

VAB Agenda – May 9, 2024

- I. Call to Order, Pledge, Invocation, Roll Call**
- II. Approval of April 11, 2024 minutes (action)**
- III. Committee Reports (info and action)**
- IV. The Historic Trust Presentation (info)**
- V. March 2024 Contractor and Fund Reports (info)**
- VI. Veterans Assistance Center Updates (info)**
- VII. Old Business (info)**
- VIII. New Business (info)**
- IX. Open Forum (info)**
- X. Adjourn**



Agenda Item I. Call to Order/Pledge/Invocation/Roll Call



Agenda Item II. Approval of April 11th minutes

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes An advisory board to the Clark County Council April 11, 2024

Chair: Michael Harding Vice Chair: Bob Nichols Secretary: Bruce Maas

Meeting called to order.

Roll Call: [Bold script indicates presence at meeting; *italics indicates excused*]

<u>POST</u>	<u>PRIMARY</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>
40 et 8	Bob Brennan	Steve Slegers
American Legion #14	Gene Couture	Charles Ingalls
American Legion #44	Darren Wertz	
American Legion #168	Bob Nichols	
American Legion #176	<i>Thomas Phillips</i>	Michael Gibson
American Veterans #6	John Lovejoy	<i>Vanise Pratt</i>
DAV Chapter #4	Bruce Maas	<i>Tom Cousino</i>
Korean War Assoc. #321	Earl Edwards	Dixie Hotaling
Marine Corps League #826	Steve Slegers	
VFW #4278	<i>Shannon Roberts</i>	<i>Dana Difford</i>
VFW #7824	Michael Harding	
Vietnam Vets #512	Greg Whitson	Nick Herber
Members at Large	<i>Kelly Jones</i>	
	<i>Bryan McGillis</i>	
	Tonya Wark	
	<i>Tamara Elam</i>	
	Megan Anderson	
	<i>Eli Gonzalez</i>	
	Michael Langsdorf	
	Lloyd Bowman	
	Ron Brandon	

Clark County Representative: Abby Molloy

Guests: CVTV23, Dawn Lee (Clark County); Sharon Tyree (Clark County Veterans Assistance Center); Lori Pugh (Clark County Veterans Assistance Center); John Frederick

Approval of March 14, 2024, meeting minutes

The minutes were approved following a motion by Steve Slegers that was seconded by Lloyd Bowman.

Committee Reports

Appeals: None

Policies and Procedures: Ron is submitting a revision to the policy and procedures; Kelly is working to finalize it will bring her revisions to the next meeting, in May.

Nominations: Michael Harding to resign following the meeting in April; Bob Nichols will become the Chair. Vice Chair nominations being accepted; Members-at-Large are eligible to serve. Two nominations: (1) Megan Anderson, representing Clark College; and (2) Michael Langsdorf, long-time Clark County resident. Bob Brennan expressed interest, then withdrew his nomination. Nominations will be revisited next board meeting. All interested parties encouraged to apply for the Vice Chair position, contact Abby Molloy or Bruce Mass with your nomination. Michael Harding has agreed to stay one more month as Chair.

Clark County Veterans Advisory Board Meeting Minutes An advisory board to the Clark County Council April 11, 2024

Veterans Assistance Center (VAC) Presentation (Lori Pugh)

Lori Pugh provided presentation on the Clark County Veterans Assistance Center (CCVAC). VAC is a volunteer-only, non-profit organization that operates from grants and donations. .97 cents of every \$1 dollar taken in goes directly to Veteran services. 4,543 Veterans assisted in 2023. \$204,683 cash awards granted to Veterans in 2023. 5,341 meals served in 2023 for breakfast & lunch. VAC operates clothing center and offers hygiene products for any Veteran (not just homeless). Offers food box program for singles and families, regardless of Veteran-statuses. VAC now partners with CCFB, so Veterans and their families now have access to more food items. In March 2024, VAC gave 2,000 pounds of food to Veterans. In 2023, 21 Veterans received burial assistance at a cost of \$36,775. Food assistance: back-pack program for Veteran school-age children, 35 Thanksgiving meal boxes distributed, 24 Christmas meal boxes distributed. Operates a Christmas store where 53 kids were served by parents shopping for gifts. A few Toys for Tots gifts donated by Portland VA; bulk of gifts from community-based non-profit organizations. Twice a year, VAC holds hiring event for underemployed or unemployed Veterans. On 4/17/24, from 9 to 1 pm, 24 companies will attend next hiring event. 73 VAC volunteers participated in 2023 Stand Down event (1,160-volunteer hours / \$28,640 value). VAC has two VVA-certified service officers with 90% approval rating. All claims get submitted directly to VA, as these officers are 'certified'. Ilani Gala to be held 7/16/24 from 3:00- 8:00 pm with appetizers & no host bar. All proceeds directly benefit VAC. Guest speaker from Washington, D.C.

February 2024, Contractor & Fund reports

- CCVAC: 65 Veterans served in February, services totaling \$18,649. 53 men, 7 women, 5 other Veterans served. 11 denials, 0 subject to appeals. 608 visits to the center for essentials and food, 799 meals served. 760 volunteer hours, totaling \$18,752 in value.
- Free Clinic: 0 Veterans served in February. Services totaled \$0 in value; billed \$717. Clinic is increasing engagement.
- VAC Fund: February 2024 revenue \$44,096; expenditures \$59,965, fund balance \$555,727. Assessor's office will be presenting during August meeting. \$555,727 will change when property taxes are collected (April 30th & October 31st) and distributed to agencies.

Old Business

- Camp Bonneville: Michael Langsdorf and Bob Nichols attended one meeting of the Camp Bonneville study group. Second meeting on April 24th. David Puentes will be coming to VFW Post 7824 to speak about finding other potential property burial sites. Conversation about additional challenges and potential opportunities for burial sites.

