

APPROVED MINUTES
BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Meeting of November 7, 2019 ~ 1:00pm
Wisconsin Veterans Museum
30 W Mifflin St, Madison, WI 53703

Board Members

Vern Larson, Chair
Curtis Schmitt, Jr., Vice Chair, ABSENT
Al Richards, Secretary

John Townsend, ABSENT
Carl Krueger
Steven Best
William Schrum
Paul Chamberlain ABSENT

Others Present (not all inclusive)

Larry Hill, COVP, Chair
Peter Gilbert, Jewish War Veterans
UW Madison – Missing In Action Recovery &
Identification Project Team
Rock Larson, CVSO
Mike Furgal
Vicki Bucholz, BOALTC

WDVA Present

Mary Kolar, Secretary
James Bond, Deputy Secretary
Kathy Still, Assistant Deputy Secretary
Kelly Behling, Executive Staff Assistant

1. Call to order and roll call
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vern Larson. A quorum was present.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
The pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Certification of notice of meeting
Proper notification of the meeting occurred.
4. Review and action on August 22, 2019 meeting minutes
William Schrum moved to approve the minutes, 2nd by Al Richards, motion carried on a voice vote.
5. Secretary's Comments
Secretary Kolar provided the Board with agency updates.
6. Legislative Comments and Process:
Assistant Deputy Secretary Kathy Still provided Legislative updates to the Board.
7. Homes Update:
Diane Lynch provided an update on WDVA Veterans Homes.
8. WDVA program updates:
Donald Placidi, Division Administrator provided an update on Grant Program processes. DVA Outreach program. Colleen Rinken provided an update on Homeless Veterans Programs.

9. Board Member Reports by District
Board members provided updates by district. A suggestion was made for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum to contact the Pearson Museum in Green Bay to obtain some possible items of interest for the Wisconsin Veterans Museum.
10. Board Member Vote
A motion was made by William Schrum and 2nd by John Carter to create two AD-HOC Committees: Strategic Planning and Legislative; the Board would like to have a conference call with DVA staff for guidelines. The Board suggested at least three members on each committee, all in favor, motion carried on a voice vote.
11. Public Input
Al LaBelle spoke on Veteran concerns and Legislative activity. UW MIA Recovery & Identification Project Team spoke on their program. Vicki Bucholz from Board of Aging and Long Term Care (BOALTC) spoke on the agency's ability to assist Veterans.
12. Future meetings
The Council recommended the:
 - February 6, 2020 meeting be held at King Veterans Home
 - May 7, 2020 meeting be held in Madison
 - August in Chippewa Falls
13. Future Agenda items
 - Review BOVA By-Laws
 - Form Legislative and Strategic Sub-committees
14. Adjournment
A motion to adjourn was made by Al Richards, 2nd by Tonnetta Carter and carried on a voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 2:31p.m.

Vern Larson
Chair