

McHenry County Veterans Assistance Commission

Minutes of the General Meeting

October 18, 2011

Chairman Joe Kersten called the meeting of the Veterans Assistance Commission to order at 1940 the meeting took place at the McHenry County Government Center, 667 Ware Rd, Woodstock.

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

Chaplain, Roger Lasko 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	Randy Granath	VAC Inc Treasurer	Gerald Raske
Judge Advocate	Raymond Rigsby	Sergeant At Arms	Jim Koch
McHenry County Board Rep.	Mary Donner	Parliamentarian*	Raymond Rigsby
Chaplain*	Roger Lasko	IACVAC Delegate*	
IACVAC Alternate*	Raymond Rigsby	Secretary *	Michael Wisniewski

Posts Represented:

American Legion	#119 Fox River Grove Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#171 Crystal Lake Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	#606 Hebron Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	#673 Huntley Del <input 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 checked="" 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"/>	#12014 Crystal Lake Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marine Corps League Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Polish Legion Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	VietNow Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Guests	Mr. Jerry Macey (Share food buying coop); Mr. William Richards Jr.; Mr. Paul Mueller.	

Officers Remarks – There were no Officer's Report.

Routine Reports:

The September Minutes – A copy of the September Minutes was made available to all Delegates and Alternates. A couple of corrections were addressed regarding the roll call. A motion to accept the September minutes as corrected was made by Don Stage and seconded by Robert DePaul. A unanimous vote passed the motion.

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

The VAC continues to spend less than the allotted funds up through September as follows--the VAC used 60.6% of the allotted funds while the projected useage of allotted funds was 83.3%. The amount of allotted funds are projected to be something between \$428,000.00 and \$435,000.00 for the 2011 year out of an original budget of \$588,915.00. The bus grant of \$6764.87 has been used up in the vehicle rehab project however funds need to be drawn from the bus fund once the VAC delegation gives the OK to do so.

A motion to accept the Superintendent's report was made by Don Stage and seconded by Lee Tottman. A unanimous vote passed the motion.

Public Participation – 1) Mr. Jerry Macey is a volunteer from the SHARE food purchasing co-operation who spoke about the services offered by SHARE. This is a private 501(c)(3) organization who allows anyone to save on food costs by offering food packages at a 30% to 50% savings over retail prices. SHARE offers holiday meal deals and \$34.00 food packages that offer a wide variety of foods and are seeking to work with local posts to benefit their membership. The question and answer session did raise a lot of questions such as using the VAC as a clearinghouse for providing SHARE info to the posts and helping to stretch VAC food vouchers. SHARE operates out of the McHenry Senior Citizen Center. SHARE also is seeking sponsors to help homebound veterans by pay for the \$34.00 basic food packages. Mary Donner suggested that the VAC collect questions about SHARE todiscuss with Jerry Macey at a future visit.

2) Mr Paul Mueller is a local veteran who wanted to discuss transportation issues in McHenry--the apparent lack of convenient public transportation in the county to allow veterans to make their scheduled appointments at the McHenry VA clinic. He has tried to use the Faith-In-Action to get rides but he is too young (in his fifties) and the Pace Dial-A-Ride don't get him to the clinic on time for his appointments. Mary Donner asked Paul Mueller to discuss with her his transportation problems and let him know about the VAC ride-share program with volunteer drivers and also recommended local posts set up phone trees of volunteer ride-share drivers.

3) Mr Steve Haynor is from the Crystal Lake VFW Post #12014 and dropped in to see what work is done at the VAC meetings and to ask if the post roll call form reads Crystal Lake VFW #12014. He was with the two Crystal Lake VFW delegates.

Correspondence – The VAC staff received a thank-you note from a satisfied bus rider who visited the Capt. Lovell FHCC and who also learned about the VAC as well.

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 – Nothing to report.

Report of IACVAC Delegate – The VAC Superintendent gave out a handout that gave a briefing on the IACVAC Meetings and the CEU reaccreditation training from NACVSO along with his classes on VA pensions and other benefits and on Medicaid basics.

Superintendents Report – The McHenry County Government Budget is beginning to come together and some highlights are (1) a 3% pay raise is factored into the budget for all employees--and VAC staff (2) The proposed 3% raise goes into effect on December 1st, 2011 or when the budget is approved. Mary Donner is the person to call about the proposed 2012 McHenry County Government Budget. The best way to see how the county board works is to attend a County Board Meeting and see your government in action! The next County Board Meeting is scheduled for November 15th at 7.00 PM at the. The VAC needs more office space and staff increases with the hope the VAC moves into the vacant regional school superintendant offices across the hall.

