

# CVO Minutes for July 18, 2018

July 31, 2018

Numbers apply to the agenda (attached)

1. The meeting was called to order at 7 PM.
2. Motion to Approve the Agenda: M Travis; 2 Lesniewicz; The August Meeting decision was added to Old Business (A). The Motion was approved as amended.
3. Attendees: B Parry, A Ellingsen, O Wordlaw, R Lesniewicz, A Travis, L Nazimek, C Johnson, F O'Connor, S Porter, C Edwards, J Newsom and wife, C LaFayette
4. Motion to Approve the Minutes of June 20, 2018: M Travis, 2 Lesniewicz. Motion passed.
5. The financial Report was presented by B Parry: Motion to Approve: M Travis, 2 Wordlaw. The Motion passed.

Motion to curtail all donations to other organizations when the amount in the checking account is below \$3000.: M F O'Connor, 2 L Nazimek. There was a friendly amendment (accepted) to raise the amount to \$4000. There was discussion for and against the motion.

Motion to close discussion: M Wordlaw, 2 Parry: The motion to close discussion passed  
The Motion to curtail donations failed.

## 6. Committee Reports

### 6. A. Executive Committee: B Parry:

Motion to automatically add the CVO URL and the following verbiage to the bottom of all emails going out from Google Groups:

“CVO is a tax-exempt, not for profit organization under IRS code 501(c)3. As such we are non-partisan and do not endorse or oppose any political candidates or organizations. The information contained in this email is the expressed opinion of the author and is for information only. Unless stated otherwise in the email by an authorized officer of CVO, it is not the position or opinion of CVO.

To post to this group, send email to [coalitionofvets@googlegroups.com](mailto:coalitionofvets@googlegroups.com)

To unsubscribe from this group, send email to [coalitionofvets+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:coalitionofvets+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com)

View this message at <https://groups.google.com/d/msg/coalitionofvets/topic-id/message-id>

For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/d/optout>”

M Parry, 2 Wordlaw. Motion passed as presented.

### 6. B. Economic Committee: No report.

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6. C. Fundraising Committee: Parry explained the options open to CVO on the fundraiser: 1) End the Fundraiser on July 30th and pay Flipcause nothing; 2) Pay Flipcause \$300 and extend the Fundraiser for the three months of August, September and October.

Motion to pay Flipcause \$300 and continue the fundraising campaign for August, September and October or until otherwise ended: M Travis, 2 Wordlaw. Motion passed.

Parry discussed attending the Right to Heal Campaign meeting fighting against VA Privatization and attending (with Chair Willie Mack and Director David Rogers) the Lockhart Institute meeting in the Austin Neighborhood.

6. D. Veterans Affairs Committee: L Nazimek presented the Veterans Affairs Committee Report, which was written (attached).

- Full discussion of the points in the Report
- Newsom handed out contact information on every Congressional Representative and Senator.
- R Lesniewicz discussed opposition to the bill on Blue Water Veterans as written due to its funding provisions, which made veterans pay for their own benefits.

The Meeting Donation was \$34.

C LaFayette: Reported on the situation with interns through the University of Chicago. This will include fundraising, which may be as much as \$50,000/year. These arrangements were worked through Doll, Inc.

Motion to apply for the Accelerator Program at the University of Chicago by the Officers of CVO so CVO can tap into these resources: M C LaFayette, 2 Travis. Motion passed.

6. E. CVO Top Priorities ad hoc Committee: No report.

## **7. Old Business**

7. A. August Meeting: Motion to hold a meeting in August: M LaFayette, 2 O'Connor. Motion passed.

7. B. Why the Senator's voted as they did (from last meeting) on the Mission Act: F O'Connor reported that Duckworth was on maternity leave and did not vote. Durbin voted yes after discussion because of the Home Care provisions and the continuation of the Choice Program.

7. C. Property Tax: A Travis reported that he was on Ch 7 about this. The Urban League is having a symposium on the inequity of the property tax system on July 19th. Travis will attend. This is a national problem, not just a local problem. L Nazimek gave F O'Connor information on a meeting on this in Jefferson Township.

## **8. New Business**

8. A. There is a new bill on Medical Marijuana: R Lesniewicz: The VA physicians cannot prescribe it, but physicians can discuss it with patients, which is new. There is more information on this on [congress.gov](http://congress.gov). Also,

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With the passage of the Mission Act, home caregivers should apply now for care giver status, even though the provision does not kick in for another year.

9. No presentation

10. Announcements

- A. No meetings of the VACCC in July and August
- B. L Nazimek: Chicago Vets Liberty Call is on July 19th at Park Tavern, 1645 W Jackson
- C. C Edwards: She may staff a table at the NWVU Standdown. Also NWVU got a \$125,000 grant, with possibly more to come in the future.
- D. Veterans for Unification (VU) meets on August 4th at the Oak Park Library (flyer attached)
- E. VVA Ch 311 will participate in an event on August 3rd and 4th which is the "Taste of Arlington Heights," the "Mane Event," which is followed by a horse race, titled the "Arlington Million." The three together are a very big event. VVA will have a table with other veterans organizations.

