

Veteran Advisory Board Meeting Minutes, April 17, 2019

1. Roll Call:

Board Members in attendance: Ken Slininger, John Nordine, Gary Bracht, Fil Rivera, Rex Davis, Jim Brakebill, Mark Owens, Carrie McCormick, and Eileen Boylston

Absent: None

VSO: Jerry Gingrich

Guests: Rob Bates, Grant Integrated Services
Walter Kein, VSO @ Post 209

2. Reading and approval of the old minutes.

Old Business:

- Reviewed Grant County Veteran Assistance Fund. Jerry provided run down on 2019 spending.
- Veterans Court. Gary and Rob Bates will be looking into whether it is feasible to do a Veterans Court in Grant County.
- Stand Down.
 - Committee was formed to plan our next Stand Down. Members of this committee are: Eileen Boylston, Gary Bracht, Carrie McCormick, Ken Slininger, Jerry Gingrich, Mark Owens, and Rob Bates.
 - Save the Date has been sent to all prior attendees.
 - Board agreed to go with our usual flyer with updated information such as date. Gary Bracht will arrange for it to be printed by our next meeting.
 - Karen and her group will provide our lunch for the event. Eileen will be back in touch when it is closer.
 - Discussed continuing to raffle, but to raffle only a few items. Carey agreed to seek donations for the raffle.
 - Carey will ask her friend to cut hair on the day of the event.
 - Discussed the Mobile Dental Van, we will need to have two licensed dentists and two dental assists; members will provide names of who might be interested at the next Stand Down planning meeting. Discussed have back-up dentists in case one or both have something come up and are not able to participate.
 - Eileen will check for volunteers to help, i.e., SkillSource & Fairchild. Ken said that he will have the Job Corps students help with set up like they have in the past.
 - Rex will invite the Civil Air Patrol to assist with the posting of the colors. Ken will check with the American Legion to post colors (with Civic Air Patrol); Ken will also see if they have a student that can sing the National Anthem for us.
 - Jerry shared some of what we currently have in storage for the Stand Down part of our event.

- Jerry will check on the status of having the VA Mobile Medical Van to come to our event.
- Eileen will check with Spokane VA about getting someone to do flu shots, and ask about the shingles shot.
- *Not discussed, but we will need to talk about if the VAB will provide a donation to the Mobile Dental Clinic to offset some of their costs. (Eileen emailed today VAB members to talk about this.)*
- Stand Down Committee Meeting: ECC Building at Grand County Fairgrounds, 4pm, on Tuesday, May 21st.
- Fil noted that they still do not have PTSD counselors at the Veteran Center, he indicated that this service may begin again in May or June.

3. New Business:

- Elections: Eileen Boylston and Mark Owen were re-appointed.
- Fil Rivera elected to not be re-appointed to the board. Jerry will see if the Commissioners want to use the list of applicants from before to find a new member, or put out a new offering to apply.
- New hours for vouchers at the Veterans Center, Wednesdays only; Post 209 will be available to do vouchers Tuesdays, 9am to noon; and Carey is available to do vouchers whenever needed (they need to call first to arrange).
- Jerry Krause was to talk about the homeless plan he has been working on, he was unable to come, so this will be moved to the July meeting.
- Jerry stated the Commissioner's want the VAB to consider taking on some projects. Some suggestions were: Women's' issues in Grant County, potentially creating a memorial, How to address the Homeless Veterans issues. Asked VAB to bring ideas to our July meeting.

4. Next meeting:

- Quarterly Meeting. Wednesday, July 10, 2019, 4pm, Grant County Courthouse, Ephrata.