

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Veterans Affairs Committee

Regular Meeting
October 24, 2019 @ 8:00 AM

Minutes

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / MOMENT OF SILENCE / CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Present: Art Eisner, John Block, Ron Hofmeister, Neal Horning,
Rachael Sherman, William Fowle, Leelanau Representative Alan Aldridge

EXCUSED: Mollie Sourek

STAFF: GTC Director Michael Roof

GUESTS: Veterans Coalition President John Lefler,

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

None

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Added to Director's Report -Memorandum Chris Forsyth regarding for GTC Commissioners 2% resolution dated 7, 2019.

Moved by Hofmeister, seconded by Horning to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of September 26, 2019

Moved by Fowle, seconded by Sherman to approve the minutes listed above. Motion carried

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Michael gave update on FY 2019 financials.

Moved by Fowle, seconded by Block to approve the financial report. Motion carried

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Roof outlined details of the Director's Report.

Moved by Fowle, seconded by Block to approve Director's Report. Motion carried

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

a. **Veterans Transportation**

Roof spoke about meeting with BATA Bus systems regarding local veteran transportation. BATA is reaching out to various organizations to see how they can establish an on-demand veteran ride program for wellness purposes. The cost would be \$15 per one-way ride. It is not known the amount of veterans that would utilize the program. Roof will continue the conversation with BATA and get data from VA Clinic about cancelled appointments due to lack of ride.

Moved by Horning to continue talks with BATA and see what is possible, but not enter into any agreements at this time as the price is too high, seconded by Sherman. Motion carried.

b. **BATA Bus wraps**

Roof spoke about BATA donating space on two small buses for wraps to help spread the word about the GTC VA office. This is for a duration of one year. GTC VA will just have to purchase the wraps from Image 360 at a cost of \$1,548 including installation. One side will be GTC VA office info and the other will be GATHER Veterans magazine info. They will be installed the week before Veterans Day.

Moved by Sherman to approve bus wrap costs not to exceed \$1,600, seconded by Horning. Motion carried.

c. **2% Grant Applications**

Roof spoke about how the Grand Traverse County Commissioners passed a resolution regarding how all 2% grants from the GT Band were to be approved or denied by the county Department Head that was closely in line with their work. In our case, Michael would review all 2% applications and approve and deny. Roof explained that he would bring the 2% applications to the board for their approval. Chairman Eisner stated that the board should not micromanage the office and all applications should be handled by the Director alone.

Moved by Horning to allow Director Roof to approve/ deny any 2% applications with no further board input, seconded by Fowle. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER REPORT

Commissioner LaPointe spoke about the Veterans Treatment Court he attended held by Judge Cooney. He thought the meeting was productive in determining the eligibility of a veteran for purposes of the court program.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

a. Hometown Heroes

John Block spoke about the Hometown Heroes that took place on Oct 10, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

*Moved by Horning, seconded by Block to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried
Meeting adjourned at 9:01 AM*