

Minutes JUNE 19, 2019

Coalition of Veterans Organizations

Present: Connie Edwards (Recording Secretary), Latanya Gamblin, Larry Nazimek Vice Chair, Presiding), Steve Nelson, Stanley Porter, Francine O'Connor, Mark Weiman

May 15, 2019 Minutes: The minutes were circulated but tabled until the July 17, 2019 meeting due to significant Word Processing errors.

Presiding: Larry Nazimek, Vice Chair

There was very low turnout for this meeting. Some previously excused absences were made. Vice Chair Nazimek presided. Thus, those present engaged in discussions related to the status of Dental care legislation for veterans for most of the allotted meeting time.

There are currently 54 co-signers for the Dental Bill, now know as HR 96. CVO is working on this bill to not limit dental care to service connection nor on income status. The bill proposed by the VA is focusing on low income veterans only.

A CVO Organizational Member, The National Women Veterans United (NWWU) ^{a 501(c)3 organization,} recently acquired administrative overseer status on a program call **Veterans Smiles**. The program of national scope covers limited dental service that appear to be limited to low income veterans. The Program Chairperson is Patricia DeVore (Ph. 630-664-0245). Ms. DeVore is currently not a member of NWWU.

Veterans for Unification, a CVO Organizational member with 501c 3 status, has invited all to attend its August 3, 2019 meeting on August 3, 2019 from 10- 11:30 AM where Dental Care need for veterans is the topic. The meeting will be held at the Oak Park Library, Second Floor, 834 Lake Street, Oak Park, Illinois. Mark Weiman, Dentist and Army Veteran will be the speaker. Linda Chapa LaVia, Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs in invited with the expectation that her level of authority and influence will be gained in helping to get support for the bill.

CANTV: CVO is now ^{not} a monthly presenter on the Veterans Affairs programing of CANTV. Latanya Gamblin stated that announcing the Veterans' programs on social media may be an effective way of getting wider viewership of the veterans' programs and issues, concerns and activities.

Meeting Refreshments: Francine brought refreshments for the meeting attendees. The treasurer was not present for reimbursement.

Veterans' Recognition: Larry Nazimek reported that he had recommended ^{to Darryl Howard that} Stanley Porter, World War II veteran and CVO member, to ^{be recognized} a solicited request by the Chicago Sky Women Basketball team. The recognition is pending.

Next CVO meeting: July 17, 2019 at JBVAMC, 2nd Fl. CVO Board meeting prior to the meeting at 6 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by C.Edwards, Recording Secretary.