New Business

- Gene Couture motioned to skip July meeting; Bruce Maas seconded; motion carried. There will be no July meeting.
- David Puentes will be attending in October 2024.

Open Forum

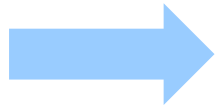
- Gene Couture raised concerns about the American Legion in Olympia. A meeting is scheduled to re-write their Constitution. It could be the end of the year before anything is done.
- Michael Langsdorf requested additional information in preparation for Assessor's office visit.
- May 8th at 6:30 pm, CMAC Committee will be holding "Community Salutes" at Skyview High School at 6:30 pm. This is to recognize those high school seniors transitioning into military service. Please come and show your support.
- On May 27th CMAC will be holding a Memorial Day event at 11:00 am at Fort Vancouver. Both of these events will be televised on CCTV (delayed).
- Michael Harding requested the 988 number be added to agenda and webpage. Abby will make the site changes.
- Lori Pugh informed everyone that for \$13.00, on the Dept. of Licensing website, you can request a 988-license plate banner for your vehicle.
- Discussion with community member regarding CCVAC appeals process.

Adjourn

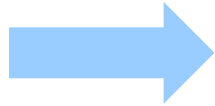
Meeting adjourned. Next meeting May 9th, 2024.



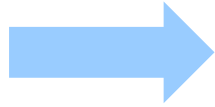
Agenda Item III. Committee Reports



Appeals – Gene Couture



Policies and Procedures – Kelly Jones



Nominations – Bruce Maas



Policies and Procedures Proposed Revisions

Homeless Veterans Support Fund (HVSF)

Only homeless veterans may be assisted with HVSF. The definition of homeless for the purposes of using HVSF is the veteran has no lease or rental agreement. Couch surfing is also considered homeless.

HVSF can pay for the following:

- a) Rent, application fees, security deposits, administrative fees and holding fees.
- b) Old debt (not to exceed a total of 90 days of old rent at fair market value for family size).
- c) Furniture costs (only once per veteran from NW Furniture Bank or a similar type of provider).
- d) Storage
- e) Background checks
- f) Birth certificates
- g) U-Haul fees
- h) A hotel may be paid for if the veteran has a move in date and the apartment/house is not ready. A lease or rental agreement must be provided. This voucher will be for a designated number of days.
- i) Other fees that are listed in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) such as airfare, auto repair, gas money (for housing search only), ID cards/drivers license, long distance bus fare, medical equipment, vehicle registration, utility assistance and work-related fees.

These fees are only available once per 12 months and **may not be used more than twice by any veteran. If there are extenuating circumstances as to why a veteran would need to use this fund more than twice, an appeal may be prepared and submitted to the CCVAC appeals committee.**





MARSHALL
LEADERSHIP AWARDS



Since 1989
In partnership with



One high school senior – Youth Award
One adult age 35 and under – Public Award

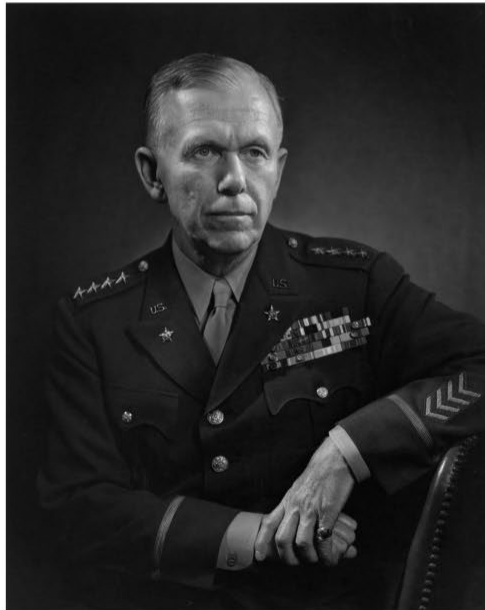


General Marshall's Leadership Principles

- Do the right thing
- Master the situation
- Serve the grater good
- Speak your mind
- Lay the ground work
- Share knowledge
- Choose and reward the right people
- Focus on the big picture
- Support the troops



MARSHALL
LEADERSHIP AWARDS



**"You are young and vigorous and
your services as informed citizens will be
necessary to the peace and prosperity
of the world."**

— General George C. Marshall



2023 Recipient

Joshua Jones

**2023 Marshall Public Leadership
Award Recipient**



2024
MARSHALL
LEADERSHIP AWARDS
Public Recipient

Ana
Karen Betancourt Macias
Latino Leadership NW



2024

MARSHALL

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Youth Recipient

Sophia Wade

Camas High School



MARSHALL
LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Agenda Item V. March 2024 Contractor Reports

- **CCVAC**

- 46 Veterans served in January, services totaling \$21,582
- 40 male Veterans, 5 female Veterans, and 1 widow served
- 8 denials, 0 subject to appeal
- 618 visits to the center for essentials and food. 799 sack breakfasts and lunches and 33 food boxes provided.
- 708.5 volunteer hours, totaling \$17,493 in value

- **Free Clinic**

- 3 veterans served in January. Services totaled \$1,846 in value. Billed \$711.76.

- **WDVA**

- First quarter: 960 claims, 91% “batting average”, \$1,513,114 VA payments

- **Fund**

- March revenue: \$56,460; expenditures: \$117,309; fund balance: \$494,878



Agenda Item VI. CCVAC updates

**Honorably
serving those
who served
honorably**



Agenda Items VI. – X.

- Old Business
- New Business
- Open Forum
- Adjourn

Next meeting: June 13, 2024