Hourly-wage employees are now on the ADP Time Tracking System--a kind of personal punch clock.

The VAC Superintendent attended a Capt. James A. Lovell FHCC Strategic Planning Conference at Elkhorn Lake, Wisconsin along with the Lake County VAC Superintendent and the Capt. Lovell FHCC staff to plan a medium to long term plan to utilize VA resources during lean fiscal times while providing better health care to our veterans with more emphasis on patient centered care (optimizing overall patient care rather than emphasizing just treating chronic conditions.) while continuing upgrades to VA staffing and facilities.

A new organization--the Veterans Conservation Corps has just formed with the aim of using veterans to help maintain and upgrade our local and state parklands. This organization will help park staff manage habitats by cutting back invasive species of plants and improve animal habitats such as building nesting boxes for birds for example. The next meeting of this group will be at Volo Bog.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to Old Business

1) Ted Andersen reported that the Supportive Service For Veterans Families is hosting an Open House at the McHenry Drop-In Center at 5330 W. Elm Street (RTE #120) on Thursday, October 20th from 4.00PM to 7.00 PM.

Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to New Business

1) Erik Neider made a motion for permission for the VAC Superintendent to draw \$2000.00 from the VAC Bus fund to pay the costs of completing the VAC Mobile Office Project. Ted Andersen seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Any cost overruns are to be paid by the VAC Superintendent.

2) Chairman, Joe Kersten opened to the floor for the nomination of candidates to run for VAC elective offices for the 2012 term of office as per VAC By-Laws Article VI. The first round of nominations resulted in the following: SENIOR Vice Chairman == Open; Judge Advocate == Raymond Rigsby; VietNam Rep (Appeals Board) == Open; Gulf War Rep. (Appeals Board) == Open. Chairman, Joe Kersten then closed the nominations.

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

1) The Fox River VFW Post #4600 of McHenry is hosting a Dinner in honor of Korean War Veterans at the post on November 19th from Noon to 4:00 PM. Korean War Veterans eat free, all others pay only \$10.00 per plate.

2) The Fox River VFW Post #4600 of McHenry is hosting a Collier House Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on November 5th from 5.00 PM to 7.30 PM.

3) The Superintendent asked for the Commission to consider if there was a desire to have a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon again in January. Iwanicki will provide cost estimates at the november meeting.

Chaplain, Roger Lasko presented the Benediction.

Meeting Adjourned by Chairman Joe Kersten at 2014.

Michael Wisniewski

Respectfully Submitted
 Mike Wisniewski
 Electronically Signed

Nomination of Officers for 2012		
Elected Positions	Current Officer	Nomination
Chairman	Joe Kersten	
Sr. Vice Chairman	Ted Anderson	OPEN
Jr. Vice Chairman	Randy Granath	
Judge Advocate	Ray Rigsby	Ray Rigsby
Sergeant-at-Arms	Jim Koch	
Board of Appeals Vietnam 2016	Gene Boxlitner	Open
Board of Appeals WWII 2014	Ken Kraft	
Board of Appeals Korea 2015	Jerry Raske	
Board of Appeals Gulf 2014	Mike Wisniewski	
Board of Appeals Member at Large 2015	Randy Granath	
Reinstatement Vote		
uperintendent Michael A. Iwanicki		
Appointed by Chairman Elect		
Chaplain	Roger Lasko	
Parliamentarian	Ray Rigsby	
IACVAC Delegate	Ray Rigsby	
IACVAC Alternate	Bob Howe	
Secretary	Mike Wisniewski	
Treasurer (VAC Inc)	Gerald Raske	

September Financial Report – Month

Print Date: 10/3/2011

Assistance Summary
9/1/2011 Thru 9/30/2011

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Total Requested:	\$43386.84
Total Assisted:	\$43386.84

