

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
Evergreen Room, Silverdale Community Center
January 17, 2007, 4:30 pm

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER Roth Hafer called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES December 12, 2006 – Willis Papillion moved the minutes be approved. Allen Gates second. **Motion passed**
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Allen moved the agenda be approved as amended. Ray Switzer second. **Motion passed**
5. COMMITTEES/REPORTS
Select areas of interest – Roth appointed chairs for areas of interest
Homeless - Ray
Employment- Dennis Mannick
Mental Illness – Corky Sullivan
Incarceration program – Russ Hauge
Female vets – Sharon Kirkpatrick
Vets in business? Fred Scheffler
Vet profile - Corky
A lively discussion followed. Once data has been collected in all areas, Corky will develop a “profile. Dennis handed out material about the upcoming homeless count. Both he and Ray are volunteering to help the Continuum of Care Coalition with the count.
6. OLD BUSINESS
Retreat planning – Staff pointed out that the county commissioners would like a work plan for the year from all their advisory boards [due date is 2/23]. Saturday, February 17th appears to be the best date. Staff will find a location. Another lively discussion ensued as to what was going to happen at the retreat. Fred brought up that it was time to take some action in the area of vet business owners, citing a self employed returning Iraq veteran who lost his business while he was deployed. Fred will draft a proposal in regard to giving veteran business owners preference points for government contracting.

Contractor progress – Staff reported that a draft of the RFP for administrating temporary emergency assistance has been forwarded to his supervisor for final review. Once approved, it will be turned over to the county purchasing department for release to the public. Roth, Ray, and Sharon will serve on a committee to review proposals received from potential contractors.

Contact Sheet – Staff distributed new contact sheet. In light of last week's last minute cancellation due to weather, cell phones can be added to the list if members so choose.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Stand Down? - Several members shared their knowledge of stand downs. San Diego has the national model. Local stand downs have poor attendance and are labor intensive. Some are open to the general public. It is important to ensure that veterans don't fall through the cracks. Consequently, if the board does a stand down and only a few people show up, it will be worth it if we can get one vet off the street and back into a productive life. A local American Legion Auxiliary is hosting a vets assistance event in February. Dean Hearing and Dennis will inquiry if they need some financial assistance from the VAB. Board members also have a mutual concern about the lack of awareness veterans have concerning the many benefits that might be available to them. A public awareness marketing plan should be part of the retreat discussion.

State Vets Coalition meeting, February 21, 2007 – The WSU extension service classroom in the Norm Dicks Government Center in Bremerton has been reserved for the meeting. Lunch will be catered. Local veterans organizations will send invitations to send a representative. Jerry Towne, WDVA, will be our "lunch speaker." The WDVA deputy director might also attend.

Address check – Staff asked the board to review list of local vet organizations and provide address updates.

Business cards – Business cards are available to members if they wish.

9. ADJOURNMENT – meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm

Present: Robert Gardner, Allen Gates, Roth Hafer, Dean Hearing, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Dennis Mannick, Rudy Muriel, Dennis Nelson, Willis Papillion, Corky Sullivan

Excused: Bobby Edwards, Russ Hauge

Unexcused: Duane Cruz

Staff: Leif Bentsen

These minutes are not verbatim.

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
RETREAT NOTES from 2/17/07

Prioritizing Issues.

If an issue appears on the list below, that means one person put it up. If a number in the parenthesis appears after the issue, that indicates the total number of people interested in the same issue.

Hypothetical Example:

Clean and Sober [= one person]

Clean and Sober (2) [= two people. It does not mean one plus two people]

Round One – Top priority

Mental Health

Information Awareness

Networking

Constitutionality (2)

Reintegration into Society

Homeless (3)

Incarcerated (4)

Round Two – Second Highest

Public resources available

Political support (2)

Education

Jobs (2)

Homeless (5)

Transitional Housing

Veterans helping veterans

Rehab

Round Three – Third Highest

Mental Health (2)

Outreach worker

Incarcerated

Affordable housing

Choose a contractor

Employment (2)

Women veterans (2)

Constitution

Support

Remaining Issues

Manual Corrections

DOC/VA information sharing

Local medical help, either VA or state
Dependent issues
Indigent senior
PTSD
Honor the warrior not the war

FLIP CHART DISCUSSION

Jail

More research (Leif)
Why?
Allocating for Success

Homeless

Where's the gap?
SOBER
I.D. face of homeless
Salvation Army?
Outside of Retsil

Political Support

A. Constitution – Leif
B. Other issues?
County level – purchasing 5% of goods and services using same qualifications

Mental Health

Kitsap Mental Health Service – Larry for March meeting?
37,000 vets in Kitsap (Tom Rix)

Public Relations

Two audiences
Speakers
Chambers of Commerce

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
Evergreen Room, Silverdale Community Center
March 13, 2007, 4:30 pm

