

McHenry County Veterans Assistance Commission

Minutes of the General Meeting

June 15, 2011

Chairman Joe Kersten called the meeting of the Veterans Assistance Commission to order at 1923 the meeting took place at the County Government Center, 667 Ware Rd Woodstock IL.

Chairman Joe Kersten led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Joe Kersten presented the Invocation

Secretary, Mike Wisniewski called the roll. A quorum of officers and posts were present.

Officer's present: (*Appointed)

Chairman	Joseph Kersten	Sr. Vice Chairman	Ted Andersen
Jr. Vice Chairman	Excused	VAC Inc Treasurer	Excused
Judge Advocate	Raymond Rigsby	Sergeant At Arms	Jim Koch
McHenry County Board Rep.	Mary Donner	Parliamentarian*	Raymond Rigsby
Chaplain*	Roger Lasko	IACVAC Delegate*	Excused
IACVAC Alternate*	Raymond Rigsby	Secretary *	Michael Wisniewski

Posts Represented:

American Legion	#119 Fox River Grove Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	#171 Crystal Lake Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#192 Marengo Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#253 Richmond Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#265 Harvard Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#276 Cary Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#412 Woodstock Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#491 McHenry Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#606 Hebron Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#673 Huntley Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#1231 Lake In the Hills Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	
	AMVETS	#245 Cary-Grove Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
Veterans Of Foreign Wars	#4600 McHenry Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	#5040 Woodstock Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	#8249 Harvard Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#11496 Crystal Lake Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
Marine Corps League Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Polish Legion Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VietNow Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
Guests	Mrs. Julia E. Cozzi as the McHenry County Representative of the Salvation Army's Golden Diners Program. Mr. Lee Tottman as a "newbie" who will be replacing deceased delegate, Al Gatz for the McHenry County Marine Corps League.	

Officers Remarks – Chairman, Joe Kersten remarked on the positive feedback from VAC clients who were impressed by the courtesy and helpfulness of the VAC drivers and VAC clients who appreciate the assistance in receiving general assistance and in filing the paperwork for and resolving VA disability claims by the VAC office staff.

Routine Reports:

The May Minutes – A copy of the MayMinutes was made available to all Delegates and Alternates. A motion to accept the May minutes was made by Carl Stengele and seconded by Mary Donner. A unanimous vote passed the motion.

VAC Financial Report – A copy of the May financial report was made available to all delegates and alternates.

The proposed budget useage was expected to be 50% of the allotted funds.

The actual budget useage came out to be 38.24% of the allotted funds.

Veterans assistance requests are up in all categories of VAC services with financial assistance requests going up 25%.

A motion to accept the Superintendent’s report was made by Don Baile and seconded by Robert DePaul. A unanimous vote passed the motion.

Public Participation – Mrs Julia E. Cozzi was here to speak on the Salvation Army's Golden Diners Program. She is the agency's McHenry County Coordinator of the program and her briefing had the following: Clients who are 60 years old or more can get free meals under the program's congregate dining at various locations and qualified seniors can get home delivered meals. The congregate meals are normally available from 11:30 AM to 12:15 PM daily. Mrs Julia Cozzi wishes for more veterans to use the Golden Diners Program and she would like to give presentations to the members of the local military service organizations about the program. She passed out some flyers with the program's basic facts and contact information.

Correspondence – 1) Congressman, Mr. Joe Walsh wishes to invite veterans to attend a Round Table on June 29th, 2011 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at the Warren Township Senior Center. (17801 W. Washington Street, Gurnee) The Round Table is a forum where Mr. Joe Walsh can discuss issues and concerns with small groups of veterans. RSVPs are requested at his Fox Lake office or call 1(847)973-9341.

2) The Union American Legion Post #482 has dissolved as of May 31,2011. Please do not send any more correspondence after that date. The contact person is Lyle Krause and he is now with the Marengo American Legion Post #192.

3) The Senior Services Associates Incorporation's Activity Director, Mrs Claudia Aquilina thanked VAC Superintendant, Mike Iwanicki for participating in the Senior Services Memorial Day Celebration and speaking at the Senior Forum about Veteran's Benefits.

4) The PLAV Post #188 Ladies Auxiliary thanked VAC Superintendant, Mike Iwanicki for the use of a VAC bus and driver for a trip to the Capt. James Lovell FHCC to visit and feed more veterans.

