

**Minutes of the Southern Utah Veterans Home-Ivins,  
Advisory Board Meeting (via Zoom),  
January 14, 2021**

In Attendance: Barbara Holck (Chairman), Janet Warner (Board Member), Gary Stolz (Board Member), Willem Van der Elst (Board Member), Terry Dunne (Board Member), Gary Harter (UDVMA Executive Director), Jeff Hanson (UDVMA Deputy Director), Tony Moore (State Officer), Jerry Olson (Nursing Home Administrator), Kathrine Scarfo (Director of Nursing), Ira Amargo (perspective board member).

Zoom Meeting called to order by Chairman Holck at 4:00 pm and all present were welcomed. Chairman Holck then led the Advisory Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and offered an opening prayer.

1. Board Chairman Holck asked if all the members had reviewed the meeting minutes from the 8 October, 2020 meeting and if there were any needed corrections or additions. She then asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Board Member Stolz made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Board Member Warner, minutes approved.
2. UDVMA Department Update:
  - a. Director Harter thanked the board members for serving on the board. He then gave a brief update on the Department's priorities and discussed some legislative items affecting veterans, that the Utah State Assembly may take action on this session.
3. Open Items:
  - a. COVID-19 Vaccine update – Administrator Olson briefly discussed the COVID-19 Vaccine plan along with Kathrine Scarfo, our Director of Nursing (DON). The Utah Department of Health has placed Nursing Home Residents and Staff in the first group to be able to receive the vaccine. We will be getting the Pfizer vaccine which requires 2 doses about 3 weeks apart, we have 3 Vaccine Clinic Dates: 1) 11 Jan (last Monday), 2) 01 Feb; and 3) 22 Feb. The facility had good numbers for the first clinic and we are looking forward to getting as many staff and residents vaccinated as possible. Chairman Holck asked if the vaccine required special refrigeration to which Administrator Olson replied yes, but the Pharmacy (CVS – Omnicare) is taking care of all of the logistical requirements. Chairman Holck asked if those employees that refuse to be vaccinated will have their duties changed and she also asked when the visitation rules will change to which Administrator Olson replied that officially, job descriptions and duties will not change, but did say that Kathrine will be making floor assignments with vaccinated employees where it makes the most sense (i.e. only vaccinated employees will work 900 due to the more transient nature of the rehab community), as far as visitation is concerned, CDC/CMS have not promulgated

any new guidance yet. Chairman Holck asked if employees who have previously had COVID-19 are being treated any differently to which Kathrine (DON) responded that no, they are still being offered the vaccine and should take it as long as they do not have an active case of COVID. Administrator Olson mentioned that we have had 42 staff and contractors test positive for COVID-19 and that we have seen a re-infection in one staff member. Board Member Van der Elst asked if the second infection is more severe to which Administrator Olson replied that there isn't enough data to know that.

- b. SUVH Nursing Scholarship Program – Administrator Olson just briefly mentioned that he is working with Avalon's attorney as well as an outside attorney who specializes in Tax Exempt Organizations, 501.3(C) for a second opinion. While no decisions have been made yet, it is looking likely that the facility will be continuing the scholarship program with taxable grants.
  - c. Staffing Changes – Administrator Olson talked about how the role of Staff Developer and Infection Preventionist, which used to be a single position for both duties, is now being split into two full-time employees. He also mentioned that Jennifer Ferrau, Admissions Coordinator, has taken a job as the AFROTC Instructor at Dixie High School. The new Admissions Coordinator is Brian Gibson.
  - d. Resident Council Fund Annual Update – State Officer Moore briefly discussed the Resident Council Fund year end balance (\$57,824.80), donations (\$10,881.99), and expenditures (\$2,392.91) for 2020. Chairman Holck asked if we were going to plan any public events when visitation restrictions are lifted to which State Officer Moore replied that yes, we are planning a Commissioning event for the newly renovated area just outside of the Rotunda. Lowe's performed a service project for the SUVH and were assisted by Star Nursery and James Dotson (landscape architect who designed our grounds), two gazebos, a BBQ-pit, 5 benches, and beautification landscaping were installed.
  - e. Review board membership requirements – State Officer Moore briefly reviewed the requirements for membership, purpose of the board, and composition. He also announced that Darrell Holck will be joining the board in July when Chairman Holck's term is complete.
4. New Business Items:
- a. Board Chairman Holck mentioned that she recently became a Campus Advisory for the RVU Student Christian Medical and Dental Association. Thru her, the student group was able to put together a recorded Christmas Musical program that was shown to the residents for an announced contest here at the home.
  - b. Board Member Warner asked about the Resident Council Member who has not attended meetings recently to which State Officer Moore replied that Board Member Mendenhall has declined to join the Advisory Board Meeting for the last few meetings.

5. Chairman Holck adjourned the meeting at 4:53 pm. Next Meetings tentatively to be held at 4:00 pm on:
  - a. 8 April, 2021
  - b. 8 July, 2021
  - c. 14 October, 2021
  
6. FYI, the next board members whose terms are expiring are:
  - a. Barbara Holck – 7/15/2021 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)
  - b. Gary Stolz – 3/31/2022 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)
  - c. David Houston – 3/31/2022 (1<sup>st</sup> Term)