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Roth Hafer called the meeting order
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES January 10, 2007 Willis Papillion moved, Rudy Muriel, 2nd, Motion Passed
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Russ Hauge moved. Multiple 2nds. Motion Passed.
5. GUEST SPEAKERS – Rev. Art Speight spoke about his ministry of helping the homeless of which many were veterans. Every Tuesday and Thursday evening behind the K-Mart on Wheaton Way he and his congregants offer meals to the homeless. Discussion involved into some of the homeless veterans are some what reluctant to contact government agencies or programs. Many have mental issue/PTSD issues.
6. COMMITTEES/REPORTS
 - Homeless – Ray Switzer reported that he and Dennis Mannick participated in the homeless count and it appeared to be a little chaotic. They don't feel the numbers accurately reflect the number of homeless vets – there's more out there that probably did not get counted. Discussion segued into how to help homeless. Rudy mentioned the homeless men project that he used to manage for Catholic services.
 - Employment – Dennis Mannick reported that he sent out 306 letters offering placement services to veterans receiving employment checks. He had 26 responses. To date, Dennis has helped veterans receive over \$6,000 in mini-grants from DVA.
 - Mental Illness – Board and council members talked about the impacts of PTSD on vet and family members, different patterns, etc. What resources are available, should we create more. Russ suggested we explore county facilities for available space. Staff will check. Rev. Art is working on a mobile kitchen. Rudy and Steve will work on establishing a 'networking' meeting of various providers. P.J Scott and American Legion Post 30 are sponsoring a south end networking meeting on March 21. Everyone is invited to attend. Ray, and staff, visited the Kitsap Recovery Center. They were impressed with the facility. They're meeting with Kitsap Mental Health next month.
 - Incarceration program –Russ went over the jail figures. There are several sub- populations: people pending trial, commitments to the department of corrections, and those serving time in the county jail. It appears that a small number might be eligible. Many of the potential

candidates may have abuse or mental health issues. System has to be thoroughly thought out.

Female vets – Sharon Kirkpatrick noted recent VFW magazine editorial pointing out changing role of servicewomen and how their casualty figures are increasing due to the dynamics of contemporary warfare. Problems are also compounded by child raising issues and sexual assault. Need to find women counselors for female vets.

Vets in business –Fred Scheffler said the legislative session was a waste of time. Over 29 bills were presented. Nothing passed. Worst than last year.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Contractor progress - Staff humbly ate crow for neglecting to bring preference policy draft he had just received from county legal department. Will distribute via email.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Stand down – brief discussion with council and public about pros and cons of stand downs. Staff will look into possibility for county van/truck to do a mini mobile stand down.

WDVA back on Burwell? – Roth suggested that when the temporary housing is up an running at Retsil, that WDVA have a staff person work out of the VA office on Burwell. That person could help facilitate possible VA benefits for those residing in the new temporary housing, which in turn could be financially beneficial for temporary housing program.

April Meeting? – Roth asked board to consider possible moving of the next meeting to another date to accommodate conflicts in scheduling. Consensus was to keep the same time. Dean Hearing will chair.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
Evergreen Room, Silverdale Community Center
April 11, 2007, 4:30 pm

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER – Acting chair Dean Hearing called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES March 13, 2007 Willis Papillion moved. Robert Gardner 2nd. Motion Passed.
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA Robert moved. Russ Hauge 2nd. Motion Passed.
5. GUEST SPEAKER – Mark Seery, local coordinator, WDVA Veterans Conservation Program, explained how the program works. The program can be very therapeutic for those suffering from PTSD. There currently is a bill in the legislature which would fund a certificate program in environmental rehabilitation at Green River CC specifically for veterans. Mark is in the process of developing some projects in Kitsap County. He is seeking veterans to participate, including those who may have physical disabilities.
6. COMMITTEES/REPORTS
 - Homeless* – Ray Switzer reported on the issue statewide
 - Employment* – Dennis Mannick has submitted 6 DWVA grants resulting \$14,000 back to unemployed vets.
 - Mental Illness* – Ray and staff met with Kitsap Mental Health Services to share information on the Fund and how to access other VA benefits
 - Incarceration program* – Russ Hauge, staff, shared jail data. Russ mentioned that another population to look at would be those in pre-sentencing facing prison. Because of sentence guidelines, they are often released early and end up back in the county. We should look at providing them information before they head towards prison.
 - Female vets* – Staff directed board members to the literature provided by Sharon Kirkpatrick.
 - Vets in business* – County preference update – Staff will prepare draft of preference recommendation for review at next meeting
 - Vet profile* – Corky Sullivan mentioned that collect data for a profile is very hard. Perhaps we should look to other agencies. Staff will work with Steve Colby and Rudy Muriel in organizing a ‘networking meeting.’
7. OLD BUSINESS
 - Media policy* – Staff reviewed county media policy with board.

Contractor progress – Staff reported the draft of the contract is being reviewed by KCR. Hope to have the contract signed in the next couple of weeks.

Rev. Art's Street Ministry/Feeding Homeless – Staff visited Rev. Art while he was setting up behind K-Mart. The program feeds 70 plus meals an evening on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Asked Rev. Art to document as best as possible the number of folks he helps.

American Legion #30 SK network meeting – Dennis, Ray, Steve, Duane Cruz reported that it was a very positive meeting. PJ Scott added that it will be aired on BKAT. Duane spoke about how he had a pallet load of donated items for troops in Iraq, but there was no way to get it there other than U.S. Mail. Staff will look into fund paying for postage.

March 17 Governor's Veterans Advisory Board meeting – Ray

Sen. Phil Rockefeller letter – Staff said the letter was in response to one he sent to all of the Kitsap County legislators.

8. NEW BUSINESS

State honors Lt. Col. Bruce Crandall, Medal of Honor recipient – Staff directed board to invitation in attachments to minutes

Policy on public comments – Staff suggested the board adopt a protocol on how it wanted to hear public comments.

Memorial Day Ceremony – Staff solicited volunteers to help with ceremony at the Kitsap County Veterans Memorial in Waterfront Park.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Parmenter said she was organizing the first chapter of Women Veterans of America in the state.

PJ Scott is organizing a Women Veteran's potluck at the American Legion in Port Orchard.

11. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned approximately 6:30 pm

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
Evergreen Room, Silverdale Community Center
May 9, 2007, 4:30 pm

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – Roth Hafer called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS Staff ate humble pie for failing to bring hardcopies of agenda and minutes.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 11, 2007. Willis Papillion moved. Dean Hearing 2nd. Motion passed.
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA approved by consensus
5. COMMITTEES/REPORTS
 - Homeless – deferred to Networking report
 - Employment – Dennis Mannick handed out May calendars.Dennis also attended the Stand Down in Forks. 60 people visited the VA booth.
 - Mental Illness – Corky Sullivan recommends that constituency title be changed to mental health. We need to look at aging vet population, especially those house bound. Estimates of returning Iraq/Afghanistan vets with PTSD ranges from 17 to 40 percent.
 - Incarceration program – Russ Hauge reiterated that the only differences between King and Kitsap incarcerated vets is the numbers. Russ and staff will get together to present proposal to judicial system.
 - Female vets – Sharon Kirkpatrick raised the issue of a returning National Guard Iraq veteran whose spouse sought and received sole custody of children based on her absence. Discussion ensued about difference between active duty and NG over the issue. Staff caution that unless veteran was indigent, this might be beyond the mission of Advisory Board.
 - Legislature – Fred Scheffler tabled
 - Vet profile – Corky Sullivan tabled
7. OLD BUSINESS
 - Networking – Rudy Muriel, Steve Colby having been doing research on organizations that provide services to veterans as part of their normal duties, such as the St. Vincent's, YW and YMCAs, West Sound Treatment Center, etc. Part of the inquiry is to find out how many veterans they are actually helping. A networking breakfast is being set-up to cross share information and to find the gaps between services. Steve Colby also passed on information on procuring used military clothing, etc, for stand down purposes. Staff will follow-up. Networking will become a new committee.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Motion: The Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board recommends to the Board of County Commissioners that the County grant contract preferences to veteran owned businesses as described in document 5.9.2007 – Veteran Preferences.

Motion tabled to next meeting due to absence of Fred Scheffler and hard copy of policy recommendation.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public may comment on any issues within the scope of the Veterans Advisory Board mission.

PJ Scott announced that women vets meeting has been rescheduled to May 19 at Givens Community Center.

PJ Scott suggested housing near Olympic College to help veterans attending college. Discussion ensued about the difficulties of vets having to support families and attend school at the same time.

10. ADJOURNMENT Approximately 5:45 pm

Present: Mike Carroll, Steven Colby, Robert Gardner, Allen Gates, Roth Hafer, Russ Hauge, Dean Hearing, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Dennis Mannick, Rudy Muriel, Dennis Nelson, Willis Papillion, Corky Sullivan

Excused: Dennis Cruz, Fred Scheffler, Ray Switzer,

Staff: Leif Bentsen

Public: Drake 'Wild Duck' Evans; P.J. Scott

COUNTY POLICY ON GRANTING PREFERENCE TO VETERANS IN CONTRACTING¹

The County may give a preference in contracting to a veteran, so long as all of the following criteria are met:

--The contract is of a type for which competitive procurement is not required by law or grant

--The veteran is equally qualified with other applying contractors

--The contract would be awarded directly to the veteran (in his or her capacity as the owner of a sole proprietorship form of business), as opposed to an organization or entity (such as a corporation or limited liability company) having a veteran affiliation of some sort.

For purposes of this policy, "veteran" has the same meaning as found in RCW 41.04.005 and 41.04.007, as they may be amended from time to time.

¹ Document 5.9.2007



KITSAP COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND HUMAN SERVICES

Veterans Advisory Board

614 DIVISION STREET, MS-23, PORT ORCHARD, WASHINGTON 98366
Telephone 360.337.4883 Facsimile 360.337.5721

June 13, 2007

Advisory Board
Roth Hafer, Chair
Fred Scheffler, vice chair
Duane Cruz
Robert Gardner
Allen Gates
Russ Hauge
Dean Hearing
Sharon Kirkpatrick
Dennis Mannick
Rudy Muriel
Dennis Nelson
Willis Papillion
Corky Sullivan
Ray Switzer

**Board of
County Commissioners**
Jan Angel
Chris Endresen
Josh Brown

**Department of
Personnel and
Human Services**
Director
Bert Furuta
Asst. Director
Steve Frazier

Staff
Leif Bentsen
Lee Reyes

To: Advisory Board

Fm: Russ Hauge
Leif Bentsen

Re: Incarcerated Veterans

Following a brainstorming session, we came up with the following:

Getting benefits/program information to veterans in or destined for jail is our basic goal.

The target population is veterans who are determined by jail staff criteria to be non-violent, regardless of crime charged (the exception being serious felonies)

Within that population, there are two sub-populations, those who have been sentenced and are serving their time; and those who are in a pre-trial, and/or pre-sentencing phase.

There are two approaches in getting them information.

1. Through their attorney
2. While they are in jail regardless of what phase they are in.

Why approach attorneys?

Prosecutors office has anecdotal experience where defense counsel arranged for the client to go to the VA hospital for treatment as part of the plea bargaining.

Most attorneys don't know what benefits/programs might be available to their clients. If they had the information, they might be more inclined to use it to the advantage of their client.

The local bar is small enough that it is very practical to get them the information they need to help their clients.

A coordinated marketing effort would have three approaches:

1. Direct mail to the attorney
2. Article in the Kitsap Bar Association newsletter
3. Direct contact through KBA sub committees lead by the Prosecutor's Office.

Incarcerated Veterans

Working with jail personnel to develop a communication system [Kite Memos] that during the booking phase the veteran is ask if she or he would like assistance.

When a person is booked in jail, they are on somewhat of a fast-track for arrangement, bail, et al, consequently access to them without interrupting the system is limited.

