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# **VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION OF LAKE COUNTY EXECUTIVE BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **Meeting start time and location**

- 9:33 AM
- VACLK, Gurnee

### **Members Present**

- Nick Konz, Andrew Tangen, Tom Marciciak, Paul Baumunk, Paul Hettich, Larry Klauser

### **Members of the Public**

- None present

### **Motion to Approve Previous Minutes**

- Motion made to approve the Minutes from December made by Delegate Baumunk
- Motion seconded by Delegate Hettich
- Motion passed

### **NFP Expense Report**

- Currently \$48,456.94 in NFP account for December 2023
  - Deposits totaling \$3,100.00. \$14.00 payment to the Secretary of State for registration due to an error on their part and a penalty for using a debit card and late fee. Checks paid totaling \$4,057.65. The check for \$1,000.00 was for a veteran's appliances, another check is for the coffee bar deposit in the amount of \$2,250.00, and the last one was \$807.65 was for a veteran's car repairs
- Motion made to approve Expense Report by Delegate Marciciak
- Motion seconded by Delegate Hettich
- Motion passed

### **President's Remarks**

- Nothing to report

### **Superintendents Report**

- IACVAC Conference Update
  - Summer and I went to IACVAC Winter conference in Peoria. I was re-elected President and John Murray was re-elected First Division Vice President



- Attendees: several trainers, US Census Bureau, Record Retention group, Attorney General's office who presented NFP information, changes in the MVAA and the state charter bill that was passed. The application is live on the AG's website. If there is a Lake County NFP that meets the requirements to get a state charter to be a VAC delegate, we can help with the on line application
- Coffee Bar Update
  - Finish staining and install will be done with warmer weather. We have three refrigerators
- Furniture and Staff Update
  - All offices are furnished
  - We are looking to interview for VSO, Administrative Assistant, and Paralegal. We have 23 VSO, 68 Administrative Assistant, and 0 Paralegal applicants
- FHCC offices update
  - Signs are up on the door
  - We are working on the staffing
- Governor's Report Update
  - Sent to the Governor electronically
  - We are at \$1 billion dollars getting back to the county
- Motion to accept the Superintendent Report made by Delegate Marciciak
- Motion seconded by Delegate Hettich
- Motion passed

### **Unfinished Business**

- Delegate Klauser– How will people be directed to building 135 when it is opened? Superintendent Tangen stated, “we are the only office that completes the claims accurately. We do not want the staff to be overwhelmed with Veterans waiting to be seen for hours. Veterans are coming from all counties, and we are only servicing Lake County residents.”

### **New Business**

- Delegate Klauser – Signage at Hawthorn Mall, is it permanent? Superintendent Tangen explained that we bought the signage, we rent the space, this year they had Buy One Get One so we bought two and received four spots in the mall. We have rented from Hawthorn Mall for four years and at the commissary. Gurnee Mills wants \$3,000 a year and had one spot opened in a not good visual location
  - I am providing the Illinois Benefits Book to the legion, it is online for everyone to access. Executive Assistant printed out 100 copies and provided to the delegates
- Delegate Baumunk – How do we advise the coroner what to add to the death certificate. Superintendent Tangen advised that when the attending physician writes the cause of death to consider adding a contributing factor of your service connection on the certificate will help



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- HB 2856 – Public Act IL 103-0406 passed that requires the person completing the death certificate to 1) Is the person a veteran; 2) Is the person service-connected by the VA; 3) Did they pass away from a service-connected illness. The laws states: The death certificate for the individual with a history of military service may include or may be amended to include the branch of the military that the deceased individual served in, the period of time that he or she served in the military, and whether a military service-related injury contributed to the cause of death
  - Could a VAC member go to one meeting, VFW and American Legion have invited us. Superintendent Tangen stated that we were invited to the posts and there are only four organizations that have invited us
    - The posts need to invite us to the meetings.

### **Report by Officers**

- President Konz – Sent a letter to Hometown America who sent it to Saddle Brook regarding Flag retirement in June, 2024 then I will sent to Delegate Hettich for a Boy Scout project or Eagle project

### **Motion to adjourn**

- Motion to adjourn made by Delegate Baumunk
- Motion to adjourn seconded by Delegate Hettich
- Motion passed
- Meeting adjourned at 10:24am

**Next Executive Board Meeting will be held on February 21, 2024, at the VACLC Office in Gurnee, IL**