

County of Kent Department of Veterans' Affairs



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VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

April 11, 2013 – 8:00 a.m.
82 Ionia NW, STE 380

Paul Potter, Chair
Fred Chambers
Mary Johnson
Harold Mast
Edward Perdue

MINUTES

Present: Harold Mast, Fred Chambers, Paul Potter, Carrie Roy, Wayman Britt

Guests: None

Absent: Mary Johnson, Ed Perdue

1. Call to Order – Chair Potter

2. Welcome –

3. Approval of Agenda/Minutes – Motion by Fred Chambers, second by Harold Mast. Minutes approved

4. Staff Report:

A. Financial Status as of 04/10/13: Ms. Roy reviewed the AFF with the committee and reported that we have 77% of the budget remaining for the year and in terms of burial and emergency relief we are in a good position.

B. Emergency Needs and Burials: Ms. Roy reviewed the emergency needs for the months of January, February and March. She provided a graph to the committee. Ms. Roy noted that administration costs were higher in March due to three pay periods occurring within that month.

5. Reports:

“Kent County . . . where diversity and inclusion matter”

A. Claims and Recoveries: Ms. Roy provided a report to the committee showing that in February 48 claims were filed and in March 26 claims were filed.

6. Other Items:

A. NACVSO- Ms. Roy reported to the committee that MACVC was looking for sponsors for the 2014 national conference to rent out the Gerald R. Ford Museum for one night. The cost is \$600. Fred Chambers stated that his VFW post 3946 will donate the \$600. Harold Mast and Paul Potter stated that they would donate matching funds toward the conference. Paul Potter asked Ms. Roy if she had gone to the convention Bureau for support with the conference. Ms. Roy stated that she will try to do that over the next few months.

B. Millage- The committee discussed ideas regarding gaining community support for a millage in 2014. Harold Mast suggested gaining the support of the United Veterans Council of Kent County. The committee discussed other ways to gain support from the community. Wayman stated that staff should not be advocating, but suggested that the VAC help to find a champion within the community to advocate on behalf of veterans. Ms. Roy suggested connecting with the student veteran organizations.

C. Collaboration- The committee discussed strategies for collaboration with the coalition of Service Organizations.

7. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

8. Next Meeting: May 1, 2013.