In speaking with the chief of the jail, the best time is probably 8:00 am to 9:00 am in the morning, depending on what phase the veteran is in. The chief is absolutely supportive of our efforts. We would work with jail staff to determine what the best opportunities would be to do an initial assessment of the veteran that would not disrupt the current system.

The next step is to figure out who will be doing in-jail assessments.

EMAIL GUIDELINES –

If you want to distribute information members of the Veterans Advisory Board as whole, please do so directly. You do not need to run it through staff. But do it without blind copy so staff and the other members know who you sent it to, even if it is critical.

If you want to distribute information outside the circle of the council, but want to include the advisory board, then you should think about blind copy board members so their email addresses do not end up on a junk mail list

Attached are the minutes from the last meeting and some info on the November CVC conference.

Here's the website for the hotel: <http://www.theskagit.com/hotel.asp> (copy and paste into your address bar)

CVC Annual Conference

2007 CVC Conference

November 1 & 2

Location: The Skagit in Bow, Washington

Proposed workshops/presentations for 2007 Conference

- **County Reports:** Opportunity to share your county's successes and struggles
- **Issues impacting new veterans:** Traumatic Brain Injury, Post Traumatic Stress.
- **Healing the healer:** Help for the well being of the service provider
- **Breakout Groups:** Opportunity for working together in small groups
- **Veterans Advisory Boards:** Find out about the difference a well structured Veterans Advisory Board can make to your veterans' community
- **Incarcerated Veterans Project:** Hear about the growth and positive results of the Jail Project, now in place in several counties

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
Evergreen Room, Silverdale Community Center
June 13, 4:30 pm

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER Roth Hafer called the meeting to order at 4:32pm
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS Staff introduced Garry Hughes, who will be the assistance fund vet rep at Kitsap Community Resources.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES May 9, 2007 - Moved and approved
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Moved and approved
5. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public may address any of the topics below on the agenda. Please keep comments to 2 or 3 minutes. No public comment
6. COMMITTEES/REPORTS

Homeless – Ray Switzer. Strong community interest in a second facility at Orting's Garfield Barracks. Department of Community, Trade & Economic Development has committed \$1.2 million to the Orting project. September is still the opening for the temporary housing at Retsil. Ray moved that the September 12th meeting take place at Retsil. Sharon Kirkpatrick 2nd. Motion Passed.

Mental Health – Corky Sullivan reported that The Wall will be at Miller-Woodlawn on July 13, 14, 15. Volunteer councilors have been recruited. Sally Santana is coordinating the event.

Incarceration Program – Staff directed council to review attached memo of brain storming session with Russ Hauge. It's recommended that the local bar association be educated about the benefits available to client/veterans as well as approaching incarcerated veterans.

Female Vets – Sharon Kirkpatrick is now on the newly formed women's veterans committee headed by Alfie Alvarado of WDVA.

Legislative – Fred Scheffler reported that he and Dennis Jones, chair of the Pierce County Veterans Advisory Board, had an hour long discussion about legislative issues. It appears that they will develop a legislative agenda through the auspices of CVC of Washington. Fred also reported on new business loan opportunities through the Small Business Administration.

Vet Profile – Corky spoke about talking to vets at the Stand Down and gaining insights to their needs, such as telephone access and voice mail, and transportation issues.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Networking Breakfast – Rudy Muriel and Roth reported on the very successful network breakfast with social services providers. Fifty plus people attended. Agency contact sheet was attached to agenda.

Emailing – Staff clarified email policy. When emailing to members of the advisory board only, an individual member can send information to the rest of the board. He or she does not need to route it through staff. Members are also encouraged not to use ‘blind copy’ when corresponding within the VAB even if criticizing the staff. By not blind copying, all VAB members and staff will understand who received the email.

However, if a VAB member wants to distribute outside the VAB circle and include the VAB, then the VAB sender should consider blind copying VAB members to ensure the confidentiality of the list and to prevent addresses ending up on junk mail lists.

November Conference – staff encouraged members to set aside November 1st and 2nd for the annual CVC conference which will be held in Bow, Washington. Members interested in attending need to contact staff who will handle all reservations. Mileage will also be reimbursed.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Motion: The Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board recommends to the Board of County Commissioners that the County grant contract preferences to veteran owned businesses as described in document 5.9.2007 – Veteran Preferences.

Fred Moved. Allen Gates 2nd. Motion Passed.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public may comment on any issues within the scope of the Veterans Advisory Board mission. There was no public comment.

10. ADJOURNMENT at 5:30 pm

Present: Robert Gardner, Allen Gates, Roth Hafer, Dean Hearing, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Rudy Muriel, Dennis Nelson, Fred Scheffler, Corky Sullivan, Ray Switzer

Excused: Mike Carroll, Steve Colby, Duane Cruz, Russ Hauge, Dennis Mannick, Willis Papillion

Staff: Leif Bentsen

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
Evergreen Room, Silverdale Community Center
July 11, 4:30 pm

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – Roth Hafer called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES June 13, 2007 *Dean Hearing moved. Willis Papillion 2nd. Motion Passed.*
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA *Willis moved. Ray Switzer 2nd. Motion Passed*
5. GUEST SPEAKER – Staff introduction
Betty Hickman, chairperson Kitsap Area Veterans Alliance (KAVA=VFW 3694, VFW 239, AL 68 & Aux, Elks, WorkSource, Kitsap County)

There was a brief general discussion about producing a Stand Down. Duane Cruz will check on the availability of the local National Guard armories. Ray will check on a dental van available from Tacoma.

Betty Hickman requested a pledged for financial assistance to help defray costs for the event.

