

KC-FEB Veterans Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2020 – 1:30 PM (Thursday)
Location – Teleconference

ITEM	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ACTION/ASSIGNMENT</u> <u>/POC</u> If/As Applicable																		
Opening / Introductions		Melissa Jacobson																		
Attendees	<p><u>Via teleconference</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">1. Melissa Jacobson (Chairperson)</td> <td style="width: 33%;">5. Dean Scott</td> <td style="width: 33%;">11. Jonathan Grant (guest speaker)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Dennis Johnson</td> <td>6. Arian Gilyot</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Alan Edmonds</td> <td>7. Monshi Ramdass</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Jonni Christian</td> <td>8. Michael Unden</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>9. Michael Focke</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>10. Vanessa Thomson (scribe)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	1. Melissa Jacobson (Chairperson)	5. Dean Scott	11. Jonathan Grant (guest speaker)	2. Dennis Johnson	6. Arian Gilyot		3. Alan Edmonds	7. Monshi Ramdass		4. Jonni Christian	8. Michael Unden			9. Michael Focke			10. Vanessa Thomson (scribe)		N/A
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GUEST SPEAKERS																				
Jonathan Grant, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, VetSuccess on Campus, Department of Veteran Affairs, Johnson County Community College, 12345 College Blvd, Overland Park, KS 66210	<p>The VetSuccess on Campus (VSOC) program began in 2009 to help veterans, servicemembers, and their qualified dependents with on-campus benefits assistance. Today there are 87 VSOC Counselors supporting 104 schools.</p> <p>The program exists to be a VA resource for vets on campus. In Kansas, Jonathan is at JCCC and Angela Brazil is at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. Their primary service is Chapter 36 personalized career planning and guidance – a non-paying benefit for transitioning service members who need the service. However, Jonathan doesn't help just those at JCCC, but gets calls from Fort Riley and Junction City, so he serves the greater community area. They provide career counseling, aptitude assessments, academic and adjustment counseling.</p> <p>Jonathan also explained some of the Chapter 31 benefits, which is an employment program. It has a higher degree of structure, so everyone is assigned a counselor with a name/number if you have questions while using those services. It is for Veterans who have service-connected disabilities.</p> <p>Jonathan is currently working on a Virtual Veteran's center and will be live before the end of the year.</p>	https://www.benefits.va.gov/vocrehab/vsoc.asp																		
NEW BUSINESS																				
1. Future Meetings	KC FEB Veterans Affairs Committee meetings will be held on the 3 rd Thursday of every month from 1:30-3:00pm. We will not have a meeting in December, so the next one will be January 21, 2021.																			

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PROGRAM COORDINATOR REPORTS		
a. Discounts & Events	Not present.	Michael Ciliege
b. Veteran Benefits	No update.	Jeff Winters/Alan Edmonds
c. Stand Down - http://kcstanddown.org/	Both the Spring and Fall Stand Down events were cancelled. Other places had a mobile stand down and another that were very successful. Hope Faith reached out to VA to send a rep for the mobile stand down. When the environment is better will kick back into the big Stand Down event. The current space is very limited. 34 Veterans were helped at the mini stand down.	Dennis Johnson (Providers) (816) 510-9802 DKJ@POBox.com
d. Women Veterans	Not present. Melissa said the VA is holding a drive through baby shower donation drive on May 7.	Jonni Christian
e. Guest Speaker	He talked to his Wounded Warrior rep who said there are several new programs introduced and he'd like to speak to us to talk about the new programs. Dean plans for him to talk to our group in January.	Dean Scott
Open Discussion		
Karen with Military OneSource	Eligibility has been expanded and includes gray area retirees; those still in IRR status, but not yet age 60. There is also an app, the MyMilitaryOneSource app to have resources and tools at your fingertips.	https://www.militaryonesource.mil/
Michael Focke (KCVA)	From 8am-noon every Wednesday, they are now doing Warrior Wednesdays through the HVAC program at Hope Faith. He has reached out to Chris Stout who is the programs director. Mike said the Mobile Vet Center is still moving, so if you want it to come out somewhere, let Mike know, even if on education on services. Jessica is a caregiver support lead and is knowledgeable on legacy benefits that families are entitled to. She is scheduled to speak to our group in 2021.	https://www.hopefaithministries.org/
Jose	Jose said this is his last VA Committee meeting as he is moving to Florida.	
Melissa Jacobson	FEB recently sent out requests to agency heads to add new members to committees, so we will have new members in January in addition to everyone already in.	

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NEXT MEETINGS:	<p>Jan 21, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference Feb 18, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference Mar 18, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference Apr 15, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference May 20, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Jun 17, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference.</p>	<p>Jul 15, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Aug 19, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Sep 16, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Oct 21, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Nov 18, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference. Dec 16, 2021 at 1:30pm. Teleconference.</p>