

**Board of Trustees
Vermont Veterans' Home
A. Luke Crispe Room
12 April 2017
1230 hours**

Present:

Colonel Joseph Krawczyk, President	Charly Dickerson	Michael McHugh
Colonel Gary DeGasta, Vice President	Michael diMonda	Wes Mook
Michael Klopchin, Secretary	G. Richard Dundas	Janet Osmer
Kent Butterfield	Frederick Dunn	H. Jamie Percey
Art Charron	Dr. Jacqueline Kelly	Joyce Scribner
Andrew Cotrel	Thomas Kenyon	Robert Burke, Director, VT. Veterans Serv.

Excused: Captain Brenda Cruickshank

Guests: Cmdr. John Held, Am. Legion Cmdr. David Woodward, Am. Legion	Kendy Skidmore, Nancy Muir & Kenneth Coonradt, Chaplain	Irene Hackett, Methodist Mission Team John Miner, President, VA
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The meeting was called to order by President Krawczyk at 1230 hrs.

All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by Secretary Klopchin and a quorum was announced.

The minutes from 7 February were reviewed. A correction to the adjournment of the meeting was made by President Krawczyk. By unanimous vote, the correction was accepted.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
PRESIDENT DONATIONS	The President opened the meeting with the recognition of guests. Donations were acknowledged from the Methodist Mission Team of Bennington and representatives from the American Legion, Commanders John Held and David Woodward.	INFO
EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION	Employees were recognized for their many years of service, certification in dementia education, as well as staff who worked as a team in fall prevention.	
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
HOME REPORTS CEO	CEO addressed the House budget reduction of \$259,000 in response to the high call out rate at the Home resulting in extensive LNA overtime. The bill has not yet been addressed in the Senate. The Home has a PIP (Performance Improvement Project) consisting of an on line or hard copy survey to determine reasons why staff calls out. Suggestions from the staff were contract related, time off flexibility and switching schedules with fellow staff members.	INFO

STATE FUNDING	Funds were allocated by the State for furniture at the Home. Additional monies were requested in order to be eligible for a grant from the Federal government.	INFO
WJR MEDICAL CENTER	Al Montoya, Director of the White River Junction VA Medical Center, plans to visit the Home on a quarterly basis. Services for veterans, including optometry, will be provided via telemed.	INFO
NURSING HOME WEEK	Activities for National Nursing Home week themed The Spirit of America were presented. A request was made for \$3500 to fund the festivities. Dr. Dundas made a motion to approve the request; seconded by Mr. Cotrel. The motion passed.	CLOSED
RATE INCREASE	A request was made to increase the daily rate for a private room to \$335 per day and \$315 for semiprivate effective 1 July 2017. Previous increase was March 2015 and is in line with the rate of nursing homes in the area. A \$5 increase from \$100 to \$105 per day for the Dom was also presented. Mr. Cotrel made a motion to approve the rate increases seconded by Mr. Percey. The motion passed.	CLOSED
EMPLOYEES	Karen Divis was recognized for earning QAPI Nurse certification. The retirement of Bill MacMillan, Social Worker, at the end of April was announced.	INFO
	Catie Burke, Social Services, has joined the Social Services team with experience in PTSD and trauma. She brings with her, Oakely, a service dog in training. (See reports)	INFO
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
NURSING	Mary Cicirillo was introduced as the Assistant Director of Nursing services.	INFO
ADNS		
FALLS MANAGEMNT	Falls Management Program aims to increase involvement of staff resulting in increased residence safety. Pictures of safety helmets have been posted throughout the facility as reminders for all staff. As an incentive, any neighborhood that has NO falls within a 30 day period will receive the Safety Helmet award. Three staff members from three departments were recognized for their roles in preventing a fall. They received helmet medals for their outstanding teamwork.	INFO
WOUND CARE	Wound care and pressure ulcers have decreased due to the supervision of Winnie Rose, Wound Care Specialist who had involved the nursing staff in wound care procedures.	INFO
LNA CLASS	LNA class of six students will begin soon. Pass rate of LNA test of previous class was 100% . (See reports)	INFO

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
MEDICAL DIRECTOR INFECTION CONTROL	Challenges in infection control were discussed with the successful containment of influenza during the critical season.	
QA PROJECTS	Quality Assurance projects include anticoagulation and monitoring of pain medications. Bob Kewely, pharmacist, brings expertise dealing with pharmaceutical issues. (See reports)	
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
OTHER BUSINESS ADAPTIVE SPORTS	An outside agency had submitted a proposal to the Board requesting funds to establish a croquette program on the grounds of the Home. A recommendation was made not to support the program. After discussion of operation costs and other factors involved in the activity, the Board concluded the activity was not in the best interest of the Home and its residents.	CLOSED
JOHN MINER	The Vietnam Veterans Chapter 601 President gave details of the flag raising ceremony commemorating the 50 th anniversary of the Vietnam War. Fifty (50) flags are scheduled to be raised on 16 April at 4:30 pm.	INFO
GVAC	Board Vice President Col. DeGasta reported on composition and membership of GVAC. Current members will need to reapply.	INFO
BOARD ED & TRAINING	Education and Training Committee will be meeting with the facilitator regarding the June event.	INFO
FRIENDS OF THE VVH	Board liaison to the Friends of the Vermont Veterans' Home distributed a letter from the organization to the Trustess.	
VSEA ELECTION	The Board discussed the presentation of the VSEA member, nominated by the VVH employees, to the Governor for reappointment.	OPEN
NOMINATING COMMITTEE	Chair of the Nominating Committee reminded the Trustees of the upcoming elections and to contact committee members if interested in running for office to to make a nomination.	INFO
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
STRATEGIC PLAN	A power point was presented by the Strategic Plan chair. The two major long terms goals, looking forward 5-20 years, would address how to make the census more consistent and how to close the gap in the VVH budget. Phases I – IV addressed certain aspects of the overall Plan. The Board was instructed to ignore the parameters of budget and regulations and be future-forward in considering needs of all Veterans and how each of the committees would support the Strategic	OPEN

	<p>Plan. Phases I: Who Are We (VVH) and Where Are We Now; II Where Are We Going; III How to Get There and How to Maintain; IV Are We on Track.</p> <p>Topics discussed included various housing models, construction and delay in funding, changing population of Veterans and anticipating their needs (medical, psycho-social, emotional, etc.), emphasis on home-based care, adult day care and homeless Veterans, alternative services, satellite facilities affiliated with the VVH (such as adult day care or rehab), adherence to VA and CMS.</p> <p>Board members were encouraged to research other skilled nursing facilities, looking beyond the normal and regular, for services or revenue sources that could be beneficial to the Home. Challenges facing the Board are reducing the budget gap, Legislators misconception of VA vs. State facility not keeping current with the VVH reputation.</p>	
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned by President Krawczyk at 1500.	CLOSED

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees 13-14 June (Education and Training, Killington, VT), 9 August, 11 October and 13 December.