Allen Gates moved, Ray 2nd: Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board recommends that up to \$1,000 from Kitsap County Assistance Fund be pledged for a Stand Down being organized by KAVA for the Fall of 2007. Motion Passed

6. COMMITTEES/REPORTS
Homeless – Ray outlined the DOL Homeless Veterans Grant awards. Retsil office will be opening on September 4th. Steve Cline and Sandra Murick are now on board the transition housing project.
Mental Health – Corky Sullivan reported on the state's Family Policy Council's Returning Veterans program. There was some discussion on how many veterans were returning to Kitsap County. Duane will try to get Guard figures.
Incarceration program – Russ Hauge outlined a two-pronged education approach for attorneys and their clients in jail.
Female vets – Sharon Kirkpatrick went to her first state women veterans committee meeting. She will be going to the Tri-State 2008 Women Veterans Conference in Pendleton, OR.

7. OLD BUSINESS

KCR online – Staff reported that KCR will began receiving applications on July 12, 2007.

Vietnam Wall – Roth and Willis commented on the Wall. Willis will be staffing a booth for Kitsap Mental Health along with three clinicians. He will also hand out information about the Assistance Fund.

Veterans' Preference – Staff

Russ moved, Allen 2nd, to amend veterans' preference to read as follows:

COUNTY POLICY ON GRANTING PREFERENCE TO VETERANS IN CONTRACTING

The County may give a preference in contracting to a veteran, so long as all of the following criteria are met:

--The contract is of a type for which competitive procurement is not required by law or grant

--The veteran is equally qualified with other applying contractors

--The contract would be awarded directly to the veteran (in his or her capacity as the owner of a sole proprietorship form of business), as opposed to an organization or entity (such as a corporation or limited liability company) having a veteran affiliation of some sort

For purposes of this policy, "veteran" has the same meaning as found in RCW 41.04.005 and 41.04.007, as they may be amended from time to time, and includes members currently serving in the National Guard or Reserves who have served in Operation Noble Eagle; Operation Iraqi Freedom and/or Operation Enduring Freedom or awarded a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary or Service Medal.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Diversity Day at Keyport Undersea Warfare Center – staff asked the council if they wanted to participate in the event scheduled for August 2nd. Sharon, Duane and Ray volunteered.

Fraternal organization. Willis brought up that a local fraternal organization may be discriminating against women veterans and veterans of color. Staff will work with Willis in getting a legal opinion of the circumstances.

9. ADJOURNMENT meeting adjourned approximately 6:30 pm.

Present: Duane Cruz, Robert Gardner, Allen Gates, Roth Hafer, Russell Hauge, Dean Hearing, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Rudy Muriel, Dennis Nelson, Willis Papillion, Corky Sullivan, Ray Switzer.

Excused: Steve Colby, Dennis Mannick, Fred Scheffler

Absent: Mike Carroll

Public: Steve Cline, Sandra Murick, Betty Morrell, Nola K. Rose, Betty Hickman, Doreen Henrick

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board

Minutes August 8, 2007

The Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board meeting was held on Wednesday August 8, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. at Silverdale Community Center, Evergreen Room. Roth Hafer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/AGENDA

The July 11, 2007 minutes were approved as written. There were no changes made to the agenda. The following action was taken:

***ACTION: Dean Hearing motioned that the Veterans Advisory Board accept the July 11, 2007 minutes as written. Mike Carroll seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.**

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Roth Hafer introduced PJ Scott and Charles Blair in the public audience.

PJ Scott recommended that the board advertise on BKAT or other methods as she is a disabled veteran and not able to view upcoming events in the newspapers.

PJ also commented that she would like to see the board address the issue of emergency medical attention for disabled veterans who are unable to drive. PJ would like to see Naval Hospital accept veteran patients instead of referring them to Seattle and/or American Lake which poses transportation problems. Although DAV vans are an excellent source of transportation for medical appointments when an emergency situation arises the van services require at least two days notice which is not feasible in an emergency situation.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Homeless – Ray Switzer updated the board on the transitional housing at Retsil. They are struggling with the occupancy permit and will have a closed construction meeting on Thursday, August 9, 2007 at 12:30 p.m. to address the ventilation issues. They anticipate receiving the occupancy permit on Thursday, August 9th. They have 20 people on a waiting list to screen, although they will not be able to accommodate all 20 they expect to be able to assist 12 – 20 people the first month. A meeting has also been scheduled for Monday, August 13, 2007 at 4:30 p.m., Keyport.

Ray also confirmed that the transitional housing is also available for female veterans as this was a question posed by PJ Scott.

Employment – Dennis Mannick reported that he is seeing a lot more vets coming in for veteran assistance which is a positive thing. He has been busy registering the veterans and putting their names in the job bank and exposing them to the world of work.

Mental Health – No report.

Incarceration Program – No report.

Female Vets – No report (See Old Business).

Legislative – Fred Scheffler reported to the board that he has been working with Olympia but the success of veterans originates at a county level. He went on to advise that when legislative bodies get pressured from their own county advisory board then they will begin to pay attention.

Fred noted that he had a meeting with the city council and mayor of Bainbridge Island to discuss the funding offered to vets which are less than acceptable as the funding amount is next to nothing. In addition, veterans from Bainbridge Island have no local services and they have to travel into Port Orchard or Bremerton. Its getting more and more difficult to travel off the Island. It was suggested to perhaps have an outreach site.

There will be a forum on September 11, 2007 in Bainbridge Island at Post 172 at 7:30 p.m. This forum is open to the public and gives them an opportunity to pose questions to the electoral candidates.

Russell suggested that should a board member attend it would be best to go under individual status versus representing the board to avoid any conflicts at the public forum.

It was also suggested in light of the election fast approaching to have registration forms at all events (and possibly on website) to encourage veterans to be heard by being a part of the voting process in the primary and general elections.

