



Veterans Advisory Board

The purpose and establishment of the Veteran's Advisory Board is to advise the Board of County Commissioners on the needs of local indigent veterans, the resources available to local indigent veterans, and the programs that could benefit the needs of local indigent veterans and their families.

BOARD MEETING

DATE: March 9, 2022
TIME: 5:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Online

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Topic: Kitsap County VAB Meeting
Meeting ID: 872 9855 0007
Passcode: 737889
Phone: 1-253-215-8782

A G E N D A

* = Action Item

1. Call to Order / Introductions Harry Gilger
2. Online Announcement Peggy Roy
3. Welcome Peggy Roy
4. Approval of Agenda* VAB
5. Approval of Minutes, January 2022* VAB
6. Guest Speaker Charlotte Garrido, Commissioner
Kristina, Catholic Community Services
7. Reports
 - a. Veterans Assistance Funds (reports provided in packet)
 - b. Committee Reports
 - Tiny Houses – Clive
 - Veterans Garden – Dennis/George
 - Howe Management Farm Plan
 - Public Affairs – Joe
 - Military Appreciation – Joe
 - Social Media – Brian
 - Veterans Day – Bob
 - Women's Resource Group – Peggy
 - Suicide Prevention – Rick/Dan

- Veteran Education – Tatiane
- Unforgotten Run – Harry
- CBOC (Updates FEB, APR, JUL, OCT) – Peggy

8. Old Business:

- a. Build for Zero presentation, <https://community.solutions/built-for-zero/>; Rick Raymond
- b. Port Orchard Veterans Park Update – Doug Washburn

9. New Business

- a. Stand Down update and event funding request; Peggy Roy

10. Public Comment

11. Good of the Order/Announcements

12. Next Meeting, Time & Place – April 13, 2022, 1730; Place TBD

13. Adjourn

VAB Events 2022

January TBD – Begin Run to Tahoma planning meetings

January 12 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

February 9 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

March 9 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

March 5 - Military Appreciation Day, Kitsap County Fairgrounds Pavilion

March/April - Veteran Garden prep

April 13 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

April 30 – Spring Stand Down; Grab & Go

May TBD – Veteran Garden Working Party

May 11 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

May 27 – The Unforgotten, Run to Tahoma; transfer Veteran remains from Coroner to County Admin Building

May 28 – 1000, The Unforgotten, Run to Tahoma

June TBD – Veteran Garden Working Party

June 8 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

July TBD – 1000 – 1200, Veteran’s Garden Working Party

July 13 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

August TBD – Veterans Garden Working Party

August 10 – 1730, VAB monthly meeting

September 14 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

September 10 - 1830- 2000; World Suicide Prevention

September 24 - Fall Stand Down; 1000 - 1400 + set up and tear down

October TBD - Veterans Garden Working Party

October 12 – 1730 VAB monthly meeting

November 5 - 0900 - 1400, VAB Retreat (no monthly meeting)

November 11, Veterans Day

December 14 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

January 11, 2023 - 1730, VAB monthly meeting

January 2023 - begin Run to Tahoma planning meetings

**MINUTES OF THE
KITSAP COUNTY VETERAN'S ADVISORY BOARD
February 9, 2022
Online meeting**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Harry Gilger at 5:30 PM.

- **Announcements:**
 - Chair read required on-line announcement covering the conduct of voting members and guests during the meeting.
 - Each member provided a brief introduction to the group.
 - Chair welcomed Commissioner Wolfe to the meeting. Commissioner Wolf expressed his appreciation for the work done by the VAB and the commitment of Board members.

- **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Rick Raymond and seconded by Scott Austin to approve agenda as amended.

- **Approval of minutes:** Motion made by Scott Austin and seconded by Bob Theal to approve the January 12, 2022, meeting minutes.

- **Guest Speaker - Jim McKenna (KAVA).** Jim provided an excellent presentation about the organization he leads, Kitsap Area Veterans Alliance. Jim reviewed the history of the organization and the services they provide to the veteran community of Kitsap County. He detailed for the Board the involvement KAVA has in organizing, supporting, and financing the semi-annual Kitsap County Stand Downs each year. This year Stand Downs will be held on 30 April and 24 September. He explained to the board his organizing committee is planning for a Grab n' Go in April and a full in person stand down in September. This will address concerns about the recent spike in COVID infections and the severe facility use limitations imposed by the City of Bremerton at the Sheridan Center. KAVA board members are also concerned that not enough time is available to reestablish key supporting organizations for the April event. Since COVID, many organizations have changed, some are no longer operating as they once did, and many personnel changes have occurred to create the enormous challenge of organizing a face-to-face event. The KAVA team is also concerned about ensuring sufficient volunteers are available to hold the event. He is confident that these challenges can be overcome to hold a successful face-to-face event in September. Jim told the Board that he will not ask the county for money to support the April Grab n' Go event as his organization has a sufficient balance to work with to fill bags and meet essential needs of veterans. Those interested in assisting with planning and organizing can contact Jim McKenna or Peggy Roy for more information about how they can help.

