

KC-FEB Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2019 – 1:30 PM (Thursday)
Location – TSA Office
12200 N Ambassador Drive, Suite 212,
Kansas City, Missouri 64163

ITEM	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION/ASSIGNMENT/POC</u> If/As Applicable		
Opening / Introductions		Greg Giese		
Attendees	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>In person</u> 1. Greg Giese 2. Gary Pixler 3. John Cleveland 4. Jonni Christian </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <u>Via teleconference</u> 1. Jeff Winters 2. Dave Stepp 3. Vanessa Thomson 4. Lorelei Schieferdecker 5. Jim Dixon </td> </tr> </table>	<u>In person</u> 1. Greg Giese 2. Gary Pixler 3. John Cleveland 4. Jonni Christian	<u>Via teleconference</u> 1. Jeff Winters 2. Dave Stepp 3. Vanessa Thomson 4. Lorelei Schieferdecker 5. Jim Dixon	N/A
<u>In person</u> 1. Greg Giese 2. Gary Pixler 3. John Cleveland 4. Jonni Christian	<u>Via teleconference</u> 1. Jeff Winters 2. Dave Stepp 3. Vanessa Thomson 4. Lorelei Schieferdecker 5. Jim Dixon			
OLD/NEW BUSINESS				
1. Meeting Minutes	Greg sent out the Minutes of the 3/21/19 meeting by email today. Name corrections and other minor changes can still be emailed to Greg or Vanessa.	Greg Giese		
2. Stand Down 2019	<p>The next Stand Down event will be on Jun 7, 2019 at St. Michael's Veterans Center. Setup will be on Jun 6 starting at 0800. Tear down/clean up will be on Jun 7 from 1300 until finished. We would like to help out as a Committee in any way possible, and in lieu of a June meeting.</p> <p>Jim Lannigan said he needs a number of people with availability from Greg on when volunteers are willing to help. Greg said he committed to giving Jim the head count in the next two weeks, so if you are available for setup on 6 Jun, or at any time on 7 Jun, please let Greg know before Friday, Apr 26 so your name can be submitted to Jim.</p> <p>Gary Pixler said that if you, or others in your agency, can't attend, Stand Down can use donations of toiletries. Dennis Johnson can let us know how to get the donations to them. Greg said that while the number of women and children are low, there are families that are helped at Stand Down, and all donations get to them the same day.</p>	https://kcstanddown.org/		
3. Future Meetings	Meetings can be held at various locations, so please let Greg know if your agency is willing to host us for a meeting. We do not have a location for the May 16 meeting.			

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4. Committee Participation	<p>The mission of the KCFEB Veterans Affairs Committee is to support the Veterans in the federal community and to promote Veterans activities in the metropolitan area by providing a variety of services and activities for our nation's Veterans. This mission statement is posted on the website, though the Goals to Accomplish the Mission are not.</p> <p>Greg says this mission is vague and most of the Veterans Affairs Committee does not regularly participate. He said those who volunteer to be on the Committee do so through their agency, but are not required through any by-laws or expectations to maintain any attendance to meetings, etc.</p> <p>John Cleveland responded that is not uncommon for varying levels of participation due to the nature of these Committees. It is a difficult problem to solve. He said that when the FEB sends the email out to agencies seeking volunteers next time, they could add a statement to the announcement that members should only be nominated that have the time to invest in the committee, thereby helping that particular agency as well as the Veteran Affairs Committee.</p>	<p>https://kansascity.feb.gov/committees/vet/</p>
5. Guest Speakers Needed	<p>Vanessa will get in touch with Camp Corral to see if they can speak at a meeting soon.</p> <p>Jonni said she might be able to host the meeting on Jul 18.</p>	
6. Vacant Program Coordinator Positions	<p>Guest speaker and Women Veterans are two vacancies we have in Program Coordinator Positions.</p> <p>The Guest Speaker Program Coordinator would not necessarily have the responsibility to seek out guests to speak at our meetings. This coordinator's responsibilities would be to coordinate with the already scheduled speaker to make sure the speaker has everything they need for our meeting (directions, technology, etc). Please let Greg know if you are interested.</p> <p>John Rogers is the Vice President of the FEB VA Committee, but Greg hasn't had contact with him in quite a while. Normally, the Vice can conduct meetings if the President is unavailable. Greg will speak with John Cleveland about the possibility of adding a second Vice chair.</p>	

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PROGRAM COORDINATOR REPORTS		
a. Discounts & Events	Not present.	Michael Ciliege
b. Veteran Benefits	<p>The Committee asked the Program Coordinators to provide an update on the ‘blue water’ Vietnam Veterans case.</p> <p>Vanessa mentioned a discount she could personally vouch for, which is VetTix. After verifying veteran status through IdME, https://www.vettix.org/ref/541592 offers thousands of tickets per year to veterans to attend concerts, sporting events, performing arts and more throughout the USA with their families.</p>	Alan Edmonds/Jeff Winters
c. Stand Down - http://kcstanddown.org/	See information regarding Stand Down in New Business section above.	Dennis Johnson (Providers) (816) 510-9802 dennis@kcstanddown.org
d. Women Veterans	No update.	Jonni Christian/vacant
e. Guest Speaker	Vacant.	
Open Discussion		
Dave Stepp	Dave said the Social Security Administration will hold a career fair on May 6-7 at the Kauffman Conference Center to discuss jobs they have in an open format. May 7 will focus on how to navigate the USAJobs website and other helpful information. The career fair is open to the public and doesn't is not specifically for veterans.	https://www.ssa.gov/careers/
Lorelei Schieferdecker	Lorelei mentioned a car show with over 200 vehicles to support veterans on Jun 2. All proceeds go to benefit veterans. They normally raise over \$10,000 in one day.	

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NEXT MEETINGS:	<p>May 16th, 2019 at 1:30pm. Location TBD.</p> <p>Jun 6 or 7, assist with StandDown in lieu of June meeting</p> <p>Jul 18th, 2019 at 1:30pm. Location TBD.</p>	

Upcoming dates from prior meeting minute updates and emails:

- May 6, 1000-1300 Social Security Administration Career Event, Day 1 (<https://www.ssa.gov/careers/>)
- May 7, 1300 Social Security Administration Career Event, Day 2 (<https://www.ssa.gov/careers/>)
- Jun 2 Car show to support veterans
- Jun 7, 0730-1300 The Summer Stand Down at St. Michael's Veterans Center, 3838 Chelsea Drive, Kansas City, MO 64128
- Jun 29, 0700 Caregivers on the Homefront 1st Annual "Will You Walk With Me?" 5K Fun Walk/Run at the National WWI Memorial
<https://caregivers-homefront.org/will-you-walk-with-me-suicide-prevention-5k-walkrun.html>