

Coalition of Veterans Organizations

April 17, 2019 Minutes

Call to Order: 1856 b y Vice Chair, Larry Nazimek

Approval of the Agenda: Abbreviated agenda. Attendance expected to be low as previously announced.

introductions: Larry Nazimek (Vice Chair), Connie Edwards (Recording Secretary), John Hopkins, Earline Donley, Tom Johnson, Frank Thompson, Mark Weiman

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: The March Minutes were approved as circulated

Approval of the Financial Report: The financial report was presented as left by the Treasurer in his absence. The ending balance as of April 12, 2019 was \$2,507.99. A new Square Card Reader was purchased. The webmaster was paid, and a donation was made for Golden Age Games; dues were collected from NWVU and Mexican American Veterans Association, and a donation of \$84 was received. The report was accepted after proper motion and second. The donation collected at this meeting was \$20.

Presentation: Dr. Mark Weiman presented on "a relationship between dental pain and opioid addiction". He stated that 6-8% of persons using opioids was due to delayed care. Delayed dental care also contributes to the need for strong opioids for relief.

CVO Committee Reports: Larry Nazimek submitted and expounded on activities of the Veterans Affairs Committee. So far there are 49 co-sponsors for H.R. 96. Some replies asked if the VA has the capacity to handle increased dental care. Larry Nazimek and Mark Weiman have made several public discussions about the need for dental care for more veterans. It was also noted that lack of dental care may be a reason that some veterans are among the statistics for Opioid overuse.

Old Business: An election for CVO Board of Director vacancies will take place at the May 15, 2019 meeting.

New Business: A motion passed in support of CVO participating in providing regular programming with CANTV. CVO will support training for a sufficient number of persons to meet the requirements. Dr. Mark Weiman stated he will be delighted to serve as the primary host of the show. Further discussion will take place at the May meeting regarding the first cadre of trainees. Persons will need to be trained to screen phone callers and to manage the airing of caller comments and questions. National Women Veteran United presents a Women Veterans prospective on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Harold Washington presents on the 1st Thursday of the month. Babette Peyton prerecords a program, the actual show time not available at this time. It was reported that the CANTV programs can be viewed on You Tube if one does not receive the live shows.

Announcements: Dr. Mark Wieman announced his recent retirement from dental practice.

May 13, 2019: Safe Haven Stand down for veterans; Chris LaFayette in hospital, details not available; Francine O'Connor ill.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 2045.

Next Meeting: May 15, 2019, at 7 PM at Jesse Brown VAMC in the Prescription Room, Damen Building, 2nd Floor. **Respectfully Submitted by** Col(Ret) Constance Edwards