

CLACKAMAS COUNTY
VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL
November 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes
Zoom
2:30pm – 3:30pm

FACILITATOR		Adam Khosrobadi			
NOTE TAKER		Amy Kelsey			
VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL					
P	Adam Khosrobadi	A	Tracy Bogard	P	Gregory Freetage
P	Paul Edger	P	Casey Curry	P	Janet Braman
P	Laurie Kimmell	E	Betty Fish-Ferguson	P	RB Green
P	Larry Moseley	P	Don Hedlind	P	John Budiao
E	Carol Bernhard				
CLACKAMAS COUNTY STAFF					
P	Gus Bedwell	P	Brenda Durbin		
P	Heather Miewald	P	Amy Kelsey		
GUESTS					
P	Autumn Vaughn				

P-Present, A -Absent, E-Excused, O-Other Attendee

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
Meeting Called to Order and Introductions	Adam called the meeting to order and a quorum was established.	
Minutes	October 27, 2022 meeting minutes moved to approve by Greg, seconded by Paul, adopted by the Council.	

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
Chair's Report	<p>Adam called on Casey, chair of the VAC Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Subcommittee to provide an update on the Mental Health Summit. At this time, the Summit postponed until February 22, 2023. Advertisements with the new date are in circulation, and the County website updated. Speakers for the Summit to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Galli Murray, LCSW - is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who specializes in crisis trauma and suicide prevention. In her current position as Clackamas County Health, Housing and Human Service's Suicide Prevention Coordinator, she works within the county health and various other systems in order to reach Clackamas County's goal of zero suicide. • Dr. Martha Carlson - is a Licensed Psychologist who has made a career working with the Veteran population since 2004. Her specialties are suicide prevention, trauma treatment, couples therapy and substance abuse treatment. • Donna-Marie Drucker - is the Co-Founder and President of the Oregon Firearm Safety Coalition, working alongside the firearm community to prevent firearm suicide, and co-founder of the National Firearm Suicide Prevention Group, Donna-Marie a Graduate Clinical Mental Health Counseling student at George Fox University. Donna works in suicide prevention/crisis intervention with a focus on preventing suicide in our rural and Veteran connected communities. • Eddie Black, B.S. Psychology-Philosophy - Eddie Black served in Marines as an avionics technician on F/A-18 Hornets from 1989 -1994 with deployment to Desert Storm. In the Marines, he obtained the rank of Sgt E5. In 2004, while attending the University of Oregon, he enlisted into the Oregon Army National Guard and later deployed to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom 2. In 2007, he transitioned from C Co 2-162 IN to work as an infantry instructor with 1-249th Regional Training Institute. In 2017, he rejoined C Co 2-162 and deployed to Somalia in 2019/20. He retired from the ORARNG in FEB 2021. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aimee Johnson - is a seasoned, versatile, value driven leader with experience across innovation, public private partnerships, federal healthcare, Veteran and military cultural competency, crisis work, mental health, substance use, firearm suicide prevention and all aspects of preventing suicide with youth and adults. <p>Paul asked the questions, What is the funding for personnel or people in mental health crisis specifically for Veterans? Is there encumbered or targeted funds in the budget for training mental health providers on Veterans culture and specifically training people around mental health and intervention work?</p> <p>Brenda mentioned to Paul that either Clackamas County Behavioral Health or Clackamas County Public Health could best answer Paul's questions.</p>	
PACT Act Legislation Presentation	<p>Heather Miewald, Clackamas County Veterans' Service Officer shared with the council about the recently passed PACT Act. Heather showed a video Heath Robinson and the PACT Act - Stand Up for Heroes 2022.</p> <p>The PACT Act named in honor of Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson includes the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expands VA healthcare and benefits to Veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances. • Extends automatic eligibility for Post 9/11 combat Veterans from 5 years to 10 years post discharge. • Mandates Expansion of Healthcare Staffing and Facilities. • Mandates Research on Toxic Exposure and Enhances the Process of adding New Presumptive Conditions. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandates Review of Previously Denied Claims. • Adds 3 new groups of veterans with presumed exposed to radiation. • The Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 establishes a federal cause of action for any individual who resided, worked, or otherwise exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune for at least 30 days beginning August 1, 1953 and ending December 31, 1987. <p>With all the changes and new presumptive conditions, it is a great time to check in with a VSO to reevaluate benefits.</p>	
Member Updates	Don shared of the organization Paralyzed Vets of America and the work the organization is doing for Veterans diagnosed with MS and ALS. PVA.org	
Public Comment	No Public Comment	
Announcement	The January VAC meeting offered as a hybrid meeting. Members can choose to attend in person or via Zoom.	
Next Meeting	Veterans Advisory Council January 26, 2022 from 2:30pm-3:30pm	