Committee Reports:

Executive Board Meeting – Nothing to report.

By-Laws Committee – Nothing to report

Corporate Report – The VAC Inc held their regular monthly meeting prior to the regular meeting.

Public Relations Committee – Ted Anderson presented the following:

1) The Habitat For Humanity organization is planning to build three new houses in McHenry and one of the new homes will be a home specially designed and equipped for a severely disabled veteran.

- 2) The Veteran and Family Services (Fire Base Alpha) will host a credit counseling seminar on June 23rd, 2011, beginning at 6:00 PM.
- 3) The AMVETS Post #245 will host their 24th annual Veterans Picnic on Wednesday, June 29th from 10 AM to 4 PM at the Lions Park in Fox River Grove. The guests are the hospitalized veterans from the Hines VA Medical Center and the Capt. James Lovell FHCC.
- 4) Fire Base Alpha will host a seminar on PTSD on June 23rd, 2011 during the evening.
- 5) Fire Base Alpha will host a food giveaway from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of the month beginning on July 7th, 2011. Veterans need to apply for and get an authorization card from the VAC prior to the food giveaways and the card is good through December 31st, 2011. The VAC will supply instructions with the card.
- 6) The Brave Hearts Therapeutic Riding School will host a picnic for 30 local veterans--you can register to attend at Fire Base Alpha.
- 6) All veterans are invited to drop in for a visit at Fire Base Alpha which is now open for business during the week from Monday through Friday at 5330 West Elm Street (Rte. 120) in McHenry.

Report of IACVAC Delegate – Nothing to report.

Superintendents Report – T

- 1) The VAC Budget Chairman, Mary Donner mentioned that the VAC office usage for all VAC services and programs is up dramatically (68% on VA claims assistance alone). the VAC staff deserves raises due to the heavier workload. VAC drivers had no raise in pay for 3 years and the office staff had no raise in pay for 2 years . The proposed VAC staff raise level is to be 2% in the merit pool and 2.89% in the salary base for Superintendant, VSO, and Administration Staff. The proposal shows only 1.44% over the 2010-2011 budget amounts overall. Ted Andersen made the motion to accept the budget proposal (subject to changes between now and final approval in October). Pat Conley sended the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.
- 2) The VAC will have a booth at the McHenry County Fair from Wednesday, August 3rd through Sunday, August 7th, 2011, adjacent to the AMVETS booth in one of the buildings. Volunteers are needed to supplement the VAC staff in manning the booth. Call the VAC office for more information at 1(815)334-4229.
- 3) A grant of \$7229.00 was awarded to the VAC for to remodel the old high-top van into a mobile office for the VAC Outreach Program.
- 4) A grant to provide funding for veterans to get dental and eyecare services is pending.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to Old Business

There was no old or unfinished business.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to New Business

There was no new business.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor for the good of the association.

Chaplain, Roger Lasko presented the Benediction.

Meeting Adjourned by Chairman Joe Kersten at 2017.

Michael Wisniewski

Respectfully Submitted
Mike Wisniewski
Electronically Signed

May Financial Report

Month of May

Print Date: 6/2/2011

Assistance Summary
5/1/2011 Thru 5/31/2011

Page Numb

Total Requested: \$44310.14
Total Assisted: \$44294.13

Financial Aid Type	Total Entries	Requested	Assisted
Dental	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Eyeglasses	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Food	45	\$1125.00	\$1125.00
Gasoline	5	\$195.00	\$178.99
Housing Mortgage	4	\$1719.17	\$1719.17
Housing Rent	25	\$11373.96	\$11373.96
Independent Living	7	\$1690.67	\$1690.67
Medical	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	1	\$35.09	\$35.09
Reimbursement of Financial Assistance	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transportation Bus Ticket	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transportation Cab	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transportation Train	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Utilities Electric	13	\$2513.18	\$2513.18
Utilities Gas	11	\$2420.97	\$2420.97
Utilities Propane or Fuel Oil	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Utilities Sewer	1	\$68.00	\$68.00
Utilities Telephone	2	\$112.28	\$112.28
Utilities Trash	2	\$136.35	\$136.35
Utilities Water	4	\$270.60	\$270.60
VAC Bus Service	27	\$6335.84	\$6335.84
VAC Office	27	\$15984.97	\$15984.97

