bill Bailey and passed.

Committee Reports

Nominations: The following nominations were previously accepted. Mike Gibson asked the committee if there were any new nominations; none were given. Voting will be held at the December meeting.

- Chair: Morris Giesler – 40 et 8
- Vice Chair: Mike Gibson – AL #176
- Secretary: Bob Nichols – AL #168

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

Service Officer's Report: Mike Jajan presented the Service Officer's report for October with expenses of \$21,461.47. Mike informed the committee that LIHEAP services have begun as of November 4th. Any veterans requesting utility assistance will need to supply a denial letter from that program before they can qualify through the Veterans Service Fund. Mike also mentioned that there have already been 15 requests for rent assistance in November.

Share Caseworker's Report: Pete Munroe reviewed Share's September report. There were two veterans remaining in the program. One participant is awaiting approval into the HUD-VASH program; the other has been denied the program and is looking for alternative housing.

Old Business: Pete discussed that the RFP for the Service Officer contract has been released. Applications are due November 13th. County staff will do an administrative review of applications to make sure each proposer meets minimum agency qualifications. A committee composed of VRC members and County staff will then review the proposals and agency presentations. The committee will present the results at the December VRC meeting.

Rebecca reminded the committee to get their 2010 Letters of Appointment (LOA) in as soon as possible. Only six posts have submitted them so far. Posts that do not submit LOAs will not have voting rights as of January. LOAs were sent out October 1st with return prepaid envelopes.

Pete reminded the committee that WorkSource will be having a Veterans Hiring Event on November 13th.

New Business: Mike Gibson discussed that he has been requested to host another "Southwest Washington Reintegration Summit" by the VA hospital. The last one was funded by the VRC for approximately \$750. They had 83 participants that attended breakout sessions for housing, employment, healthcare, education among others. For this summit, Mike has requested attendance by local officials

also. Mike proposed the committee fund the next summit to be held on December 11th from 0830 to 1200. He is requesting up to \$1,000, similar to the last request for space rental and technical support at Clark College and to provide refreshments. Bill Bailey motioned to approve the request, seconded by Greg Whitson and approved.

Good of the Order: Karla Bean was asked to give a brief update on the Stand Down. She mentioned that the committee is already working on the 2010 Stand Down. Any assistance is greatly appreciated. The next meeting is December 14th at the Elks Club. She also mentioned that they are looking for a new storage location for the supplies that were not used at the last Stand Down. The facility would need to be accessible throughout the week. If you know of a location, at least 10x10 area, please contact her.

There are several events coming up for Veterans Day:

- ◆ Friday, November 6th at 1000 – Camas/Washougal at the ramp behind Wesley Ford
- ◆ Sunday, November 8th – Free meal at McCormick and Schmicks
- ◆ Wednesday, November 11th – Free meal at Applebee's
- ◆ Wednesday, November 11th at 1100 – Barracks Cemetery off Fourth Plain
- ◆ Wednesday, November 11th 1300 to 1700 – Amboy/Yacolt, VFW post offering free lunch at Country Kitchen
- ◆ Wednesday, November 11th – Post 14 offering free lunch

Other events coming up include:

- ◆ Saturday, November 14th at 1330 – Yacolt Memorial Eagle Scout ceremony for new flag pole and obelisk
- ◆ Wednesday, November 18th at 1600 – Post 14 is looking for volunteers needed for gift wrapping presents to deliver to the VA hospital. Special taco dinner will start at 1700; 2 for \$1.50
- ◆ Tuesday, December 8th at 1100 – VA Massing of the Colors. Requesting more participants.

Meeting adjourned at 1451.

Next meeting: December 9, 2009 at 1400.