11. The next meeting of CVO will be on Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 7 PM.

Motion to Adjourn: M Travis, 2 Parry. passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bruce E. Parry*

Bruce E. Parry  
Treasurer

*Member Organizations:*

555th Parachute  
 Infantry Association  
*"Triple Nickle"*  
*Chicago Chapter*

American Legion  
*Harold Washington*  
*Post 1987*

AmVets Post 98

Blue Star Family  
 Platoon

Green Card Veterans

Mexican American  
 Veterans Association

Montford Point Marine  
 Association  
*Chicago Chapter*

Muslim American  
 Veterans Association

National Women  
 Veterans United

Veterans for Peace  
*Chicago Chapter*

Veterans for Unification

Veterans Housing and  
 Employment Alliance

Veterans One-Stop  
 Shop

Veterans Strike Force

VetNet

Vietnam Veterans of  
 America  
*Chapter 311*

**AGENDA**

July 18, 2018

1. Call to Order [Begin at 7:00 p.m.]
  - A. Pledge of Allegiance
  - B. Moment of Silence
  - C. The Mission of CVO guides the proceedings of the Meeting
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Introductions of Guests: (Name and Veteran Affiliation)
4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
5. Approval of the Financial Report [7:10 p.m.]
6. CVO Committee Reports (10 minutes for the Veteran Affairs Committee; 5 minutes for the other Committees)
  - A. **Executive Committee**
  - B. **Economic Committee**
  - C. **Fundraising Committee**
  - D. **Veterans Affairs Committee**
  - E. **Updates concerning the three (3) top priorities for CVO**
7. Old Business
  - A.
  - B.
8. New Business [Begin at 7:45 p.m.]
  - A.
9. Presentations [8:00 pm. – 8:30 p.m.]
  - A. Economic Committee
10. Announcements (2 minutes per group) [8:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.]
 

Cook County Veterans Assistance Commission  
 555th Parachute Infantry Association-Chicago Chapter  
 American Legion Harold Washington Post 1987  
 Blue Star Family Platoon  
 Chicago Veterans  
 Green Card Veterans  
 Mexican American Veterans Association  
 Montford Point Marine Association  
 Muslim American Veterans Association  
 National Women Veterans United  
 Veterans for Peace-Chicago Chapter  
 Veterans for Unification  
 Veterans Housing and Employment Alliance  
 Veterans Strike Force  
 VetNet  
 Vietnam Veterans of America
11. Next meeting: Third Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.  
 Willie Mack, Chair

## VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT, JULY, 2018

by  
Larry E. Nazimek

1. Regarding H. R. 4556, Cong. Robin Kelly's support, if we can get it, may make a significant difference, since she is in favor of dental care and got many cosponsors for her bill, H. R. 2422 (which got 83 cosponsors, has passed the House, and is at the Senate). At our May meeting, Anthony Travis volunteered to meet with her staffer. (How did it go?)

17 cosponsors so far, of which 6 are from IL.

We have asked our Senators to write letters to the IL Cong. Delegation, urging their support, but they have not done so. Sen. Duckworth will not write this letter, but will look into the matter if it ever makes it to the Senate.

I have been in contact with the Cmdr. of the Elgin VFW, who I met at the Expo prior to the last Wolves Military Night, and his friends who are with Smiles for Veterans, a group in Montgomery, IL, that provides free dental care to needy vets. One of them is a friend of WFLD's Natalie Bomke, who I previously wrote to, but who never replied. Bomke is interested.

I have reached out to the Gary Sinise Foundation and am awaiting a reply.

2. Please get candidates to submit statements to our webmaster ([webmaster@coalitionofvets.org](mailto:webmaster@coalitionofvets.org)) concerning their positions on veterans issues. Our website now has a section, starting with the moving banner at the top of the home page, about this. So far, we only have one statement. The Libertarian Party, with many vets running for office, says they will submit statements, and they were far more positive than anyone else.

3. At 1600, Saturday, August 25, 2018, Mark Weiman and I will be on the "America's Heroes Group Radio Talk Show," WVON, AM 1690, to speak on dental care for veterans and H. R. 4556.

4. Will someone on the south side please get information on "Veterans Views," WJOB, AM 1230 and FM 104.7. It's run by a Col (Ret) David Hinshaw weekly at 0900-1000 (don't know the day, just the time). I live on the NW side and cannot pick up this station. Any volunteer?

5. On 7-5-18, Willie Mack and I attended a meeting, chaired by Christopher Lafayelle, concerning interns. In this program, we will get interns and paid supervisors, and so will several other vet groups. Our "office," that can be our official address, is a former firehouse at 6843 S. Harper, Chicago. This will happen soon.

# **Veterans for Unification**

Our mission is to educate the Veteran community and support quality care and benefits for all Veterans in the VA Healthcare System.

## **Next meeting:**

***Saturday, August 4, 2018  
10 - 11:30 AM***

## **Speakers:**

**Deborah Zajac**  
***Decedent Affairs, Hines VA Hospital***

**Thomas Wendt**  
***Legal Director, Center for Disability & Elder Law***

***Light refreshments served***

**Oak Park Public Library**

**Second Floor Meeting Room 834 Lake Street Oak Park, IL  
Phone 708-383-8200**

**1 blk west of Oak Park Ave and about 3 blks east of Harlem  
Street & indoor parking/WC accessible/Public transportation: contact RTA**

**Veterans for Unification:for more information 847-827-0835**

***Veterans for Unification is a not for profit 501c (3) organization:  
All donations are tax deductible***

**Dues are only \$20 a year for a great organization: please join us today.  
This organization welcomes all veterans and those who support veterans.**

***Send your check or money order to:*  
**Veterans for Unification, 805 Lake St. #198, Oak Park IL 60301****