

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

Present:

Colonel Joseph Krawczyk, President
Colonel Gary DeGasta, Vice President
Michael Klopchin, Secretary
Kent Butterfield
Art Charron
Andrew Cotrel

Captain Brenda Cruickshank
Charly Dickerson
Michael diMonda
G. Richard Dundas
Frederick Dunn
Dr. Jacqueline Kelly

Michael McHugh
Wes Mook
Janet Osmer
H. Jamie Percey
Joyce Scribner

Excused: Thomas Kenyon

Robert Burke, Director, VT. Veterans Serv.

Guests: Rep. M. Morrissey

Kenneth Coonradt, Chaplain

Rachael Fields, VSEA

Shelly Martin, VSEA past president

Lisa Sloan, DAV, Rev. McSherry

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.

Mr. Cotrel made a motion to accept the minutes from April 2017 as written; seconded by Mrs. Scribner. Motion carried.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
PRESIDENT DONATIONS	The President opened the meeting with the recognition of guests.	INFO
EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION	Current and retired employees were recognized for their many years of service.	INFO
BOARD APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS	Notice of appointments and reappointments to the Board have not been received from the Governor's office.	OPEN
DONATION	A generous donation from the Bennington International Motorcycle Bicycle Club was accepted. The Club promotes awareness of Veterans and Veterans issues. Over 150 bikers attended the two day event.	INFO

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
NOMINATING COMMITTEE	<p>After consulting with current officers, Mr. Dickerson made a motion to accept the nomination, on one ballot, for the current slate of Officers for 2017-2018. The motion was seconded by Mr. Percey. The motion carried by unanimous vote.</p> <p>Secretary Klopchin made a motion to nominate, on a single ballot, Captain Cruickshank and Mr. Dickerson for the Executive Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Percey. The motion carried.</p>	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p>
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
CEO	CMS regulations were distributed to Board members with Phase III to begin 28 November 2017; of interest to the Board was the section referring to the Governing Body of the nursing facility.	INFO
CMS REGULATIONS		
CALL OUT RATE	Graph of employee callouts was presented. VT Human Resources Representative Lagu, VSEA Executive Director Howard, VSEA Representative Rachael Fields, VSEA General Counsel Tim Belcher, VT Labor Relations Director Berard, VVH CEO and COO Melissa Jackson and Al Faxon, respectively, will meet at 1300 today to discuss the issue. Results of the VVH Call Out PIP (Performance Improvement Project) will be presented. As if result of the high percentage experienced at the Home, \$250,000 had been removed from the Home's budget by the Legislature.	<p>INFO</p> <p>INFO</p>
NASVH	The NASVH Convention offered many educational sessions across a wide spectrum of topics, including risk management and the inportantct of documentation. Education opportunities for staff will be investigated. Conversations with the VA were not productive as VA representatives did not respond to concerns about mental health or other issues presented. Veterans home have increased from 141 to 153 nationwide.	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p>
	President Krawczyk commented that under the leadership VVH CEO, the Northeast Region has the most active membership. (See report)	INFO
	DISCUSSION	ACTION
NURSING	(See report)	INFO
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
MEDICAL DIRECTOR BEHAVIORS	The Medical Directed reported on staff education for disruptive behaviors, management of antipsychotic mediations, and the individualization Care Plans with staff input. Use of antiphyschotic medications has decreased as a result of the team effort among with the Medical Diretor, staff and resident pharmacist.	INFO

INFECTION CONTROL	Infection Preventionist, Patricia Babcock, was acknowledged for her efforts and involvement in antibiotic stewardship.	INFO
VA CLINIC	Additional services through TeleMed are pending. Psychiatric health services are slated to begin September 2017. (See report)	INFO
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
OTHER BUSINESS ADMISSIONS GARY YELLE	Mary Smith was introduced as the marketing agent for the northern section of the State. Statistics for inquiries and referrals to applications and results of decisions were reviewed as was current census. The new 30 second public service announcement was presented and will be broadcast in Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and New York. Factors affecting admission (i.e. payor source and levels of care) were discussed. (See report)	INFO
EMPLOYEE RELATIONS JAMIE PERCEY	Employees had expressed an interest for a bon fire in September or October.	OPEN
GVAC	Col DeGasta reported a reduction of members on the GVAC Board from 30 to 17 (14 voting members and three [3] ex officio). Due to the reconfiguration of the Board, no meetings have been scheduled.	INFO
BOARD ED & TRAINING	Chair of the Education and Training Committee, Col. DeGasta, reviewed the results of the post-event survey which indicated the Trustees deemed successful. Topics were submitted for the next session in June 2018 at the Queechee Inn at Marshland Farms. Members of the committee were thanked for their efforts in planning and executing the program. Intermission at 1357; meeting resumed at 1410.	INFO
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
COMMITTEE REPORTS BOARD SPONSORSHIP WOUNDED WARRIORS	Col. Krawczyk presented a request from the Wounded Warrior Gold Tournament committee. Mr. diMonda made a motion for \$1000 sponsorship of the event. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cotel. By voice vote, the motion carried.	CLOSED
RUTLAND COUNTY FAIR	At the suggestion of a Board member, the VVH sponsored Veterans' Day at the Rutland County Fair and would secure a booth as a recruiting opportunity. The Marketing Director requested \$2500 for support from the Board. Discussion ensued about prior notification to the Board to allow conversation among Trustees. The Board was informed by the COO that the VVH would have attended the Fair regardless of support from the Board in order to establish a presence	CLOSED

