

Jasper County Commission of Veteran Affairs

County Annex Bldg., 115 N 2nd Ave E. Newton, IA 50208

Director: Kurt M. Jackson

Phone 1-641-792-7993

Fax 1-641-787-1302

Commissioners: John Billingsley, Marta Ford, Susan Springer, Jerry Nelson, Jerome Gunderson

5 April 2017

Minutes

At 3:00 PM Chairman John Billingsley called the monthly meeting of the Jasper County Commission of Veteran Affairs to order. The other commissioners in attendance were, Susan Springer and Jerry Nelson. Jerome Gunderson called in on speaker phone. Commissioner Marta Ford was absent. Others in attendance were Jasper County Human Resource Director Dennis Simon, Veteran Affairs Director Kurt Jackson, Keith Thorpe and Jason Jagler of the "Newton Daily News".

The minutes of the 8 March 2017 meeting were reviewed. With no additions or correction John Billingsley asked for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Jerry Nelson moved to accept the minutes, Susan Springer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

Grant Fund Update

- a. Kurt Jackson reported that a check for \$500.00 was issued to the Honor Flight Account of the Newton American Legion Post 111 for sponsorship of the PTSD/Suicide Seminar which will be presented by Jerry Yellin and Luke Jensen on April 27, 28 and 29, 2017.
- b. Kurt Jackson reported that a check for \$207.19 was issued to the American Legion Post 111 for sponsorship of a meal provided to the Jasper County Vietnam Veterans and Vietnam Era Veterans Organization which met on 24 March 2017.
- c. Kurt Jackson reported \$112.50 has been spent out of the \$500.00 approved spending of the grant money for newspaper advertising.

2017 Free Job Career Fair

Kurt Jackson reported that he attended the job fair and met with three veterans. He believes this event is worthwhile and plans to attend the Job Career Fair in the future.

New Business:

March Budget and 3rd Quarter BOS Quarterly Report

Gerome Gunderson made a motion to approve the March Budget and 3rd Quarter BOS Quarterly Report. Jerry Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Volunteer John Prater:

Kurt Jackson described Mr. Prater impeccable job history. Dennis Simon conducted a background check on Mr. Prater and says he has no concerns about him being a volunteer. Also, Dennis mentioned that he was impressed with Mr. Prater's résumé.

John Billingsley made a motion to accept John Prater as a non-paid volunteer and authorizes our Director and his staff to develop this individual as an appropriate volunteer as their discretion may guide them. The motion was seconded by Susan Springer. Motion passed unanimously.

Dennis Simon left the meeting at 3:23 PM.

Grant Fund Uses:

Kurt Jackson reported that as of the end of March 2017 we have spent \$7,045.42 of the \$10,000.00 Grant. We have remaining \$2,954.58 to spend prior to 30 June 2017.

The commission discussed future uses of grant funds:

Sponsoring a bench at the Jasper County Fair Grounds...

"The Wall" a traveling mockup of the Vietnam Wall in Washington D.C. will be coming to Newton in the Spring of 2018. Susan Springer thought this would be an opportunity for veteran outreach. Kurt Jackson suggested we have speakers such as Bob Steben (Iowa Director of Veteran Affairs) and representatives of the VA Central Iowa Health Care...

Condolence Letter:

Kurt Jackson passed around four possible condolence letter formats to be placed in the flag cases we provide for deceased veterans. It was the consensus of the board to have Kurt pick out the format that he feels best meets the needs of the bereaved family.

At 3:51 PM Jerome Gunderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into a closed session. Jerry Nelson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

At 3:52 PM Jason Jagler and Keith Thorpe left the meeting.

Confirm 3:00 PM Meeting for May 10, 2017.