Assistance Fund – Roth went over the monthly report submitted by Garry Hughes, Kitsap Community Resources.

Dennis indicated that he has come across a problem in which Garry has requested spousal information and due to confidentiality reasons Dennis is unable to provide this information to Garry.

Roth suggested perhaps having the spouse sign a waiver or release of information and then have Garry fax this to Dennis to avoid delays in service.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Sharon Kirkpatrick reported on the Diversity Day which took place on August 2, 2007 at Keyport Undersea Warfare Center. Duane Cruz assisted Sharon at the booth. At least 200 people were present and they eventually ran out of printed resources. They had a female vet who volunteered her time with her working dog to do some demonstrations.

Duane Cruz added that during the event they empowered the community to become liaisons and to pass along information to those they know.

Dean Hearing updated the board on the activities of the Stand Down which is set for October 30, 2007 from 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Kitsap Fairgrounds, Pavilion.

Meetings are held every Tuesday at VFW 239 at 10:00 a.m. to go over strategies of preparing the Stand Down. Planned services include:

- Clothing
- Limited meals
- Haircuts
- VA claims
- Housing referrals
- Employment referrals
- Limited medical/dental screening
- Information about several local agencies and organizations

Duane Cruz will look into utilizing 20 of his soldiers during this event as Dean is still in need of volunteers.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Brochures were passed out to board members and asked to give their suggestions/comments before these are printed out for public distribution.

The Military Fall Festival is being held on October 20, 2007, Kitsap Fairgrounds Pavilion. The board discussed the possibility of having a booth at this event.

During the discussion, Sharon suggested that more printed material be on hand for this event as well as a sign in sheet for those who would like to be contacted or are in need of services. After the discussion, the following action was taken:

***ACTION: Sharon Kirkpatrick motioned that the Veterans Advisory Board submit an application to the Silverdale Chamber of Commerce to have a booth at the Military Fall Festival on October 20, 2007. Duane Cruz seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.**

Russell Hauge addressed the emergency medical attention which was brought up by PJ Scott. He indicated that the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners wants to know about problems such as these. He also noted that for a problem like this political pressure may be helpful. Leif will contact Russell to talk more about this situation and possibly getting a contractual relationship with the hospitals (Naval and Harrison).

Roth Hafer shared with the board an unexpected circumstance scenario involving a veteran named Bill. Bill is in need of \$1,000 to take his van out of the mechanic shop so he can continue working (he is a painter and his vehicle is his livelihood). He has exhausted all but \$200 with the Veterans Assistance Fund. Roth believes that as this is an unexpected emergency and a request for auto repair that the board could pass a motion that would allot Bill \$1,000 to assist him in his catch 22 problem. After a brief discussion the following action was taken:

***ACTION: Russell Hauge motioned that the Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board allot Bill the painter \$1,000 payable to Ray's Automotive Service, Inc. to release his 1988 Chevrolet Chevy Van. Dennis Mannick seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.**

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Veterans Advisory Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Present:

Mike Carroll, Duane Cruz, Robert Gardner, Allen Gates, Roth Hafer, Russell Hauge, Dean Hearing, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Dennis Mannick, Dennis Nelson, Fred Scheffler, Ray Switzer and Lee Reyes.

Absent:

Steve Colby, Rudy Muriel, Willis Papillion and Corky Sullivan.

Guests:

Charles Blair and Peppy (PJ) Scott

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
Evergreen Room, Silverdale Community Center
September 12, 4:30 pm

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER Roth Hafer called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS – Gerald Crowley, representing VFW introduced himself
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES August 8 Dean Hearing moved, Allan Gates 2nd.
Motion Passed
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA passed by consensus
5. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public may address any of the topics below on the agenda. Please keep comments to 2 or 3 minutes.

8. COMMITTEES/REPORTS

Employment – Dennis Mannick met with Ray Switzer at Bldg 9 to figure out process of assisting veterans in the transition housing program. There's a veterans job fair coming up as well. To date, Dennis has helped Iraq and Afghanistan veterans receive \$29,466 in grant funds from WDVA.

Mental health – Corky Sullivan is seeing an increase in Iraq veterans in his case load and a definite need in additional housing.

Legislative update – Fred Scheffler reported that on the federal level we need to look at making purchases from veteran owned companies. There is a misconception that the Fed is required to make purchases on certain items from the prison industries, which is not true. Staff mentioned that King and Pierce County VABs have invited the board to participate in developing a statewide legislative agenda

Assistance fund – staff shared report with board in regard to KCR's case load for the month of August.

9. OLD BUSINESS

Stand Down – Dean Hearing, Dennis Mannick, Allen Gates, Dennis Nelson updated the board on the activities of KAVA.

Motion: Recommend to increase the pledged allocation from \$1,000 to \$4,000 for Stand Down. Allen moved, Fred 2nd.

Motion Passed

Navy Hospital Emergency & Vets – There was a brief discussion in regard to if P.J. Scott's request pertained to emergency or urgent care. Emergency

care: Navy Hospital Bremerton provides services to active duty and retired military personnel and their families. They won't turn away a veteran from emergency, but the veteran would have to go through a security check to get on base, making emergency care impractical. Veterans can go to Harrison for emergency care. Eligible veterans can also seek financial help from the assistance fund to help pay their emergency care bill. If a veteran is seeking urgent care, their only opportunity is a VA hospital unless they have prior approval. The Bremerton VA clinic doesn't have urgent care. The discussion then centered on applying pressures to the powers to be to have either better transportation to VA hospitals or improve local facilities. **Corky, Fred, Rudy Muriel, and Russ Hauge will be an ad hoc committee to study the issue.**

Assistance Fund Case Scenario – staff explained that prior to the board considering their motion at last meeting, KCR had negotiated with Ray's Automotive to release van to its owner for \$200. The check has been cashed; however the van's work is not completed. The matter is complicated by the veteran being out of town for a week and requesting that repair shop not be leaned on. Staff went on to explain that he had received a Waiver Request submitted by the service officer handling the case. The Waiver Request became moot because the car's release had already been negotiated. A recommendation coming from the board would also carry no weight. Staff is waiting for the veteran to return. If van is not repaired, staff will visit the repair shop.

