

Mervyn Sharp Bennion
Central Utah Veterans Home
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2020
4 PM

Attendance: Members: Chairman Art Richardson, John Williams, Secretary Randy Edwards, Monica Arnold, Vice Chair John Eakins, and Lee Orton, Elks Representative.

Guests and Staff: Jeff Hanson, Kalisha Wilson, Weston Parsons, and Gary Harter

Excused: Nick Flake

Guests: Robin Sonberg

Meeting Convened: 4 PM

1. **Welcome:** Art Richardson, Advisory Board Chairman gave the welcome.

Corrections to June 24th Meeting: Amend September 21- Walk from Elementary School canceled due to Corona-Virus 19. Reported by Art. Amend Kalisha Wilson in Attendance and Cindy Jensen. Next Meeting August 26th, 2020.
2. **With the amendments of August 26th Minutes Approval of the June 24th, 2020 minutes:** Art Richardson asked for the approval of the June 24th minutes the **minutes were Motioned to be approved** by John Eakins and seconded by Lee Orton. **The Motion to approve the minutes was approved unanimously.**
3. **State Officers Report:**
 - a. Jeff gave the State Officer report. Jeff announced that General Burton had stepped aside as the State Officer and that Jim Beddingfield would be the new State Officer. Jim is being promoted from within the department and will officially start the position on September 5th.
 - b. Jeff reported that Weston had family members with COVID-19 and would working from home until it was safe to come back.
 - c. Jeff gave an update on the COVID-19 outbreak at the Salt Lake Home. The facility had a successful recovery and is again COVID free. Jeff announced that there are no residents with COVID at all 4 veteran homes but that the risk remains high.
 - d. Jeff gave a report of on-going projects that include upgrading the mechanical room, burying the electrical line to the storage building, and updating the HVAC system. Jeff also noted that we would soon have a new saltwater fish tank for the residents to enjoy.
 - e. Jeff provided a handout that shows the donation fund balance along with recent debits and credits.
4. **Administrators Report:**
 - a. **Operations Update:** Mr. Weston Parsons reported his Administration Report by Zoom from his residence due to being quarantined. Completeness of his report is attached to the Minutes. (See attachment)

5. Mr. Gary Harter, Director of Veterans and Military Affairs: attended by Zoom

- a. Sent his best wishes to families quarantined and provided support to their bonding time.
- b. Thanked Jim for accepting the State Administrator's assignment. Gave positive comments on his ability and experience.
- c. Complimented Veteran's Homes operating Covid-19 free.
- d. Complimented and Thanked Jeff Hanson for filling in on the operations of Bennion.
- e. Reported that the Veterans and Military Affairs Department of Utah is doing extremely well due to the pandemic and use of zoom meetings like this.
- f. Was disappointed that the Car Show for this year was cancelled to support Santa's Zone.
- g. complimented that he was happy to see that the residents are being taken well care of.

6. Old Business:

- a. **Santa Zone:** We will do Santa Zone. Ideas are going around.
- b. Residents will not be able to come down and shop. Ideas were discussed on visual shopping, wrapping and mailing.
- c. Art will begin shopping as items come up on sale and hope that sponsors will continue helping us.

7. New Business:

- a. John Eakins announced that he is getting married in September. Asked to send pictures of Santa Zone to show at his reception. Photos must have consideration of residents.
- b. John Eakins presented 3 checks for the amount of \$8,000 from Dumpster Sales for Santa Zone. Comments of appreciation were given him for his work making this happen.
- c. T-Shirts. When the effort is solidified Art and Randy will get information out to help sales for Santa Zone.
- d. Kalisha remarked on Santa Zone that she is working on the stream-lining and residents' actions. Weston reported that safety and precautions will be a priority with guidelines and procedures.
- e. Santa Zone will be only one day. Art asked that a simplified list of items be available so we know what is in our possession now.

Discussion:

A discussion developed on the list of items starting in September knowing what is needed and input from board members of things needed and compare with items we have in storage vs. items we need to have. Lee Orton reported that the Elks will donate iPods.

8. Next Advisory Board Meeting: October 28th, 2020 at 4 PM Bennion Nursing Home.

9. Adjourned: Motion to adjourn was requested by Lee Orton and seconded by Monica Arnold. **Motion to adjourn was unanimous.**

Randy D. Edwards CSM (R)
Secretary to the Board
Mervyn Sharp Bennion, Central Utah Veterans Home

Cc: Mr. Jeff Hanson, Deputy Director

Mr. Weston Parsons, Administrator

Attachments: (1)