Budget Information Year to Date

May – Year to Date

Personnel					Goal	50.0%		Projected
Line No.	Line Item	Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.		Annual
3010	Salaries	\$ 112,149.00	\$ 57,673.46	\$ 54,475.54	51.4%	48.6%		\$ 115,346.92
3020	Part Time	\$ 25,802.00	\$ 12,146.24	\$ 13,655.76	47.1%	52.9%		\$ 24,292.48
3030	Per Diem	\$ 56,995.00	\$ 20,831.28	\$ 36,163.72	36.5%	63.5%		\$ 41,662.56
3050	Merit Pool	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!		\$ -
3100	Uniform All.	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ 350.00	0.0%	100.0%		\$ -
3105	SS/Co. Share	\$ 14,914.00	\$ 6,791.69	\$ 8,122.31	45.5%	54.5%		\$ 13,583.38
3110	IMRF	\$ 14,182.00	\$ 6,748.91	\$ 7,433.09	47.6%	52.4%		\$ 13,497.82
3146	Hlth. Ins.	\$ 25,511.00	\$ 10,204.40	\$ 15,306.60	40.0%	60.0%		\$ 20,408.80
Personnel		\$ 249,903.00	\$ 114,395.98	\$ 135,507.02	45.78%	54.22%		\$ 228,791.96
Contractural & Assistance		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.		
4001	Contract Service	\$ 10,200.00	\$ 5,679.72	\$ 4,520.28	55.7%	44.3%		\$ 11,359.44
4005	Dues/Mbrshps	\$ 500.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 440.00	12.0%	88.0%		\$ 120.00
4006	Training	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 905.00	\$ 695.00	56.6%	43.4%		\$ 1,810.00
4008	Subscriptions	\$ 300.00	\$ 187.72	\$ 112.28	62.6%	37.4%		\$ 375.44
4055	Contract Printing	\$ 800.00	\$ 299.71	\$ 500.29	37.5%	62.5%		\$ 599.42
4060	Legal Note/Adv.	\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ 600.00	0.0%	100.0%		\$ -
4096	Telecomm.	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,033.89	\$ 2,966.11	25.8%	74.2%		\$ 2,067.78
4200	Vets Assist	\$ 290,962.00	\$ 93,977.61	\$ 196,984.39	32.3%	67.7%		\$ 187,955.22
4246	Medical Service	\$ -	\$ 810.00	\$ (810.00)	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!		\$ 1,620.00
4306	Vehicle Maint.	\$ 6,700.00	\$ 1,045.11	\$ 5,654.89	15.6%	84.4%		\$ 2,090.22
4321	VIMS Maint	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	0.0%	100.0%		\$ -
Contractural		\$ 316,412.00	\$ 103,998.76	\$ 212,413.24	32.87%	67.13%		\$ 207,997.52
Supplies & Equipment		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.		
5010	Off. Supplies	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 507.79	\$ 1,292.21	28.2%	71.8%		\$ 1,015.58
5020	Off. Equip.	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 162.50	\$ 837.50	16.3%	83.8%		\$ 325.00
5040	Mileage	\$ 900.00	\$ 161.75	\$ 738.25	18.0%	82.0%		\$ 323.50
5050	Mtg. Exp.	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 3,125.03	\$ 2,874.97	52.1%	47.9%		\$ 6,250.06
5115	Comp. Hardware	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 294.00	\$ 706.00	29.4%	70.6%		
5125	Comp. Software	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%		\$ -
5160	POL	\$ 10,700.00	\$ 1,992.72	\$ 8,707.28	18.6%	81.4%		\$ 3,985.44
5210	Publications	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	0.0%	100.0%		\$ -
5251	Promo Events	\$ 600.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 50.00	92%	8%		\$ 1,100.00
Equipment		\$ 22,600.00	\$ 6,793.79	\$ 15,756.21	30.06%	69.72%		\$ 13,587.58
Other		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.		
6020	Vehicle	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%		\$ -
6810	Fund Bal. Enh.	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%		\$ -
Totals		\$ 588,915.00	\$ 225,188.53	\$ 363,676.47	38.24%	61.75%		\$ 450,377.06