Financial Aid Type	Total Entries	Requested	Assisted
Dental	2	\$311.10	\$311.10
Eyeglasses	5	\$1310.00	\$1310.00
Food	35	\$879.90	\$879.90
Gasoline	4	\$153.60	\$153.60
Housing Mortgage	4	\$1800.52	\$1800.52
Housing Rent	18	\$8541.32	\$8541.32
Independent Living	13	\$2347.14	\$2347.14
Medical	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
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	\$2006.24	\$2006.24
Utilities Gas	6	\$694.70	\$694.70
Utilities Propane or Fuel Oil	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Utilities Sewer	2	\$83.04	\$83.04
Utilities Telephone	7	\$394.60	\$394.60
Utilities Trash	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Utilities Water	6	\$769.52	\$769.52
VAC Bus Service	23	\$5753.22	\$5753.22
VAC Office	24	\$18341.94	\$18341.94

Bus Fund Balance \$6,765.43

September Financial Report – YTD

Personnel					Goal	83.3%	Projected
Line No.	Line Item	Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	Annual
3010	Salaries	\$ 112,149.00	\$ 98,352.76	\$ 13,796.24	87.7%	12.3%	\$ 118,023.31
3020	Part Time	\$ 25,802.00	\$ 21,320.57	\$ 4,481.43	82.6%	17.4%	\$ 25,584.68
3030	Per Diem	\$ 56,995.00	\$ 36,098.99	\$ 20,896.01	63.3%	36.7%	\$ 43,318.79
3050	Merit Pool	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	\$ -
3100	Uniform All.	\$ 350.00	\$ 87.00	\$ 263.00	24.9%	75.1%	\$ 104.40
3105	SS/Co. Share	\$ 14,914.00	\$ 11,768.62	\$ 3,145.38	78.9%	21.1%	\$ 14,122.34
3110	IMRF	\$ 14,182.00	\$ 11,873.93	\$ 2,308.07	83.7%	16.3%	\$ 14,248.72
3146	Hlth. Ins.	\$ 25,511.00	\$ 18,653.64	\$ 6,857.36	73.1%	26.9%	\$ 22,384.37
Personnel		\$ 249,903.00	\$ 198,155.51	\$ 51,747.49	79.29%	20.71%	\$ 237,786.61
Contractual & Assistance		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
4001	Contract Service	\$ 10,200.00	\$ 8,553.84	\$ 1,646.16	83.9%	16.1%	\$ 10,264.61
4005	Dues/Mbrshps	\$ 500.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 440.00	12.0%	88.0%	\$ 72.00
4006	Training	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,105.00	\$ 495.00	69.1%	30.9%	\$ 1,326.00
4008	Subscriptions	\$ 300.00	\$ 187.72	\$ 112.28	62.6%	37.4%	\$ 225.26
4055	Contract Printing	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,260.17	\$ (460.17)	157.5%	-57.5%	\$ 1,512.20
4060	Legal Note/Adv.	\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ 600.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
4096	Telecomm.	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,861.81	\$ 2,138.19	46.5%	53.5%	\$ 2,234.17
4200	Vets Assist	\$ 290,962.00	\$ 169,162.38	\$ 121,799.62	58.1%	41.9%	\$ 202,994.86
4246	Medical Service	\$ -	\$ (33,222.90)	\$ 33,222.90	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	\$ (39,867.48)
4306	Vehicle Maint.	\$ 6,700.00	\$ (2,044.91)	\$ 8,744.91	-30.5%	130.5%	\$ (2,453.89)
4321	VIMS Maint	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
Contractual		\$ 316,412.00	\$ 146,923.11	\$ 169,488.89	46.43%	53.57%	\$ 176,307.73
Supplies & Equipment		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
5010	Off. Supplies	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 728.80	\$ 1,071.20	40.5%	59.5%	\$ 874.56
5020	Off. Equip.	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (667.67)	\$ 1,667.67	-66.8%	166.8%	\$ (801.20)
5040	Mileage	\$ 900.00	\$ 327.92	\$ 572.08	36.4%	63.6%	\$ 393.50
5050	Mtg. Exp.	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 4,566.87	\$ 1,433.13	76.1%	23.9%	\$ 5,480.24
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	\$ 6,021.43	\$ 4,678.57	56.3%	43.7%	\$ 7,225.72
5210	Publications	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
5251	Promo Events	\$ 600.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 50.00	92%	8%	\$ 660.00
Equipment		\$ 22,600.00	\$ 11,821.35	\$ 10,728.65	52.31%	47.47%	\$ 14,185.62
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	\$ 356,899.97	\$ 231,965.03	60.60%	39.39%	\$ 428,279.96