

**THURSTON COUNTY VETERANS' ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING
412 Lilly Rd. NE, Olympia, WA
Monday, April 9, 2012**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Russell Cron, Veterans of Foreign Wars
Valerie Elliott, Veteran Representative
Dr. Mimi Fields, Veteran Representative
Robert Thompson, Tumwater Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 7089

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ernest Hume, Disabled American Veterans, Tumwater Chapter 41

STAFF MEMBER PRESENT: Linda Loyle, Community Program Manager; Lincoln Joseph, Veterans' Fund Assistant

The meeting began at 6:03 PM

- I. Introductions
- II. **MSC approval of October 2011 and January 2012 minutes of the Thurston County Veterans' Advisory Board.**
- III. Dr. Fields and Linda Loyle provided information regarding a meeting with Kristine Reeves a staff person in Senator Patti Murray's office. Kristine discussed issues Senator Murray is working on and what we can do to tap into those services. The office staff is available to assist veterans, including case management services. They can connect us to services and make sense of the maze of funding. The office can provide consultation if not services. It was a good discussion.
- IV. Ordinance
 - Board appointments, membership
 - Number of members on the advisory board
 - Perhaps staggering appointments
 - Active recruitment, looking for nationally recognized veterans' organization representatives
 - Discussion or issue statement
 - Ad hoc committee?
 - Greater pool?
 - Summarization, discuss with BoCC in summer
 - Perhaps minimum of seven and maximum of 12 members
 - Discussion included perhaps meeting every two months, remove consecutive in 2.122.030, C of Ordinance so it includes missing two meetings a year, need to hold members accountable
 - Possibly how often the advisory board meets can help manage absenteeism
 - Perhaps every other month meet
 - New recruits
 - Lengthen meetings?
 - Some absences are going to happen
 - Perhaps highlight issues brought up and what the law requires when meet with BoCC
 - Keep recruitment open

- Currently meet at least quarterly and at other times as needed.

V. PowerPoint Presentation

1. Introduction our goals, brief statement
2. Questions and comments
3. Conduct a special meeting one topic, what proposing
4. Include RCW, advisory board ordinance
5. Law and policy
6. Characterization of how funds used including pie chart, do by category
7. Brainstorm issues we have struggled over including ordinance, definition of veteran, dental, distribution of funds, heavily shelter
8. Trends affecting us, demand, increase in one area or another?
9. Other ways funds could be used?
10. How to be more successful linking homeless with jobs so sustainable.

- Asset building coalition, identify needs.
- What are veteran needs and demand for services?
- Missions in concert with what our program does
- Suggestions for revisions to presentation include condense, better mission, regulatory synopsis, meat of the presentation services, funding, needs and issues. Put in pie chart, simple visuals
- Work on PowerPoint slides then meet a couple of times. Perhaps meet monthly starting in one month. Linda send out proposed dates and people respond.

VI. Definition of Veteran

- Why is actively serving in definition?
- Need straight forward definition

VII. Next Meeting

- Contracting will be discussed at the next work session
- Definition of Veteran
- Provide proposed meeting dates

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Minutes Submitted by Linda Loyle, Community Program Manager