

MINUTES

Veterans Assistance Commission of Boone County

The January 2024 meeting of the Veterans Assistance Commission of Boone County was called to order by Chairman Kelm on 15 January 2024 at 5:00 pm.

All Executive Committee members were present except, Senior Vice Chairman, Brad Niles and Secretary Jesse Strebin were excused. County Board member Marion Thornberry attended.

All Boone County Post delegates were present except Brad Niles, Post 77 and Jesse Strebin, Post 205, were excused.

The secretary's reading of the Minutes was approved as read by Bernie Bland.

Public Comment:

- Robert Ryder of Loves Park, IL commented that he felt he was wrongfully terminated from his position as superintendent on May 22, 2023.
- Brady Johnson of Belvidere Commented how well Elizabeth and her staff has helped him and other vets and his satisfaction of the current VAC assistance.
- Thomas Taylor of Belvidere commented on his appreciation of his satisfaction of VAC Assistance and current staff and wanted to thank Elizabeth for helping him to get to 100%.
- Danny Harris of Belvidere commented on his appreciation of his satisfaction of VAC Assistance and current staff.
- Nick Parnell of Winnebago County Vietnam LZ Peace Memorial commented on the quality of service that Robert Ryder has given to support the LZ Peace Memorial and other veterans' events, he felt that the service give by former Superintendent, Robert Ryder is top notch.
- Mike Miller of Loves Park, IL commented on how former Superintendent, Robert Ryder helped him at a claim which was emotionally difficult for him to submit thanked him for his help submitting his claim that was approved. He also stated VACBC continues to help with an appeal process.

Reports by the President:

- OMA Violations Report Reading.

Committee Reports:

- None

Superintendent's Report:

- Reported Christmas Annual Food baskets and Gifted gift cards for Wal-Mart for hams or turkeys.

- Reported Belvidere Police Department held lunch for Boone Veterans and 61 veterans attended.
- Reported Tyler Technology database system VAC user set up completed.
- Reported donation nominated from Mayor Clint Morris from Scannell Properties
- Submitted December 2023 VAC “Monthly Veterans Assistance Status Report”
- Submitted December VACBC Monthly “Operations Reports”

On motion by John Grzelak and second by Gary Knox the Superintendent’s Report was accepted

Unfinished Business:

- Discussed a donation of two burial plots and cost exposure to the VAC. Reached out to Highland Memorial Gardens

New Business:

- Vote on 2024 VAC Board Meeting dates.

On Motion by Bernie Bland and second by Gary Knox the Superintended 2024 dates were accepted.

General Discussion:

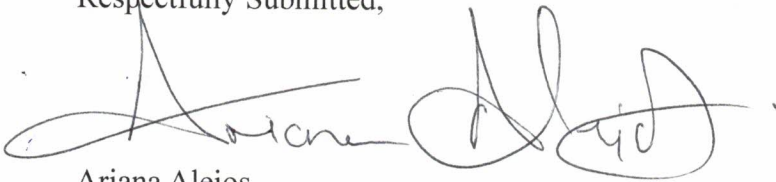
- Marion Thornberry gave advice on how to handle public comments and will send over templates to office.

The next meeting will be held 19 February 2024 at 5:00 pm at VFW Post 1461 at 1310 West Lincoln, Belvidere, IL

On motion by John Grzelak and second by Gary Knox the November 2023 meeting of the Veterans

Assistance Commission of Boone County was adjourned at 5:36 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ariana Alejos', written over a horizontal line.

Ariana Alejos

VAC VSO Assistant / Officer Manager