



MICHIGAN VETERAN HOMES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

December 10, 2019
10:00 a.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

A meeting of the Michigan Veteran Homes (MVH) Board of Directors was called to order at 10:10 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: Zaneta Adams, David Henry, Mary Naber (present at 11:15 a.m.), David Rutledge, MaryAnne Shannon, Brad Slagle (via telephone), Larry Yachcik.

Excused Absence: Henry Boutros, Spencer Hoover.

Chair Henry welcomed Assistant Attorney General Joseph Froehlich to the meeting from the Attorney General's office.

3. Approval of Agenda

Chair Henry motioned and seconded to accept the agenda as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

4. Approval of Proposed Minutes, September 2019

Adams, seconded by Henry, motioned to accept the meeting minutes dated September 17, 2019 as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

5. Approval of Proposed Minutes, October 2019

Adams, seconded by Yachcik, motioned to accept the meeting minutes dated October 17, 2019 as presented. The motion passed 5-0.

6. Public Comment

Betty Pike inquired as to the ramifications if a quorum is not available with the proposed 2020 meeting schedule. Chair Henry indicated that this inquiry would be addressed later in the meeting during the board discussion of the proposed meeting schedule.

7. Housekeeping: Health System Update, New Construction Update

Anne Zerbe reported for the Health System in lieu of Steve Rolston. Ms. Zerbe indicated that she attended a meeting which addressed the FY2021 budget for the homes. She added that the Board of Managers will meet next week; she will also attend the Board of Managers Christmas Dinner to celebrate the holiday season.

Tracey Nelson provided an overview of the OAG follow-up process and the report is still pending.

Anne Zerbe stated that the organizational structure for the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans (GRHV) is under review and strives to be transparent during staff transitions. Larry Yachcik added that the board supports the MVH staff during these changes, and notes that this is an opportunity for board members to address staff feedback.

D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans (DJJHV) Administrator Ryan Engle will be leaving his position on December 13, 2019 to pursue a Partnership Coordinator position with the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency. Recruiting efforts are currently underway for the positions of Administrator and Director of Nursing at the DJJHV.

Niki Wheeler has returned to the MVH as the Director of Compliance and Clinical Outcomes.

Building Construction Specialist 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 Christman will provide a virtual reality tour of the new homes at the next board meeting.

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

Chair Henry announced that Spencer Hoover has resigned from the board. During the next board meeting, Chair Henry will conduct a vote for the vacant Board Treasurer position, along with vacant seats on the Finance and Fundraising Committees. Chair Henry encouraged board members to serve on at least one committee and should contact Chair Henry directly if interested.

Anne Zerbe noted that she is developing a position description for a Director of Strategic Engagement who will work directly with board members on initiatives, oversee MVH website development, coordinate marketing initiatives, and develop fundraising efforts. In the interim, Fred Schaible will restructure the responsibilities and work assigned to each board committee.

9. New Business: MVH Bylaws Revision

Fred Schaible addressed the changes in SB-1180 and recommended that the MVH Board Bylaws should be revised accordingly.

Henry, seconded by Adams, motioned to accept the MVH Bylaws revisions as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote 5-0, with members Adams, Henry, Rutledge, Shannon, and Yachcik in favor.

10. Old Business: Budget Update, 2020 Board Meeting Dates, Brogan & Partners

Phase I

Fred Schaible shared that he and Anne Zerbe met with the State Budget Office and Governor's staff regarding the FY2021 budget. Topics in the meeting included start-up costs for the new homes; the Governor's budget recommendation is to be revealed in February.

Mr. Schaible also provided a recommendation for the Michigan Veteran Homes Board of Directors and Michigan Veteran Homes Board of Managers to adopt a bimonthly meeting schedule for the year 2020. The board and MVAA staff conducted a discussion to include the advantages of this schedule as it allows for increased staff preparation time, increased committee work time, and allows for meetings to be conducted at various sites.

Adams, seconded by Shannon, motioned to table the discussion until the next meeting.

Discussion continued with the board suggesting the following changes in meeting venues:
February 2020 at the MVAA in Lansing
April 2020 at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans
June 2020 at the Chesterfield Site
August 2020 at the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans

Chair Henry amended the motion to include the recommended changes in venue. The motion passed 6-0.

Fred Schaible disclosed that he is now the point of contact in working with Brogan & Partners. His next tasks with Brogan & Partners include acquiring high-resolution images of the organizational logo, developing a website, and addressing naming conventions within the new homes.

11. MVH Strategic Plan Overview

Anne Zerbe reviewed the current version of the DMVA Strategic Plan. Revisions to the plan need to be incorporated by the summer of 2020 in order to be included in the 2020 DMVA Fall Leadership Conference. Ms. Zerbe encouraged the board members to read the MVH section of the Strategic Plan and provide feedback. Fred Schaible will provide a timeline and work schedule to divvy out tasks and affiliated timelines for this endeavor.

For the February 2020 meeting, board members should review goals 1-3 and be prepared to provide feedback.

12. Board Comments

Zaneta Adams wished everyone happy holidays.

Larry Yachcik urged board members to consider what they should do to attain autonomy from state government.

David Rutledge echoed Zaneta Adams wishes for a happy holiday season.

Mary Naber appreciates the work performed by the board.

Chair Henry shared his experience at a township board meeting where the veteran's homes were commended for their service. He added that he appreciates each board member and staff, and wishes a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. He concluded by stating that his father is a veteran and he is working for a unified purpose.

13. Public Comments

Kellie Cody Jr., State Veterans Facility Ombudsman, announced that he is retiring from his position on January 3, 2020. He thanked the board for their work with veterans; the board thanked Dr. Cody for his service as well.

Chair Henry also stated that he appreciated Betty Pike's input during the public comments and welcomes all public comments.

14. Adjournment

Naber, seconded by Adams, motioned to adjourn at 12:55 pm. The motion passed 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.



Bradford Slagle,
MVFA Board Secretary