<p>BUDGET & FINANCE MRS. SCRIBNER</p>	<p>in the Rutland community for marketing purposes. A motion was made by Mr. Mook to allocate \$2500 of Board funds for the event; the motion was seconded by Mr. Percey. With 15 votes for and 2 against. The motion carried with the addendum that appropriate signage indicating a Board sponsored event must be visible.</p> <p>A report of Board funds was distributed to the Trustees. Revenue and cost of care, on site pharmacy, education, staffing and census were discussed. An on-site pharmacy is not feasible due to various restrictions; a pharmacological review occurs at the Home on a regular basis. In order to qualify for VA funding and as a state Veterans home, the population at the the VVH must be 75% Veterans.</p> <p>A motion was made by Mr. Mook to transfer a total of \$75,500 of Board funds to the VVH (\$25,000-Board approved activities; \$50,500 to the CEO Capital Fund). Motion was seconded by Mr. Cotrel, the motion carried.</p>	<p>INFO</p> <p>CLOSED</p>
<p>FRIENDS OF THE VVH MR. MOOK</p>	<p>The Gibney Pavilion is in final stages of completion. A bridge will be installed across the brook; future plans may include an addition to the walkway around the pond. Land Use policy needs to be updated to include the Pavilion. Changes in leadership and with only four (4) active members, the group is not in a position to raise funds. The Board is requesting assistance from a graphic designer to the development of a brochure for the 501 (c) 3 organization.</p>	<p>INFO</p>
<p>OPERATIONS CAPT. CRUICKSHANK</p>	<p>Topics discussed included the Call Out rate and VSEA discouragement of staff discussion directly with management; educational opportunities for staff and certification for LNAs. It was noted that staff is encouraged to voice concerns for admissions/readmissions and speak with family members if hospitalization is appropriate for the Veteran/Member.</p>	<p>INFO</p>
<p>MARKETING MR. BUTTERFIELD</p>	<p>The newest marketing campaign showcases the Rehab Department at the Home. The public service announcement shown during the Admissions report has 45 spots scheduled for August. Hits on Facebook have increased and the deer herd is still the most popular site. More outreach events are planned or are in the formative stages.</p>	<p>INFO</p>
<p>BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MR. DUNN</p>	<p>Energy Subcommittee met with a representative from Encore Energy Renewal regarding solar power for the VVH;. Contracts, benefits, and projected costs were were presented to the Board. The location identified on the property is a preferred site as designated by the town of Bennington.</p> <p>GeoThermal issues continue to be addressed with expansion of the system to East Wing in planning stages. Bio fuels and other new projects are being considered with information gathering in process</p>	<p>OPEN</p>

STRATEGIC PLAN SGTMJ MCHUGH	Focus of meeting was how to make the meetings more productive with concentration on cost of operation and effect of call outs.	INFO
SPECIAL COMMITTEES MR. CHARRON	<p>Mr. Charron met the Resident Council Vice President.</p> <p>The first Fishing Derby was successful and the Board was thanked for the use of the Gibney Pavilion. The next is for Grandparents Day 10 September. Both events are sponsored by the Bennington Elks.</p>	INFO
MISC	<p>A suggestion was made to send the Pinnacle Survey results to Legislators. Requests have been sent by recipients to have their names removed from the BuzzWord mailing list. Bounce backs have been added to mailings to determine if mail is opened or read.</p> <p>MDS data set is near completion which will allow comparison of the VVH to all other nursing homes in the country.</p>	INFO INFO
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
ADJOURNMENT	At 1559, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. diMonda, seconded by Mr. Cotrel. The motion carried.	CLOSED

Board of Trustees meetings: 11 October and 13 December.