



Alaska VA Healthcare System (463)
1201 N. Muldoon Road
Telephone Number: 907-257-4949 or Toll Free 1-800-353-7574
Fax Number: 907-257-6774
October 26, 2017
5pm - 6pm

VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Call to order: Jeanne Fox, Chief, Voluntary Service

Invocation: Nancy Mattson, AMVETS Auxiliary

Pledge of Allegiance: Jeanne Fox, Chief, Voluntary Service

Review of Minutes: July 17, 2017 minutes were approved as written.

Staff present: Mr. Thomas Steinbrunner, Associate Director; Dr. Cynthia Joe, Chief of Staff; Samuel Hudson, PAO; Jeanne Fox, Chief, Voluntary Service; Alfredo Stokes, Jr., Voluntary Service Specialist; Laura McKenzie, WVPM

Discussion:

Prior to Call to Order, Mr. Steinbrunner introduced himself and gave a brief overview of Veterans Affairs goals in FY2018.

GPFs and donation: please be sure to specify what GPF# donations are to be made into

Event Schedule:

VA Open House - Nov 1, 2017

Women Veterans Program/Celebration November 9, 2017 (2p.m.- 6 p.m.)

Feeding Veterans – November 14, 2017

Save the Date: February 10, 2018 “Rip the Runway” an Outreach Program to include VBA, etc.

Other events scheduled through-out the month of November 2017

Inpatient visitations at JBER hospital in the near future.

Wants/Needs:

Large Crossword puzzle

Comfort/care packages

Holiday Tree (pre-lite and tall)

VAVS Committees:

NSDAR, Col John Mitchell Chapter (POC: Janet) on November 8, 2017

American Legion Auxiliary, Peter Creek Unit 33 (POC: Marge) on November 9, 2017

Old Business:

Clinic Art Guide – VA Outpatient Clinic, Anchorage.

National Veterans Golden Age Games

“Have Time to Honor a Vet?” – Fort Richardson National Cemetery

Hygiene Kits – Thank you to the Elks for donating 61 kits, valued at \$278

New Business:

Women Program Manager – Laura McKenzie

Provide updated letters for Representatives/Deputy Representative

Complete Annual Training (for all those that volunteer through the VA)

2018 National Events Schedule

Partnership Program

Veterans Day Events Nov 8/9 at VA

Questions:

- Pam Beale, asked about the future of Choice Program.
 - Mr. Steinbrunner expects choice to run out by year end; the Care Program will replace the Choice Program later this year.
- Pam Beale, commented that veterans had ask about how to contact VA prior to 4:00 / example 3:45 and could not receive an open line (no answer) she tried and had the same problem.
 - Dr. Joe and Mr. Steinbrunner will inquire about this problem.
- Pam Beale, just wanted to make the committee aware that a homeless/no family (served in Merchant Marines) Veteran will be buried at Fort Richardson on November 7, 2017.
 - Gene Horner added that the “Have Time to Honor a Vet” is a good way to give back and honor our Veterans.
- Joel Hembach commented in regards to the “Locks on Rescue” kits for the opioid problem/epidemic.
 - Dr. Joe stated that the kits can be prescribed to Veterans through their PAC Team.
- Drug Take Back Day and locations for medications are JBER Hospital and JBER Joint Complex Satellite Pharmacy, as well as throughout the local area this Saturday October 28, 2017 (Example: Fred Meyer)

Federal Holidays:

Veterans' Day - November 10, 2017 (VA Closed)

Thanksgiving Day - November 23, 2017 (VA Closed)

Christmas Day - December 25, 2017 (VA Closed)

New Year's Day - January 1, 2018 (VA Closed)

Upcoming Events:

National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic – Registration – Aug. 1 – Nov 20, 2017

Location: Snowmass, CO – Apr 1 – 7, 2018

National Veterans Wheelchair Games – Registration – Jan 1 – Apr 15, 2018

Location: Orlando, FL – Jul 30 – Aug 4, 2018

National Veterans Golden Age Games – Registration – Apr – 2 – May 2, 2018
Location: Albuquerque, NM – Aug 3 – 8, 2018

National Disabled Veterans Tee Tournament – Registration – Dec 1, 2017 – Apr 1, 2018
Location: Iowa City, IA - Sep 10 – 14, 2018


National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic – Registration – Nov 1 – Apr 1, 2018
Location: San Diego, CA – Sep 16 – 21, 2018


National Veterans Creative Arts Festival – Local Competition begins Jan 1, 2018
National Level Submission ends Mar 23, 2018
Location: Des Moines, IA - Oct 29 -Nov 4, 2018

Certifications:
None

Annual Joint Reviews:
October – AMVETS Auxiliary (Completed)
November – American Legion Auxiliary, VFW Auxiliary

Adjournment/Next Meeting Date:
Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 10, 2018 (1 p.m. to 2 p.m.) in the Alaska VA
Outpatient Clinic Conference Center.

