

Veterans Advisory Board of Skagit County
Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, February 14,
2023 at 1300 1800 Continental Place,
Mount Vernon, WA, 98273-5625

Attendance – Total Attendees

1. Pete Sill - VAB Board Chair / CVMA
2. Chris Diaz - Skagit County Veteran Service Specialist
3. Carmina Villalobos - Community Action of Skagit County
4. Jamie Thornberry - American Legion Post 147
5. Bob Stratton - VFW 5056
6. Bob Garrison - American Legion Post 91
7. Randi Bowman - WorkSource
8. TJ Molendyk – Post 91 Adjutant/Helping Hands
9. Kelly Blau – Veteran Assisted Supportive Housing – VA
10. Andy M. – American Legion Post 43

Call to Order

Pete Sill called to order the regular meeting of the Skagit County Veterans Advisory Board at 1302 on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

We have a quorum and can continue with business

Meeting Minutes Approval

- January 2023 minutes were available for review

Printed copies available - all members should have received an email with these minutes for review before the meeting

Andy motioned that we accept the VAB general meeting minutes as presented.

TJ seconded the motion

- o Motion passed unanimously

Reports

Pete Sill - Board Chair Report

- Veteran in need of plumbing update requested. Carmina advised no further movement except that Debbie at energy assistance would help veteran.
- Skagit County Stand Down April 21st and 22nd. Chris advised that Richard is in charge of the budget needed. Bob S. also stated he could ask VFW for budgetary funds as well.

Carmina Villalobos - Financial / Vets Connect Report

- Financial Report is attached as well as included in the earlier email
- TJ wanted to talk about budget household items. Richard Granley on behalf of Post 91 fills a storage unit with used furniture for veterans moving into their new homes. It was mentioned as well that this board allows for a \$500 furniture voucher for Habitat to Humanity.

Bob S. motioned to accept the financial report as presented

■ *Andy M. seconded the motion*

■ *Motion passes unanimously*

Vets Connect

Will be closed on the 20th

Chris Diaz (Skagit County Veteran Service Specialist)

Pact Act

Vernon

No new information

Cascade Landing

The fire marshall is still approving the building for occupancy

2 applications for subsidies

Kelly Blau - VASH

Mount Vernon Family Housing Unit opened homes to 6 veterans (6 of 8 units have been filled)

25 new vouchers are coming

Need to discuss and vote on approval of a veteran in need of 'exception for service' through VAF/VAC. Veteran needs housing supplies as well as an exception for the vouchers for food, housing items, and furniture. Motion made to approve by Jamie. Tj seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

New Business

Tj mentioned coffee at Post 91 on Wednesdays at 10

Bob S. advised that the VFW has a charter for a new post in Anacortes, Post 12220. The charter has been approved.

Carmina states that Community Action will be hiring a full time and part time employee to provide services in Anacortes.

Randi announced a Jobfair for SilFab Solar Feb. 16 and a Jobfair March 14th from 3pm to 6:30pm.

Jamie advised that Post 147 will be in the VVA Chapter 1109 Welcome Home Vietnam Veteran's Parade this year

Ande announced that the Sedro Woolley Post 43 Parade will be March 25 at 1pm and that the patent on his diesel motor has been approved. Also the Post 43 Picnic this year will be August, the first Saturday

Bob G. mentioned that the PACT ACT Hall Meeting in Seattle will be February 24th from 2-3pm

Chris states that post 91 will be serving free lunches for veterans every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month

Adjournment

- *TJ motioned for the meeting to adjourn*
Ande seconded the motion
Motion passed with all approving except Bob G.
Motion passed
- Meeting adjourned at 1354

Minutes submitted by: Jamie Thornberry, Member Post 147