

COLUMBIA COUNTY VETERANS' SERVICE COMMISSION

Approved Meeting Minutes of The Regular Meeting of May 13, 2021

Meeting called to order at 8:30 am.

Attendance was taken and those present were: Norman Bednarek, Chairman; Keith Miller, Commissioner; Janis Bauman, Commissioner; and Rebekka Cary, CVSO & Executive Secretary.

It was certified that the agenda was properly posted and the meeting properly noticed. There were no changes to the agenda. The agenda was approved on motion by Miller, seconded by Bauman. Motion carried.

The minutes from the last regular meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved on motion by Miller, seconded by Bednarek. Motion carried.

There were no expenses since the last meeting.

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85 (1) (f), motion by Bednarek to go to closed session to review Veterans Service Commission Fund Applications. Second by Miller. Motion carried by roll call voted. The Veteran's Service Commission went into closed session at 8:32 a.m. with Bednarek, Miller, Bauman, and Cary attending.

Motion by Miller to return to open session. Second by Bednarek. Motion carried. The Commission returned to open session at 8:36 a.m.

Motion by Miller to deny the application as submitted. Second by Bednarek. Motion carried.

Administrative Assistant Jessica Ethington is continuing to research our records to look for surviving spouses of Vietnam Veterans who may now qualify for benefits based on the fact that Agent Orange has now been linked to Bladder Cancer, Hypothyroidism, and Parkinsonism. We have found two qualifying deceased veterans so far and have reached out the next of kin. We are also working on contacting living veterans who may qualify under the new laws as well.

As of now our grant amount remains at \$11,500 from WDVA. - Governor Ever's budget proposal includes a 5% increase. There is also some bipartisan legislation being looked at to increase it even more than 5%.

Bednarek stated he saw in the WDVA newsletter that there are beds available at the King Veterans Home.

The Flag Retirement Ceremony will be held at the Fall River school tomorrow.

The Columbia County American Legion meeting will be held May 19, 2021 at the American Legion Headquarters.

The American Legion Spring Meetings was held May 7-8 at Ho-Chunk Casino in Wisconsin Dells.

The remodel of the Columbia County cabin at Camp American Legion is still on hold.

The Portage Honor Guard will be taking over funeral honors in the Briggsville are. They have been holding practices in Portage and all area honor guards are free to attend.

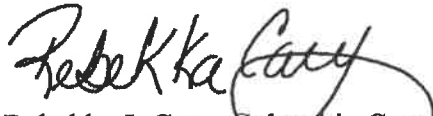
Badger Boys and Badger Girls are cancelled for 2021.

Youth Government day will take place in the Fall. Bednarek will be reaching out to the schools before the end of this school year.

The next meeting date was scheduled for Friday, June 11, 2021 at 8:30 am.

There being no other business before the commission at this time, Miller motioned to adjourn. Second by Bauman. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:02 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebekka Cary". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish at the end.

Rebekka L Cary, Columbia County Veterans' Service Officer
and Executive Secretary, Columbia County Veterans' Service Commission