

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs Meeting
July 11, 2018 beginning at 10:05
Iowa Gold Star Military Museum
7105 - NW 70th Avenue
Johnston, IA 50313-1824

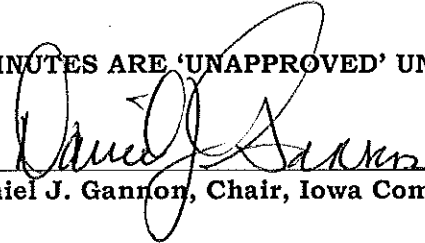
Present: Daniel J. Gannon, Chair
Chuck Connors
George Goebel
Elizabeth Ledvina
John Kost
Gary Wattnem
Steve Hyde
Kate Myers
Mary Van Horn

Staff: Steve Lukan, Executive Director, IDVA
Timon Oujiri, Commandant, IVH
Mari Mielke, IDVA - Recording Secretary

Guests/	Patty Hamann, Cedar Co. VA	Wayne Marek, Des Moines Vet Center
Presenters:	Christine Oliver, Wright Co. VA	Dave Allen, Sen. Grassley's Office
	Kurt Jackson, Jasper Co. VA	Veronica Jackson-Patrick, VA Central Office
	Jim Wartski, VA Central Office	Carmen Gamble, VA Central Office
	Don Lane, ESGR	Dean Brand, IAARNG Funeral Honors
	Brenda Safranski, Sen. Ernst Office	Shawn Ford, IANG
	Michael Mortensen, IACCVSO Pres.	Tim Fisher, Fore the Veterans
	Bruce Voigt, Des Moines VARO	Ryan Dickson, Des Moines VARO
	Greg Paulline, VVA	Bruce Beeston, VVA
	Ashley Beall, House Rep. Caucus St	Judy Johnson-Mekota, Director, Iowa City VA
	Jason Beardsley, VA	Gail Graham, Director, Des Moines VA
	Roger Elliott, VVA	Sue Jehlen, Rock Island National Cemetery
	Michael Minard, The Titan Project	Quanetta King, Rock Island National Cemetery
	Tim Sulzder, The Titan Project	

NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE 'UNAPPROVED' UNTIL ACCEPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT THE NEXT MEETING.

APPROVED:


Daniel J. Gannon, Chair, Iowa Commission of Veterans Affairs

Date:

10/3/2018

Call to Order:

Meeting Chairperson Gannon called the meeting to order at 10:05

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence:

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Gannon and followed by a moment of silence.

Roll Call:

Chairperson Gannon took roll call. All were present except Commissioner Myers who arrived shortly after meeting began.

Welcome/Introductions of Guests:

Chairperson Gannon welcomed everyone in attendance and asked guests to introduce themselves.

Presentation from Jim Wartski and Veronica Jackson-Patrick to present the Commission a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Acting US Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Presentation from Tim Fisher with Fore the Veterans. Fore The Veterans is a non-profit (501C3) created to combat both physical and mental health issues facing today's military veterans through the game of golf. Our mission is to provide free golf on a daily basis to all military veterans in the state of Iowa.

Presentation from Sue Nan Jehlen, Director at the Rock Island National Cemetery.

Presentation from Carol Grant of the Capitol Planning Commission regarding Capitol Complex Veterans Monuments and the policies and grounds keeping procedures for said monuments.

Honor Guard Update

Update provided by Dean Brand with the Iowa ARNG Funeral Honors

VA Regional Office Update

Update provided by Director Bruce Voigt

Des Moines VA Medical Center Update

Update provided by Director Gail Graham

Iowa City VA Medical Center Update

Update provided by Director Judith Johnson-Mekota

Camp Dodge Office Update

Update provided by Executive Director Steve Lukan

Veterans Home Update

Update provided by Commandant Timon Oujiri

Approval of Commission Minutes:

Minutes from the April 4th quarterly meeting were approved unanimously. Minutes from the Trust Fund conference calls of April 4, May 3, and June 5 were all approved unanimously.

Old Business

Chairperson Gannon addressed the written criteria and policies for the Iowa Vietnam Wall on Capitol Complex for the Commission to approve. Commissioner Ledvina made a motion to approve the policies as presented. Commissioner Van Horn seconded the motion. Motion carried; approved unanimously.

New Business

Discussion regarding new memberships to the Commission that was approved by the 2018 legislative session. A representative from the PVA and a representative from the Iowa Association of County Commissioners and Veterans Service Officers (IACCVSO).

Chairperson Gannon requested that all the Commission members get with the organization that they represent to get their 2019 Legislative Initiatives prepared for the next Commission meeting on October 3rd.

Elections

After discussion of the role of the Chair, 1st Vice Chair and 2nd Vice Chair, Commissioner Hyde made a motion to nominate Dan Gannon as Chairperson. The motion to approve was seconded by Commissioner Ledvina; motion carried; nomination was unanimous.

Commissioner Ledvina made a motion to nominate Steve Hyde as 1st Vice Chair. The motion to approve was seconded by Commissioner Wattnem; motion carried; nomination was unanimous.

Commissioner Van Horn made a motion to nominate Elizabeth Ledvina and 2nd Vice Chair. The motion to approve was seconded by Commissioner Hyde; motion carried; nomination was unanimous.

Public Comment

Discussion continued regarding the gender balance issue for the Commission membership.

Next Commission meeting

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 3 at the Iowa Veterans Home in the Malloy Leisure Recreation Center in Marshalltown beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.