

MINUTES  
COUNCIL ON VETERANS PROGRAMS  
Meeting of February 14, 2019  
Wisconsin Veterans Museum  
30 W Mifflin St  
Madison, WI 53703

**Members**

David Schmidt, AMVETS (Absent)  
Fernando Rodriguez, American GI Forum  
Paul Fisk, American Legion (Excused)  
Richard Seymour, American Red Cross  
Vacant, ANU  
John Carter, Blinded Veterans Assoc. (Phone)  
Colin Moten, CVSOA  
Larry Hill, DAV  
Peter Gilbert, JWV  
Phillip Landgraf, MCL  
Roger Fetterly, MOAA  
William Lobeck, MOPH  
William Sims, NABV (Absent)  
Marie Annette Epnnett-Murphy, NCUSA (Phone)  
Nellie De Baker, PLAV  
Dale Nelson, PVA  
Lester Bischoff, TREA (Excused)  
Elizabeth Benn, UWV  
Mike Furgal, VFW  
Vern Larson, VVA  
Rich Peters, VVAW (Absent)  
Clifton Sorenson, WACVO (Absent)  
Bill Hustad, WVV  
Inactive, Am. Ex-POWs  
Inactive, USSVWWII  
Inactive, CWV

**Others Present (not all inclusive)**

Representative Ken Skowronski  
Rock Larson, CVSO Association of WI  
Dan Connery, CVSO, President of CVSOA  
Bob Welch, Concordia University  
Al Labelle, DAV WI

**WDVA Present**

Mary Kolar, Secretary  
James Bond, Deputy Secretary  
Kathy Still, Assistant Deputy Secretary  
Chad Koplien, Chief legal council  
Randy Nitschke, Commandant Union Grove  
Brett Coomber, Bureau Director Budget and Policy  
Kelly Behling, Executive Staff Assistant  
Josh Heine, Executive Staff Assistant

1. Call to order, roll call

The meeting of the Council on Veterans Programs was called to order by Larry Hill.  
Role was called and a quorum was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Certification of notice of meeting

The meeting was certified as being properly noticed.

4. Review and action on August 23, 2018 COVP meeting minutes

Mike Furgal motioned to approve the minutes from the meeting held November 15, 2018. Nellie De Baker seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously on a voice vote.

5. Secretary's Comments

Secretary Kolar introduced herself and her Leadership team to the Council.

6. Legislator Comments

Representative Skowronski thanked the Board for having him at the meeting and he looks forward to working with the Board and Secretary Kolar.

7. Discussion on the relationships between COVP, BOVA and WDVA

Chief legal counsel Chad Koplien briefed the COVP on the relationships between the COVP, BOVA and WDVA.

8. Briefing on the Budget Process for the COVP

Bureau Director Brett Coomber briefed the COVP on the Budget Process.

9. Briefing on the WDVA Legislative Process

Assistant Deputy Secretary Kathy Still briefed the COVP on the Legislative Process.

10. Council members' matters not subject to adoption

No Matters to Discuss.

11. Public Input, limited to 3 minutes per guest

Bob Welch representing Concordia University spoke to the COVP about expanding the WI GI Bill to schools that are not in the UW School system.

Al Labelle Representing DAV WI Spoke to the council about DAV's goals for 2019.

12. Future meetings

COVP Chair will coordinate next meeting with BOVA Chair. COVP Members will be notified of next meetings date and location.

13. Future Agenda

No matters were discussed.

14. Adjournment

Phillip Landgraf motioned to Adjourn the meeting it was seconded by Mike Furgal, and carried on a voice vote.

Larry Hill  
Chair