- **Reports: Committee Reports (Five Minutes Each)**
 - Veterans Assistance Funds – Reviewed the monthly financial report. It was noted that more dollars were spent in January than planned. The single highest expense area was rent. Board members were reminded that it is winter and traditionally more dollars are awarded than at

other times of the year. Also, inflation is a likely contributing to the increase. Will watch for a trend over the next couple months. Doug Washburn explained that the expenses incurred in January by KCR will be reflected in February due to when reporting occurs, and the reports are generated.

- Tiny Houses – Clive commented there was nothing new to report.
- Veterans Garden – Dennis asked about reimbursement for expenses associated with the garden. The group discussed establishing a budget for the garden(s) in the future but was unsure where in the financial report we should account for the expenses. The Board approved a motion made by Harry Gilger and seconded by Scott Austin to provisionally approve \$300 to cover reimbursement expenses that may occur for the Garden. Rick Becker said he would work with our financial accountant to determine the best place in the report to account for expenses and provide instructions on how to submit forms for reimbursement. George Holden commented that he contacted representatives from the WSU extension office and Parks Department about creating a garden plot but was unable to receive a decision regarding establishing a plot in the Anna Smith Park on Traceyton Blvd. He noted Rick Becker attempted to assist. Rick noted that he communicated with the WSU extension office last Friday about a meeting to see if this can be resolved quickly but has not received a reply.
- Public Affairs Officer – Nothing new to report.
- Military Appreciation Day – Joe Kochera reported the date has been set for the 2022 event, March 5. He asked that VAB members attend the event. Peggy noted we will share a table with KAVA members to promote ongoing services to veterans and upcoming events. Peggy mentioned this is one of the events VAB members are expected to support and attend. It was noted this event would be a good opportunity for Board members and KAVA to connect with potential vendors for the September 2022 Stand Down.
- Veterans Day – Bob Theal commented that planning will not begin for the event until later in the year.
- Social Media – Brian reported the VAB Facebook page has over 300 members now. He continues posting helpful information to the page for veterans. He also explained there has been no negative feedback from moderators about comments received. Brian also explained how to submit information to him for posting.
- Suicide Prevention – Rick Raymond is in the beginning stages of preparing for an event in the fall. He has issued invitations for several elected officials to attend including Senator Murray and Congressman Kilmer. Dan Piper mentioned he has been creating graphics in support of suicide prevention.
- Veteran Education – Nothing new to report this month.
- Women’s Resource Group – No new information to pass to the Board.
- Unforgotten Run – Harry reported that planning continues. The event will be held on the 28th of May. All VAB members are expected to participate in ceremonies conducted on Saturday

morning, 28 May 2022, at the Kitsap County Administration Building. Three Veterans have been named by the Coroner for transport to Tahoma.

- CBOC – Peggy Roy announced that the Silverdale Veterans Administration CBOC is now taking applications for enrollment to the clinic. The clinic offers local primary care services to qualified veterans.

- **Old Business:**

- Build for Zero, <https://community.solutions/built-for-zero/>; Rick Raymond was called away and was unable to deliver his presentation. Rick will present at the March VAB meeting.
- Assessment of poverty threshold to increase or decrease eligibility for use of the Veterans Assistance Fund. (150%, 175% or 200% of poverty level); Rick Becker. Rick led a discussion about the poverty level that has been established to determine eligibility for use of the Veterans Assistance Fund (VAF). At the present time total income may not exceed 175% of the poverty level after qualified deductions from income. This means that some applicants can qualify for use of the fund even though gross income exceeds 175% of the poverty level. Rick reviewed data with the board that was provided by the Kitsap County Solutions Center (HSC) showing that 91% of all veterans seeking assistance through the HSC (about 109 during 2021) are at or below the 175% poverty level, with the most being below. Given the fact that the VAF administrator has not denied any applicants, all available funds were distributed to needy veterans during 2021, and that the vast majority of those who apply are at or below the 175% poverty level, Rick recommended to the VAB that the 175% poverty level be left in place for 2022. A motion was made by Bob Theal and seconded by Joe Kochera to approve the 175% level and was unanimously approved by the VAB.

