

Council on Veterans Programs

Meeting minutes – August 12, 2021, 10:00am
ZOOM / Teleconference

Council Members:

Paul F. Fisk	American Legion Dept. of WI
Michelle Matuszak	American Red Cross
Dave Schmidt	AMVETS
Colin Moten	County Veteran Service Officers Assoc.
Larry D. Hill	Disabled American Veterans
Phillip Landgraf	Marine Corps League
Scott Griffith	Paralyzed Veterans of America
Nellie P. De Baker	Polish Legion of American Veterans
Carolyn Morgan	United Women Veterans, Inc.
Michael L. Furgal	VFW of WI
George Banda	Wisconsin American GI Forum
William Hustad	Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans, Inc.

Absent:

Kim Queen	Jewish War Veterans of the USA.
Roger Fetterly	Military Officers Assoc. of America
William Lobeck	Military Order of the Purple Heart
William Sims	National Assoc. for Black Veterans, Inc.
Lester L. Bischoff	Retired Enlisted Assoc.
Vern Larson	Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.
David Zien	WI Assoc of Concerned Veteran Org.

Inactive Council Organizations:

American Ex-Prisoners of War
Army and Navy Union of the United State of America
Blinded Veterans Association of Wisconsin
Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A.
Navy Club of the U.S.A.
US Submarine Veterans of World War II
Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Inc.

Others Present: (not inclusive)

Mark Grams
Charles Allen
Nancy Berard, VISN 12
Adam Wickersham, Task Force Uplift
Steve Cundy, Task Force Uplift
Greg Elrich, VFW
Alexandra Huber

WDVA Staff Present:

Mary Kolar, Secretary
Kathy Still, Assist. Deputy Secretary
Carla Vigue, Communications
Chad Koplén, Legal
Kelly Behling, OOS
Donald Placidi, Administrator
Larry Graves, Veterans Veterans Education
Shannon Miller, Communications

1. Call to order, roll call
The meeting was called to order by Chair Hill, 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 COVP meeting minutes

Michael Furgal made a motion to approve the minutes, Paul Fisk 2nd the motion; motion carried on a unanimous vote. Discussion: Elizabeth Benn noted the minutes refer to “council” vs. “committee” and changes need to be made

5. Secretary’s Comments
Secretary Kolar provided an agency update to the council
6. Guest presenters:
Nancy Berard, VISN 12
Steve Cundy and Adam Wickersham, Task Force Uplift
7. Legislative Comments and Process:
Assistant Deputy Secretary Still provided Legislative updates to the council
8. Cemetery updates:
Donald Placidi provided updates on WDVA cemeteries
9. Organizational Updated: Council members provided updates
10. COVP Overview and updates:
Chief Legal Counsel, Chad Koplien provided updated information to the group
11. Member reports by organization
12. Public Input: None
13. Election of Officers:
Chair:
Michael Furgal nominated Larry Hill, 2nd by George Banda; nomination approved by a unanimous vote. Larry Hill accepted the nomination of Chair

Vice Chair:
Larry Hill nominated Paul Fisk, 2nd by Philip Landgraf; nomination approved by a unanimous vote. Paul Fisk accepted the nomination of Chair

Secretary:
Larry Hill nominated Nellie De Baker, 2nd by Colin Moten; nomination approved by a unanimous vote. Nellie De Baker accepted the nomination of Secretary
14. Future Meeting dates: No discussion currently
15. Future agenda items:
Discussion on Chapter 15, Review WI State Statue, Farmers Veterans Group
16. Adjournment
George Banda made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Colin Moten. Motion passed on a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Hill