 6 Nov 17
THOMAS A. STIENBRUNNER, FACHE
Associate Director
Chair, VAVS Committee

 6 Nov 17
JEANNE M. FOX, MAM
Chief, Voluntary Service
Deputy Chairperson, VAVS Committee

VAVS Committee
 Fiscal Year 2018 Cumulative Attendance Listing
 Alaska VA Healthcare System

Organization	Title	Appointment Expiration	Oct	Jan	Apr	Jul	FY to Date Organizational Representation Percentage
Alaska Disabled Veteran Sports Program							
William Campbell Meredith Townsend		*Not Certified *Not Certified	P A				100% 0%
American Legion							
Chris Vrabel Ed Wesley	R D	IND IND	P A				100% 0%
American Legion Auxiliary							
Susan Caswell, Honorary Marge Blankenship Marjorie Noble Anne Robinson	R D R	IND IND IND	P P A P				100% 100% 0% 100%
AMVETS							
Terri Good Don Oliver Roy Burkhart Sue Wirth	R D D D	July 31, 2018 EXP EXP EXP	P A A A				100% 0% 0% 0%
AMVETS Auxiliary							
Nancy Mattson Rosella Young	R D	IND IND	P A				100% 0%
Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks							
Laura Sherman Joel Hembach	R D	IND IND	P P				100% 100%

Bugles Across America							
Gene Horner Vacant	R D	*Not Certified *Not Certified	P A				100% 0%
Disabled American Veterans							
Pamela Beale Robert Bingham	R	Dec 31, 2018 *Not Certified	P P				100% 100%
Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary							
VACANT							
Forty and Eight							
Merle Meisinger	R	IND	A				0%
National Society Daughters of American Revolution							
Janet C. Starkey Carolyn J. Engstrom Gail G. Cederberg	R D	August 31, 2019 August 31, 2019 *Not Certified	A A				0% 0% 100%
Knights of Columbus							
John Lopetrone Gerald Rapp	R D	IND IND	P A				100% 0%
American Red Cross							
Rita Conley Marie McQuillan Exie Hutchenson	D R D	*Not Certified *Not Certified *Not Certified	P A A				100% 0% 0%
Lions Club Int.							
Carly Meacham Mary Meacham Robert Meacham Steven Deckert Colleen Darrell Michael Burns		*Not Certified *Not Certified *Not Certified *Not Certified *Not Certified *Not Certified	P P P P P P				100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100%
The Salvation Army							
Major Barbara Schneider Major Pamela Markham	R D	IND IND	A A				0% 0%
United Voluntary Service							

VACANT							
Veterans of Foreign Wars							
Joseph Simms	R	IND	A				0%
David Lenelin	D	IND	A				0%
Herman Schmidt	D	IND	A				0%
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary							
Barbara Melnick	R	IND	P				100%
Dawn Bundick	D	IND	P				100%
Betty Keao	D	IND	A				0%
Francisca Guilford	D	IND	P				100%
Gerldine Kottre	D	IND	A				0%
Tina Stoddard	D	IND	A				0%
Combat Vets Motorcycle Association							
VACANT	R						
George Jarrett	D	*Not Certified	A				0%
Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Assoc.							
Tim Kavanaugh		*Not Certified	P				100%

Symbols: R Representative, D Deputy Representative, P Present, A Absent, * Not Certified
E Excused, IND Indefinite

The name of the member organization will be removed from the Cumulative Attendance Record when the organization has not been represented at three (3) consecutive meetings of the medical center VAVS Advisory Committee by a certified representative or deputy representative(s). The name of the organization will be reinstated on the Cumulative Attendance Record on the certification to the Medical Center Director of the name of the new representative(s) or written assurance of regular attendance and effective participation of the prior appointees by the nationally authorized Certifying Officials.