Silverdale Military Fall Festival – Although the Board moved to participate in the fall festival, no one had volunteered to serve in the both. Roth said he would volunteer.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Staff had received a request from Willis Papillion for \$300 to help with operation expenses for the annual Veterans Day event, which might be beyond the scope of the fund. However it would not be unreasonable to purchase a booth to promote the assistance fund.

Motion: Recommend that a booth be purchased for the annual Veterans Day event at the county fairgrounds. Dean moved. Rudy 2nd. **Motion Passed**

Motion: Recommend that the revisions to the County Veterans Assistance Fund policy and procedures manual be sent to the Board of County Commissioners for approval. Dean moved, Russ 2nd, **Motion Passed**

Motion: Recommend the county pursue VeteransCorp Development Grant to provide entrepreneurial training for veterans. Dean Moved, Russ 2nd. **Motion Passed**

Staff will consult with Fred for advice on this grant.

Next meeting location – Consensus is that Ray Switzer owes us one and the meeting will be at his location – Bldg #9. Retsil

Money? – staff suggested the board start thinking of ways to spend down the money in the assistance fund, but in doing so keep in mind that 1) we can't go below sustainability of temporary emergency assistance; and to thank twice about potential projects that would require ongoing operating funds.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT – Public may comment on any issues within the scope of the Veterans Advisory Board mission.

12. ADJOURNMENT meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm

Present: Dennis Mannick, Bob Gardner, Dennis Nelson, Dean Hearing, Rudy Muriel, Allen Gates, Corky Sullivan, Russ Hauge, Fred Scheffler, Roth Hafer

Guests: Gerard Crowley

Excused: Sharon Kirkpatrick, Allan Bailey, Ella Rae, Ray Switzer, Willis Papillion Duane Cruz, Mike Carroll

Staff: Leif Bentsen

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board

Building #9, Washington Veterans Home

October 10, 4:30 pm

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – Roth Hafer called the meeting to order
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES September 12, 4:30 pm Dean Hearing moved. Willis 2nd. Motion Passed
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Ray Switzer moved. Allan 2nd. Motion Passed
5. TOUR OF BUILDING #9 Grand Opening in about 30 days. 100 tenants/ next 24 months.
6. CONSTITUENCIES/REPORTS
 - Homeless* – Ray Switzer spoke to the event at the Tacoma Dome where they had a Stand Down style event for the general public including veterans.
 - Employment* – Dennis Mannick went to the Port Angeles Stand Down. 200 people, 34 homeless, barber gave non-stop haircuts.
 - Mental health* – Corky Sullivan is very concerned about getting program information to veterans. Should avail ourselves of Welcome House in Jackson Park.
 - Female vets* – Sharon Kirkpatrick meet Sen. Murray with other veterans.
8. OLD BUSINESS
 - Stand Down* – Dean Hearing, Dennis Mannick, Allan Gates, Dennis Nelson, staff reported on the planning activities of the Stand Down.
 - Silverdale Military Fall Festival* – Roth will represent the advisory board
 - BCC resolutions* – Staff reported that the recommendations from the advisory board will be before the county board of commissioners on November 5th.
 - VeteransCorp RFP* – Staff reported that he had meeting scheduled with Peninsula and Olympic colleges, Clallam Incubator, and Clallam Vets Program to form partnership.
9. NEW BUSINESS - none
10. ADJOURNMENT

Present: Dean Hearing, Allan Gates, Ray Switzer, Mike Carroll, Dennis Mannick, Dennis Nelson, Robert Gardner, Corky Sullivan, Rudy Muriel, Ella Rae.

Excused: Sharon Kirkpatrick, Russ Hauge, Duane Cruz, Fred Scheffler

Staff: Leif Bentsen

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
Evergreen Room, Silverdale Community Center
November 14, 2007, 4:30 pm

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER Roth Hafer called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES October 10, Allen Gates moved, Willis Papillion 2nd.
Motion Passed.
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA Allen moved as amended, Dennis Mannick 2nd.
Motion Passed.
5. CONSTITUENCY REPORTS

Homeless – Ray Switzer reported that the first five residents have arrived at Bldg #9. Any veteran interested in residency must be clean and sober for 30 days and will have to go through American Lake.

Dennis M. backgrounded the board on the difficulties with doing annual homeless count in January. Following a brief discussion, Dennis moved, Russ Hauge 2nd.

Motion: Recommend that assistance funds be used to contract with agency experienced with working with the homeless to provide field surveyors for the National Homeless Count in January, 2008. Motion Passed

Mental health – Corky Sullivan reported an increase in Iraq/Afghan vets seeking his service. TBI and PTSD are prevalent.

Incarceration program – Russ and staff are working on a CLE program for local attorneys. Probably be 1 to 2 hours in length over lunch and approved by the Washington State Bar Association. The concept is to provide local defense bar with resources that will help their clients.

Female vets – Sharon Kirkpatrick is working with the state women's advisory board. In addition to serving in combat areas, women are also facing sexual assault and harassment. There is a WDVA meeting on December 11/12 for veterans and their families. She is also working on a incarnation project. Staff will forward data from Kitsap County Jail.