- **New Business:**

- Support Services for Veteran Families (SSVF Program) - George Holden. George presented an excellent overview of the SSFV housing program that is administered by Catholic Community Services in Washington. In addition to other resources in Kitsap County, the program provides a resource for veterans to find and finance affordable housing in the community. The program is for very low-income Veterans, SSFV provides case management and supportive services to prevent the imminent loss of a Veteran's home or identify a new, more suitable housing situation for the individual and his or her family; or to rapidly re-house Veterans and their families who are homeless and might remain homeless without this assistance. Catholic Community Services is opening an office in that is being equipped now. George expects the office to open very soon. He will update the board at future meetings.
- Point in Time Count - Peggy Roy. Peggy explained to the Board about the Point in Time Count that is conducted each year and the importance of the count that estimates the extent of homelessness in Kitsap County. Traditionally conducted in January each year the count will be held on the 24th of February 2022. Peggy explained there is required training associated with project so this must be arranged quickly. There is a call for volunteers to support the project so please contact Peggy if you would like more details on how you can serve.
- Port Orchard Veterans Park – Scott Austin. Scott briefed the board on current conditions at the

Port Orchard Veterans Park after his recent visit. The park was the subject of a December 2021 Kitsap Sun article that described the unsanitary conditions at the park and what Port Orchard officials described as unacceptable. The park was cleared of trash shortly after the article appeared, but more is needed. Doug Washburn explained the great efforts and expense that was involved to clean the park up and provide portable toilets. He also explained the legal barriers that exist in denying “campers” the ability to use the park when the county does not currently have enough shelter space to offer the homeless who are living outdoors although a shelter project is in progress to address this. One barrier to the clean up is that before Waste Management will remove dumpsters, they require the trash to be “filtered” for dangerous items like empty propane containers and sharp objects. This is potentially dangerous work that is beyond the ability of volunteers to do. Commissioner Wolfe commented that he has been very involved with finding solutions and is acutely aware of the unacceptable conditions at the park today. He noted that use of and conditions of the park do not honor the veterans that the park is dedicated to honor. He committed to finding a solution to the homelessness that is causing use of the park, asked VAB members for their suggestions, and provided his phone number to Board members.

- **Good of the Order/Announcements:**
- **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
- **Next meeting:** Next monthly meeting will be March 9, 2022, at the Kitsap Golf and Country Club. A Zoom meeting may be necessary. Details will be sent to the members.
- **ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 1920.

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS	GUESTS	STAFF
<p><u>Present</u> Harry Gilger Brian Davis Dan Piper Scott Austin Frank Gibbons Joe Kochera Dennis Mannick Bob Theal Peggy Roy George Holden Clive Stewart Tatiane Simons Richard Raymond Joel Atteberry</p> <p><u>Absent/Excused</u> Jayme DeGooyer (E) Jeff Rimack</p>	<p>Cheryl Frazier (KAVA) Jim McKenna (KAVA) Brandon Miller</p>	<p>Doug Washburn Sonya Mills Rick Becker</p>

Task Tracker			
Date	Name	Task and Goal for Completion	Progress
2/9/22	Rick Becker	Garden Expense Reporting and Reimbursement. 3/9/22	Rick will work with Alan Sharett to track Veteran Garden expenses in the monthly financial reports and provide instructions to members for processing reimbursement requests.

