



GEORGE E. WAHLEN OGDEN VETERANS HOME Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2024 at 3:00 PM

Attendance – In person and virtual

Curt Oda, Paula Stephensen, Jon Knox, Steven Steed, Tressa Quayle, Jim Harvey, Marlene Summers, Jacqueline Poulson, Gary Harter, Jeff Hanson, Kim Peck

Absent: Lacy Bizios, Beth Topa, Jory Wahlen

Welcome

Chair Curt Oda welcomed everyone to the meeting. Jim gave an opening prayer, and Marlene led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of the December 19, 2023, minutes

A motion was made by Jim and seconded by Marlene to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Resident Council Update

Resident Council President Jon Knox reported on all activities throughout the months of January, February & March. Jon stated we had numerous activities during these months but liked the Valentines Day Party where they took pictures of residents and their families. We have the annual Easter Egg Hunt coming up on Saturday at 11:00 for ages 0-12. Bingo is always the resident's favorites, and the blackout prizes are the best. Jon stated that the Standard Examiner, wrote a story about one of our 78-year-old Veteran, Burt who gave a presentation at the Veterans Home on his decades-long passion, the enjoyment and preservation of vintage music and audio recordings through the repair and use of 8-track tapes, wire recordings, vinyl records and more. He also reported that we received a \$5,000.00 donation from the Bowlers to Veterans. Deceased veterans since the last report was 9.

Administrator's Report (Avalon)

Kim Peck, Human Resource/Payroll Director reported for Avalon Healthcare. She stated that the current census is 118. We are expecting our Federal VA Survey in the month of March and State CMS Survey is due any day now. We are a CMS five-star facility and that all the Veterans homes in Utah are five-star. Kim reported that our facility received the Pinnacle Customer Experience Award 2024. We were the best in all sixteen categories: Overall Satisfaction, Nursing Care, Dining Service, Quality of Food, Cleanliness, Individual Needs, Laundry Service, Communication from Facility, Response to Problems, Dignity and Respect, Recommend to Others, Activities, Professional Therapy Services, Admission Process, Safety and Security, Overall

Customer Experience. She reported the financial performance year to date are improving since the COVID outbreak. We currently have 243 employees and are only vacancy is a RN. The quality measures we are working on improving are: Falls with major injury, Pressure ulcers, Urinary Tract Infections, Emergency room visits. Tressa stated that she has students who are so excited to do their clinical rotation with the GEWOVH. She also stated that when they are finished with school and have their nursing license they come back to work. Marlene also thanked Avalon for training their nurses and allowing them to help with Veterans. Tressa & Marlene are very appreciated of the partnership between the Veterans Home and Weber State.

State Officer's Report

Jacquee stated we have four projects we are working on at the GEWOVH: Carl Francis from DFCM is the project manager on all four: Main Kitchen Makeup Air and Exhaust Fans Replacement – Department Funded \$200,000.00 & We have completed the design and soon will send out to bid. Exterior Lighting – Capital Improvements Funded \$82,409.00 is now complete. Ductless Split Replacement – Capital Improvements Funded \$64,487.00 is now completed. Retention Pond – DFCM will cover the cost of this project and they have reached out to great basin engineering to see where the water should be going. They met today onsite with Ogden City to discuss the issues. We also had Fire, Life. Safety deficiency on our last fire inspection with the fire sprinklers leaking or eroded (150). DFCM has hired an architect to identify the ones that need to be replaced and will fund this project, estimated cost is \$273,000. The 2025 Capitol Improvement Project have been awarded and Carl Francis from DFCM is the project manager. We have the following on the list: Two Commercial Dryer Replacement - \$63,550, Main Kitchen Rational Ovens - \$80,219, Barber Shop Remodel - \$54,335, Stain Exposed Roof Beams - \$54,334.

Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs Executive Director/Deputy Director's Report

Jeff thanked the Avalon and State Officer for working hard to get the census up and employee staffing. Financially Ogden is doing great. He reported on the status of the funding for the new facility in Taylorsville. We are just waiting for the federal construction grant. Hopefully we will receive funding in 2016. The state cemetery averages 40 interment a month and we are currently working on the roof chapel. We are also extending the courtyard around the wall of honor. We are also improving the road and installing asphalt. Veterans Affairs for National Cemeteries has started working on constructing the eight acre's federal cemetery in Cedar City, Utah. This has been a long going project and is finally coming into construction. The new Northern Utah State Cemetery, which is 104 acres, is pending funding. On October 1st there will be an updated to the priority funding list. We are currently number thirty-one. The new cemetery is in the Washington Terrace area. This cemetery will be built in phases with a master plan of fifty years but phased every ten years. They pay 100% of this project including all equipment needed to develop. The initial project for the first phase will be approximately ten million dollars.

Gary reported we had a great legislative session. He reported on the additional Medicaid beds for the four veterans' homes which is House Bill 503. It allows a state-owned veterans nursing care facility to obtain a one-time approval for up to five total Medicaid certified beds. Currently GEWOVH has twenty approved Medicaid beds. MG Mari Eder was the keynote speaker at our Women's event. She was the former commander of the Army Reserve.

Old Business

None Noted

New Business

Open House Air Show-Warriors over the Wasatch-June 29-30, 2024
Residents have been invited for the pre-show rehearsal day on 28 June 2024. They will be reaching out in April for RSVP's. Point of Contact will be Beth Topa, beth.topa.2@us.af.mil

Major General (Retired) Mari K. Eder will be speaking at the GEWOVH on April 15, 2024 at 3:00-4:30pm. MG Eder's topic will be, "The 80th Anniversary of D-Day".

Upcoming Board Meetings

June 20, 2024, at 3:00pm

September 19, at 3:00pm

December 19, at 3:00pm

Adjourn Chairman Curt adjourned the meeting at 4:10 PM.