



MICHIGAN VETERAN HOMES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 17, 2019
10:00 a.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

A meeting of the Michigan Veteran Homes (MVH) Board of Directors was called to order at 10:13 a.m. by Chair David Henry. The meeting was held at the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) Headquarters – 222 N. Washington Ave., Lansing, MI 48933.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Attendance Roll Call

Chair David Henry called for a roll call of members present.

The following members were present: Henry Boutros, David Henry, Brad Slagle, Larry Yachcik.

Excused Absence: Zaneta Adams, Spencer Hoover, Mary Naber, David Rutledge, MaryAnne Shannon.

3. Approval of Agenda

None - a quorum was not available.

4. Approval of Proposed Minutes

None - a quorum was not available.

5. Public Comment

None

6. Housekeeping: Health System Update, New Construction Update

Steve Rolston informed the board that a Memo of Understanding was created, effective October 6, 2019, whereas the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans (DJJHV) Business Services Unit transferred governance to the Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB) Accounting Services; similar to the 2016 transfer of the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans (GRHV) Business Services. Four Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) employees were categorically transferred to the DTMB. He added that there is no cost savings; however, this transfer provides consistency for the Homes, back-up for staff, and provides a forward projection.

Mr. Rolston provided an overview of the certification status for both Homes.

An offer of employment for the Clinical Operations and Quality Administrator has been extended; however, the offer has not yet been accepted. The selected candidate will tentatively begin service in November 2019.

The examination of the prevailing rates continues.

Three employees (1-DJJHV and 2-GRHV) are pursuing nursing home administration licensing through Ferris State University; the employees are personally funding these endeavors.

Mike Hassan offered a review of the construction status of the new Homes in Grand Rapids and Chesterfield Township. He reviewed the project milestones and provided a timeline for current activities and upcoming endeavors. In addition, Mr. Hassan stated that an Information Technology (IT) Project Manager has been hired to develop a schedule for IT-related issues.

Mr. Hassan disclosed the State of Michigan procurement process. Board members discussed the need to spend money wisely and to be fiscally responsible.

7. Committee Updates: Building & Facilities, Executive, Finance, Foundation, Governance

Chair Henry announced that he would like every board member to serve on at least one committee.

Building & Facilities Committee – Henry Boutros (Chair), David Henry, Brad Slagle. Chair Boutros expressed that he intends to work with committee members, architects, designers, and Mike Hassan regarding the design of furnishings for the Homes and the utilization of in-kind donations.

Executive Committee – David Henry Jr. (Chair), Mary Naber, Brad Slagle, Spencer Hoover.

Chair Henry said that the Executive Committee has the authority to enter into contracts and must stay within the confines set by the Governance Committee.

Finance Committee – Spencer Hoover (Chair), Brad Slagle, Henry Boutros
The Finance Committee is tasked with maximizing revenue.

Foundation (Fundraising) Committee – Spencer Hoover (Chair), Larry Yachcik, Mary Naber

The Foundation Committee will develop the methodology for donations.

Governance Committee – David Rutledge (Chair), MaryAnne Shannon, Larry Yachcik
The Governance Committee will guide the board and oversee operations.

8. New Business: DMVA/MVH Strategic Plan, MVH Bylaws, SVH Inspection Simplification Act, Variance Denial at the DJJHV

Anne Zerbe described the DMVA Strategic Plan; a department-wide effort which showcases the strategic plan for each of the branches within DMVA. The MVH staff developed goals last fall, which addressed existing facilities and the development of a foundation. Ms. Zerbe reiterated that the strategic plan for the Homes may be redefined and requested assistance from the board to identify changes required to achieve set objectives. During the November 2019 meeting, much of the time will be dedicated to reviewing the plan.

The revision of the MVH bylaws will be addressed during the November 2019 board meeting; a quorum was not available today.

Steve Rolston offered an overview of the State Veterans Homes Inspection Simplification Act. Board members are encouraged to watch the bill tracker and should only be contacting their congressmen in their individual capacities and not in the official capacities as board members. Mr. Rolston will provide the board with NASVA's talking points on this subject. Lastly, he reported the denial of the variance submitted for DJJHV and reviewed proposed rule changes that may have a future impact on the variance.

Chair Henry noted the upcoming Veterans Recognition Events; board members should notify Patty Altimore if planning to attend. In addition, Veterans Day events at the Homes are listed on the DirectorPoint calendar.

9. Old Business: Branding, Budget Update, Foundation, Fundraising Consultant

Fred Schaible disclosed that he is working with Brogan & Partners in acquiring the high-resolution images of the organizational logo. This artwork is required for developing outreach and communication materials.

The State of Michigan budget discussions continues. There are no MVH budget reductions at this time; the Homes are viewed separately from the MVAA.

Anne Zerbe reviewed a report on the foundation development and continues to build out the organizational structure. She is currently working with the AG's office regarding rules of authorizations.

Anne Zerbe is the contract manager for the fundraising consultant, and the process is moving forward and will include a capital campaign feasibility study and associated development plan.

10. Board Comments

Henry Boutros addressed the variance denial at the DJJHV. He suggested developing the feasibility and impact of Marquette as the next site for a new home.

Chair Henry inquired as to the acquisition of the teleconferencing equipment. Fred Schaible noted that there was a glitch in the order and hopefully the equipment will be available for the November 2019 meeting.

11. Public Comments

Betty Pike urged the board to consider the multitude of sizes of veterans utilizing the beds in the new Homes; extra-long beds for taller veterans and stabilized beds for heavier veterans. She also suggested utilizing quality mattresses, regular, air, or a combination.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. by Chair Henry.



Bradford Slagle,
MVFA Board Secretary