Legislative update – Advisory board discussed technical adjustments to RCW and passed the following motion: Recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that they inform local legislators to revise RCW 73.08 Veterans Relief per Attmt. A.

Assistance fund – staff reviewed information provided by KCR

8. OLD BUSINESS

Stand Down – Board commented on the success of the stand down and a debriefing session held on November 7.

Silverdale Military Fall Festival – Roth thought it was very positive

BCC resolutions – Staff updated board. The board of county commissioners approved the VAB recommendations for a new manual and including Stand Downs and other programs in the manual. The contract procurement was tabled to include disabled veterans.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Should the Advisory Board and Assistance Fund be involved in Stand Down tentatively scheduled for April, 2008? Allen moved. Willis 2nd.

Motion Passed.

Nominating Committee: Roth appointed Willis, Sharon, Ray, and Russ to serve on the nominating committee.

10. ADJOURNMENT at 6:00 pm

Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board
Evergreen Room, Silverdale Community Center
December 12, 2007, 4:30 pm

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER at 4:30 pm
2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/INTRODUCTIONS Staff had members review their personal contact information sheet for accuracy
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES November 14, 2007 Willis Papillion moved. Ray Switzer 2nd. Motion Passed
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA Willis moved, Several members 2nd. Motion Passed
5. GUEST SPEAKER: Conservation Certificate Program at Olympic College? – Mark Fischer, WDVA. Mr. Fischer explained what the Conservation Program entailed and how new legislation was being sought to place a program at Olympic College.

Willis moved, Sharon Kirkpatrick 2nd: The Kitsap County Veterans Advisory Board endorses the expansion of the WDVA Conservation Certification Program to Olympic College and recommends that the Kitsap Board of County Commissioners demonstrates its support of the certification program to the legislature.
Motion Passed.

6. CONSTITUENCY REPORTS

Homeless – Ray reported that 11 were in the Bldg. 9 program, 5 were being screened. He anticipated maybe 20 being in the program by Christmas. Many were getting assistance with VA and work entitlement program.

Employment – Dennis Mannick reported he continues to get people referred from the Victims Assistance Fund. Mary Parmenter, raised the issue of woman vet who went to Bldg #9 and was put off by its male centric atmosphere. A brief discussion ensued about how the building is administrated vis a' vis gender separation and the importance of being sensitive to women veterans who have experienced Military Sexual Trauma.

Female vets – Sharon relayed information about the WDVA conference she attended and the list of resources for veteran families that was provided at the conference.

Assistance fund – staff provided the monthly KCR report.

Mental health – Corky Sullivan commented on how impressed he was by the Patriot Riders group who provided an honor guard at the memorial services of a local veteran who lost his life in Afghanistan.

Rudy Muriel did a power point presentation on the Wounded Warrior Program being initiated at Madigan Hospital. This was followed by an intense discussion about what to do about returning veterans suffering mental health problems and the stigmatization of those very issues by the military, including the recent filing of charges against 1LT Elizabeth Whiteside. Willis suggested that a women's veterans group file a class action under the 14th amendment. The board reviewed Roth's draft letter to Senator Murray. Staff will distribute to all. Sharon will revise letter for further review.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Election of officers – Willis asked for nominations from the floor. There were none, Willis moved a slate of Roth for chair, and Fred Scheffler for vice chair. Several 2nds.
Motion Passed

BCC resolutions – Staff reported that the Veterans Contract Preference had been approved by the Board of County Commissioners and was now county ordinance. It was noted that the changes by the BCC from the original recommendation had really narrowed the eligibility down to only a few. The recommendation to include National Guard eligibility in the RCW is being drafted into a bill by Rep. Christine Rolfes. The addition of Domestic Partner will probably occur attached to another bill.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Endorsement protocols – Staff suggested that the board adopt a set of protocols to formalize a process for people or organizations seeking the board's endorsement and or sponsor ship.

Dean Hearing moved to accept the example protocols provided by staff. Willis 2nd.
Motion Passed

New Media Guidelines/Annual Report/retreat – Staff provide new media guidelines. Informal consensus was the chair would be the board media representative. Board set February 9 as tentative date for annual retreat. Duane Cruz, Dennis, and staff will respectively check on the availability of Bremerton Armory, WorkSource Center, and the Yacht Club Boiler private dining room and pass the information on to the board at large.

Willis letter on partisanship – Staff explained he is not a gate-keeper of emails between advisory board members and encouraged members to send email directly to other members rather than asking staff to forward emails. He also explained his arbitrary and subjective method of determining which emails to forward to advisory board members and others. He also recommended that when sending blind copies, that board members send blind copies to all parties, rather than only selected parties.

Request for Funding Projects – Staff passed out a request from Kitsap Mental Health Service and explained that there were going to be more down the pike. In speaking with his supervisors, the department of personnel and human services, which oversees the assistance fund, wants to ensure that a needs assessment has been done with the major social service organizations to determine what gaps there are in providing help to indigent veterans. A discussion ensued about the possibilities of using the fund, including the use for construction. Staff will check with legal department in regard to the fund being used for bricks and mortar.

The chair appointed a Projects Review Committee of Ella Rae, Ray, Corky, and Rudy.

10 ADJOURNMENT at 6:15 pm.

Present: Mike Carroll, Duane Cruz, Robert Gardner, Roth Hafer, Dean Hearing, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Dennis Mannick, Rudy Muriel, Dennis Nelson, Willis Papillion, Ella Rae, Corky Sullivan, Ray Switzer.

Guests: Mark Fischer, Rikkie Sanders, Mary Parmenter

Staff: Leif Bentsen