2022 Veterans Relief Fund Budget

As of February 31, 2022

Account #	Account Title	Budget	Year to Date	Percent	Balance
	Beginning Fund Balance	300,000.00	354,753.69		
Current Revenue					
3110.10	Real & Personal Property	596,000.00	19,459.42	3.3%	576,540.58
3610.11	Investment Interest	2,000.00	48.61	2.4%	1,951.39
3000	Other Revenue	0.00	354.60	100.0%	(354.60)
	Revenue total	598,000.00	19,862.63	3.3%	578,137.37
	Budget total	898,000.00			
County Staff Charges					
5101	Regular Salaries	38,759.00	4,710.51	12.2%	34,048.49
5201	Industrial Insurance	455.00	41.45	9.1%	413.55
5202	Social Security	2,965.00	357.24	12.0%	2,607.76
5203	PERS Retirement	3,973.00	473.24	11.9%	3,499.76
5209	WA State Family Leave	57.00	1.74	3.1%	55.26
5229	Benefit Bucket	7,245.00	1,207.50	16.7%	6,037.50
5311	Office Supplies	500.00	192.39	38.5%	307.61
5419	Other Prof Services	-	400.00	100.0%	(400.00)
5425	Postage	100.00	-	0.0%	100.00
5431	Mileage	1,000.00	-	0.0%	1,000.00
5432	Travel	500.00	-	0.0%	500.00
5451	Operating Rentals	-	0.12	100.0%	(0.12)
Contracted Services					
5415	Management Consulting	(130,000.00)	-	0.0%	(130,000.00)
	KCR	600,000.00	-	0.0%	600,000.00
	NW Justice League	50,000.00	7,388.00	14.8%	42,612.00
Standdown					
5311	Office Supplies	500.00	-	0.0%	500.00
5413	Medical/Dental	2,000.00	-	0.0%	2,000.00
5441	Advertising	2,000.00	-	0.0%	2,000.00
5451	Operating Rentals	500.00	-	0.0%	500.00
5499	Other Miscellaneous	9,183.00	-	0.0%	9,183.00
	Veteran's Garden	300.00	-	0.0%	300.00
County Charges					
5912	I/F IS Service Charges	3,012.00	502.00	16.7%	2,510.00
5913	I/F IS Program Maintenance	1,170.00	195.00	16.7%	975.00
5922	I/F IS Projects	166.00	27.66	16.7%	138.34
5996	Indirect Cost Allocation	6,001.00	1,500.25	25.0%	4,500.75

Expense total	600,386.00	16,997.10	2.8%	583,388.90
Ending Fund Balance	297,614.00	357,619.22		
Budget total	898,000.00			



KITSAP COMMUNITY
RESOURCES
Creating Hope | Restoring Lives

Veterans Assistance Fund 2022

Monthly Report: February 2022

Submitted by: Garry Hughes

Activity	February	YTD
Total Applicants	40	92
Total # of New Applicants	3	7
Applications Accepted	40	92
Applications Denied	0	0
General Discharges	0	1
2022 Total Unduplicated	19	71
Total Payout	\$ 21,136.16	\$ 58,606.29

Activity	
Appliances	\$ 141.69
Auto Repair	\$ 1,281.72
Burial	\$ 3,000
Bus Pass	
Bus Ticket Home	
Clothing	\$ 250
Dental	
Food, includes hygiene and cleaning supplies	\$ 1,914.51
Gasoline	\$ 458.86
Heating Oil	
Motel	
Medical	\$ 103
Natural Gas	\$ 643.34
Occupation Certification	
Phone	\$ 1,084.63
Propane	\$ 664.45
PSE	\$ 3,211.61
Rent	\$ 7,004
Sewer	\$ 333.36
Union Dues	
Waste Management	\$ 124.83
Water	\$ 920.46
Wood for Heat/ Pellets	
Misc.	
Total Payout	\$21,136.16

Demographics	February	YTD
Veteran	19	68
Dependent	3	3
Widow	0	0
Gender		
Male	13	45
Female	6	26
Other Gender	0	0
Age		
30 yrs. old and under	0	2
31 to 60 yrs. old	5	24
60 yrs. old and over	14	45
Ethnicity		
Hispanic or Latino	0	0
Non-Hispanic or Latino	19	71
Race		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0
Asian	0	0
Black or African American	4	15
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	1
White	14	55
Other Race	0	0
Multi Race (2 or more of the above)	0	0

Of those that were served out of the Assistance Fund, some were given information on other KCR programs.

KCR \$ value of referrals – \$4,100

KCR \$ value of referrals YTD (January 2022 – Present) – \$7,147

Applications Denied: 0

- 0 individuals denied

Referrals

All clients are given referrals to community services including KCR.

Of those Veterans served out of the assistance fund, all were referred to other programs and given resources outside of KCR:

- Pierce County VAF
- WIOA Program
- Housing Solutions Center (HSC)
- Salvation Army/St. Vincent De Paul/DSHS
- Food Banks/Free Meal Sites
- SSVF (Supportive Services for Veterans and Families)
- Work Source
- WDVA/Building 10
- Affordable Connectivity program
- 211 Resource Line

- Legal Resources/Northwest Justice Project
- VASH Program (Section 8)
- Catholic Community Services
- Credit Repair Resources
- American Financial Solutions
- Home Purchasing Options/Resources
- Kitsap Access Bus
- Landlord/Tenant laws of Washington State

