

CLACKAMAS COUNTY
 VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL
 September 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes
 Zoom
 2:30pm – 3:30pm

FACILITATOR		Jerry Craig			
NOTE TAKER		Amy Kelsey - Administrative Specialist 1 - Clackamas County Social Services			
VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL					
P	Jerry Craig	P	Tracy Bogard		
P	RB Green	P	Scott Southard		
P	Paul Edger	E	Casey Curry		
E	Laurie Kimmell	E	Ben Heir		
P	Adam Khosrobadi	E	Ian Newland		
E	Joseph Kwiecinski				
CLACKAMAS COUNTY STAFF					
P	Aaron Henry	P	Tito Mendoza		
P	Brenda Durbin	P	Amy Kelsey		
GUESTS					
O	Larry Moseley				

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

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
Meeting Called to Order	Jerry Craig called the meeting to order.	
Minutes	The July 22, 2021 meeting minutes were moved to approve by Scott and seconded by RB. The August 26, 2021 meeting minutes were moved to approve by Paul, seconded by Scott and both sets of minutes were adopted by the Council.	
Chair's Report	Jerry Craig presented the VAC Equity Statement. The VAC Equity Statement as written was moved to approve by Paul, seconded by Scott and adopted by the council.	

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Equity Statement	<p>The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners proclaimed the county’s commitment to diversity and inclusion on July 19, 2012 via a Resolution Valuing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The Board re-affirmed this commitment on Oct. 1, 2015.</p> <p>The Resolution reads in part, “The founding principles of our nation set forth the fundamental ideals of equality, equity and inclusion; the basic right of people to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and equal protection as expressed in the United States Constitution”.</p> <p>Since the founding of our nation, the United States military has upheld these values. Service members represent all religions, races, ethnicities, sexual orientations and cultures, serving with honor in every role from soldier to engineer.</p> <p>The Clackamas County Veterans Advisory Council affirms the values of the military and the county, and declares our commitment to ensuring that all veterans, family members, and the general public understands that everyone will be treated in a way that is unbiased and equitable, so that everyone feels welcome accessing services from Clackamas County.</p> <p>Members of the Clackamas County Veterans Advisory Council affirm that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We do not condone racism of any kind. • Best practices in diversity awareness, equity, work place harassment prevention, employment law, disability awareness and fair housing. • Embracing diversity enables the County to be a welcoming and inclusive place to live, work and enjoy life. • Creating and maintaining a welcoming and inclusive place for veterans, their families and dependents to live, work, and feel safe. 	
Behavioral Health Sub-Committee Update	<p>Jerry Craig updated the Council on the need for a new chair on the Behavioral Health Sub-Committee as Casey requested a leave of absence. Tracy and Adam will take the lead until further notice. Next Behavioral Health Sub-Committee meeting is scheduled for Oct 14th.</p>	<p>Amy will send Tracy, Adam and the Executive Committee all BH meeting minutes</p>

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<p>Clackamas County Veterans Survey</p>	<p>Jerry Craig presented the final draft of the Clackamas County Veterans Survey. Casey emailed in a suggestion to open the survey with a formal introduction statement about the VAC and the purpose of the survey. The change will be made by Brenda and then the survey will be transferred into survey monkey format and presented to the Executive Council prior to distribution in the month of October.</p> <p>Several members have requested that the survey remain open for 60 to 90 days after distribution. Survey will close at the end of December. Data will be evaluated overtime, with in the data collection period.</p> <p>Jerry Craig has requested for members of the VAC to send any and all survey distribution ideas to Amy Kelsey akelsey@clackamas.us by Oct. 1st</p> <p>The main focus of the survey will answer the question, How do we better communicate and meet the needs of veterans?</p>	
<p>Outreach Committee</p>	<p>The Clackamas County Veterans Service Office will lead an outreach committee with the following members of the VAC.</p> <p>Paul Edgar RB Green Adam Khosrobadi</p> <p>The focus will be around information and awareness as it pertains to the Veterans Service Office, through media and word of mouth.</p>	
<p>New Applicant Recommendation</p>	<p>Larry Moseley – 4 years Army 2 tours Vietnam. Member of the VFW, American Legion, 1st CAV association, 1st Friday veterans’ breakfast. Larry is currently the post service officer.</p>	<p>Recommendation will be sent to the BCC for approval</p>
<p>Veteran War Memorial</p>	<p>The VAC is in support of developing the Veteran War Memorial, but needs to know the specific ways in which the VAC is being asked to help or contribute. Scott will write a letter of</p>	

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
	support on behalf of the VAC, while requesting clarification around the type of support being requested at this time.	
Support for Afghan War Veterans	<p>VAC in connection with the Behavioral Health Sub-Committee discussed ways to best help returning Afghan War Veterans. Oregon is preparing for the return of 8,494 veterans. VAC discussed implementation of the following resources.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CVSO 2. Clackamas County Crisis Line 3. Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 press 1 or text 838255 to receive 24/7 confidential support. 4. Portland Vet Center 503-688-5361. 5. Signing up for the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs newsletter; https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDVA/subscriber/new 6. Buddy Checks – Veterans from the Vietnam era will partner up with Afghan veterans <p>Adam Khosrobadi will take the lead on drafting a letter of support To Our Veterans of Afghanistan</p>	
Member Update	No Member Updates	
Public Comment	No Public Comment	
Next Meeting	<p>Veterans Advisory Council October 28, 2021 from 2:30pm-3:30pm via Zoom</p>	