



VACLC EXECUTIVE BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting start time and location

- 9:32am
- VACLC, Gurnee

Members Present:

- Nick Konz, Tom Marciciak, Andrew Tangen, Paul Baumunk, John DeReu, Paul Hettich, Allan Ayers, Marie Honeywell, Larry Klauser

Members of the Public:

- None present

Motion to Approve Previous Minutes

- Minutes from May were unavailable and will be available for review and approval at the July meeting

NFP Expense Report

- Currently \$55,603.59 in NFP account
- Deposits of \$1,120
- Check paid for \$10
- Motion made to approve Expense Report by Delegate Marciciak
- Motion seconded by Delegate Baumunk
- Motion passed

President's Remarks

- Nothing to report

Superintendents Report

- FY-24 Budget that was approved in May, is being worked on prepared for the county and I don't anticipate any issues with the approval of our budget.
- NACVSO Conference was a great conference this year. Secretary of the VA, Undersecretary of Benefits, Undersecretary of Health, Undersecretary for the National Cemetery Administration, and VHA Undersecretary was virtual. We had a lot of good instruction throughout the conference. A very important take away, due to the PACT Act, the VHA has been forced to do Toxic Exposure Research on almost everything. Depending on the circumstances of veteran we may be able to file for Toxic Exposure Report Activity (TERA) request that will help us file



claims for veterans. Since PACT Act being signed there have been over 500,000 claims filed. The VHA is aware there will be a backlog to get claims adjudicated and they are trying to hire more staff to keep the backlog numbers down. NACVSO Elections were held, and I was elected to be the 1st Vice President of NACVSO and Chief of Staff John Murray was elected as the Judge Advocate of NACVSO. Assistant Superintendent Sherry Kruse obtained the Certified Veterans Advocate (CVA) qualification.

- Our new temporary office space at Hawkston Hall II, 1790 Nations Drive, Suite 221, Gurnee, IL 60031 is getting very close for us to move in. Most likely we will get furniture delivered in mid-July. We will plan a tour of the space immediately after the meeting is adjourned. Johns done a great job with this.
- The outreach event at the Vernon Township on Monday, 12 June was good. There were only four Veterans that attended, which isn't many, but the win was there were two County Board Members and one State Representative there. It was a great opportunity to explain the VACLCLC Mission to them and answer some of their direct questions.
- FHCC office update, the offices have been cleaned out, walls have been painted, sink was removed from one office, floors have been redone. We are currently waiting for the interior designer to approve the order and procure furniture. The IT Staff will not order our computers until the rooms are furnished. This has been a lengthy process and I don't anticipate us moving in anytime soon, most likely it will be six months until we move in.
- Lovell will now be transitioning to "mask optional" after new guidance pushed from VACO
- Motion to accept the Superintendent Report made by Delegate Marciciak
- Motion seconded by Delegate Hettich
- Motion passed.

Unfinished Business

- Nothing to report.

Old/New Business

- Superintendent Tangen shared copies of the IACVAC Sponsorship Request Form to see if the board would sponsor this training event as was done in years past for \$5000. Delegate Marciciak made a motion to accept and Delegate DeReu seconded that motion. Motion passed.
- Delegate DeReu notified us that the Libertyville Dog Days will be July 8 and 9 and would like to have the VAC Staff attend as a vendor. Superintendent Tangen agreed, but wanted more information. Delegate DeReu stated he would provide additional information to Superintendent Tangen, but 1000's of people will be there, and it would be great exposure for the VACLCLC.

Report by Officers

- President Konz – Mundelein American Legion Post raised over \$5200 in Poppies. Plan to donate the money to the VACLCLC with the stipulation that the money will be kept and used in Lake County. Plan on getting a check in the mail next week. In the past, we have used the money to support the MOH Al Lynch Foundation and allocate \$5000 to sponsor his golf tournament. We always do that, and that money almost always stays in Lake County. President Konz made a



motion to donate \$5000 to MOH Al Lynch Foundation to sponsor the golf fundraiser and Delegate DeReu seconded that motion. Motion passed.

- Vice President Marciciak – Thank you Andrew for being our Keynote Speaker on Memorial Day, you did a great job and everyone had a great time.
- Delegate DeReu – Nothing to report.
- Delegate Ayers – Newsletter may be a little spotty for Aug and October as I will be out of the county on vacation. I've been working with Jonathan from the VACLC to submit it. He has access to constant contact, and we have been working together to keep the newsletter consistent.
- Delegate Honeywell – VFW 2486 will be sponsoring the annual 4th of July Picnic in Palace Park, Lake Zurich and has been for over 30 years. There are 35 veterans coming from FHCC. Seeking support from other groups to help with cooking. If anyone can assist, please let me know. Additionally, a VFW Post member George lives on the lake and gives boat rides to veterans. It's a nice and time. Typically, it goes from 11am to 3pm. I'll put something together for the VACLC Newsletter. The Civil Air Patrol will be attending as well, and it's a great organization to be part of. I'm a member of it and I'll provide additional information about it.
- Delegate Baumunk – Commended John Murray on taking over as the Lindenhurst Veteran Memorial Chair. He is doing a great job, planned a very nice Memorial Day Ceremony, and is taking advantage of the staff here as his guest speaker was VSO Jonathan Kellogg. He did a great job on his speech.
- Delegate Hettich – Have a couple of questions. Andrew are there any new issues with the County Board? Andrew's response, "No, no issues with the County Board at this time." Andrew, will there be a grand opening ceremony at the new office? Andrew's response, "I don't think so, as this is a temporary space for us. We'll plan to have one when the new office is built."
- Delegate Klauser – VFW Post 867 runs the rides and games from the 1st to the 4th of July for Mundelein Days. The event will be moved in front of the Village Hall this year.

Motion to adjourn

- Motion to adjourn made by Delegate Honeywell
- Motion to adjourn seconded by Delegate Baumunk
- Motion passed.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:42am

Next Executive Board Meeting will be held on August 16, 2023, at the VACLC Office in Gurnee, IL