\$ Value of Referrals outside of KCR - \$3,256

\$ Value of Referrals YTD (January 2022-Present) - \$5,404

36 phone calls fielded seeking information outside of assistance fund

February Breakdown:

Jail Contacts – 1

YTD (January 2022-Present) – 2 individuals

Clean and Sober Housing – 0

YTD (January 2022-Present) – 1 individuals (\$800)

Eviction relief Funding – 0

YTD (January 2022-Present) – 0 Households (\$)

Kitsap County Veterans Assistance Program - Summary of Direct Emergency Assistance During 2022

Total Direct Service Budget 2022 - \$350,000

Activity	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Total 2022
Appliances		\$ 142											\$ 142
Auto Repair	\$ 5,988	\$ 1,282											\$ 7,270
Burial		\$ 3,000											\$ 3,000
Bus Pass													\$ -
Bus Ticket Home													\$ -
Clothing		\$ 250											\$ 250
Dental	\$ 959												\$ 959
Food	\$ 2,049	\$ 1,915											\$ 3,964
Gasoline	\$ 607	\$ 459											\$ 1,066
Heating Oil													\$ -
Motel	\$ 285												\$ 285
Medical	\$ 47	\$ 103											\$ 150
Natural Gas	\$ 139	\$ 643											\$ 782
Occupation Certification													\$ -
Phone	\$ 1,129	\$ 1,085											\$ 2,214
Propane	\$ 1,273	\$ 664											\$ 1,937
PSE	\$ 2,984	\$ 3,212											\$ 6,196
Rent	\$ 20,322	\$ 7,004											\$ 27,326
Sewer	\$ 457	\$ 333											\$ 790
Union Dues													\$ -
Waste Management	\$ 167	\$ 125											\$ 292
Water	\$ 1,065	\$ 920											\$ 1,985
Wood for Heat/ Pellets													\$ -
TOTALS	\$ 37,471	\$ 21,137	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 58,608
Balance	\$ 312,529	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392	\$ 291,392

Demographics	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Total 2022
Veteran	49	19											68
Dependent	3												3
Widow	0												0
Gender													
Male	32	13											45
Female	20	6											26
Other Gender	0												0
Age													
30 yrs. old and under	2												2
31 to 60 yrs. old	19	5											24
60 yrs. old and over	31	14											45
Ethnicity													
Hispanic or Latino	0	0											0
Non-Hispanic or Latino	52	19											71
Race													
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0												0
Asian	0												0
Black or African American	11	4											15
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	1											1
White	41	14											55
Other Race	0												0
Multi Race (2 or more of the above)	0												0
TOTALS		95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

2022 Applications Per month	52	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	92
2022 New Clients served YTD	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
2022 Clients denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	52	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	59

2021 Applications Per month	50	40	48	43	41	49	49	51	51	56	57		535
2021 New Clients served YTD	5	5	3	3	0	4	5	3	5	9	6		48
2021 Clients denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
2021 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	50	24	19	14	8	12	15	15	13	9	6		185

2020 Applications Per month	50	42	31	33	37	45	49	36	55	59	43	60	540
2020 New Clients served YTD	8	6	5	6	6	9	4	3	6	5	3	8	69
2020 Clients denied	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
2020 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	50	22	17	19	16	16	15	8	12	16	8	9	208

2019 Applications Per month	57	39	51	67	58	44	58	48	41	63	43	44	613
2019 New Clients served YTD	7	8	7	9	8	7	10	4	4	11	5	5	85
2019 Clients denied	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4
2019 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	56	20	22	31	24	18	21	11	15	18	13	7	256

2018 Applications Per month	41	29	34	38	42	42	43	33	40	37	40		419
2018 New Clients served YTD	7	4	2	5	5	4	5	5	8	9	7		61
2018 Clients denied	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0		3
2018 Total Clients Served (unduplicated #)	41	16	17	11	18	15	18	11	12	17	22		198

2017 Applications Per month	37	30	49	43	36	48	48	55	38	49	48	47	528
2017 New Clients served YTD	8	8	7	12	8	8	3	13	15	10	7	11	110
2017 Clients denied	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	1	1	3	2	2	15
2017 Total Clients Served	37	29	48	41	36	46	48	54	37	46	46	45	513

2016 Applications per month	36	45	37	36	36	41	50	40	33	37	35	32	458
2016 New Clients served YTD	10	14	7	5	5	10	13	10	9	7	9	2	101

2015 Applications per month	38	35	46	45	39	22	48	41	42	34	40	42	472
2015 New Clients served YTD	11	13	19	12	8	5	14	14	10	10	13	15	144