

## **NH STATE VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting Date: 3 January 2023**

**Location: ECTC, 722 Riverwood Dr., Pembroke, NH**

### **OFFICERS and VOTING MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS**

**Chairman** - Paul Loyd

**Vice Chair** - Andrew Patterson

**Secretary** - Denise DeBlois

**Treasurer** - Kelly Dobens

**Chair Emeritus** - David Kenney

**Chaplain** - Armand Soucy

#### **Air Force Association**

Kevin Grady (prim)

#### **Air Force Sergeants Association**

Martha Gladu (alt)

#### **American Legion**

Mike Lopez (prim)

Bill Roy (alt)

#### **AUSA - Col. Cross Chapter**

Greg d'Arbonne ((prim)

#### **Catholic War Veterans**

Denise DeBlois (prim)

#### **Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association**

#### **Disabled American Veterans**

#### **Korean War Veterans**

Mike Lopez (prim)

#### **Marine Corps League**

#### **Military Officers Association (MOAA)**

Peter Burdett (prim)

William Luti (alt)

#### **Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)**

**National Guard Association of NH**

Steve Greco (alt)

**NH Army Retiree Council**

Mike Rice (alt)

**NH National Guard Enlisted Association**

Mike Rice (alt)

**NH Veterans Association**

**Patriot Resilient Leader Institute (Camp Resilience)**

**Reserve Officers Association of NH**

David Kenney (prim)

**Rolling Thunder**

Robert Brown (alt)

**Veterans of Foreign Wars**

Leon Rideout (prim)

Paul Lloyd (alt)

**Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA-41)**

Raymond Goulet, Jr. (prim)

**LEGISLATIVE ADVISORS - non voting**

**Governor's Office** - Trevor McAden

**Senator Maggie Hassan** - Justin Troiano

**Senator Jeanne Shaheen** - Chris Scott

**Congressman Chris Pappas** - Brett Lavasseur

**Congresswoman Annie Kuster** - Molly Small

**COMMITTEE ADVISORS/AGENCIES:**

**VAMC, Manchester, NH** - Kevin Forrest, Director

**NHNG** - Warren Perry, Deputy Adjutant General

**NH Veterans Home** - Kimberly MacKay

Margaret "Peggy" LaBrecque, Sage Emeritus

**Martins Point** - John Reed

**State Veterans Council** - Jim Adams

**GUESTS:**

Timothy P. Lang, Sr. - newly appointed Senator  
Michael Moffett - -State Representative  
Robert Brown - Rolling Thunder

**OPEN MEETING/CALL TO ORDER:**

Paul Lloyd, Chairman, convened meeting at 1700.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman

**Invocation:** Armand Soucy - excused.

**Welcome - Remarks of the Chair:** None

**Secretary's Report:**

Meeting has a quorum; 14 voting organizations present; attendance on file.

No edits to minutes of last meeting on 6 Dec 2022; approved and placed in the record.

**Treasurer's Report:** Account balance is \$652.67.

**Comments from Vice Chair:** Andrew Patterson - excused

**Comments from Director Emeritus:** David Kenney - none.

**Guest Speakers:** None.

**SUPPORTING AGENCY REPORTS:**

**Manchester VA Update:** Director Kevin Forrest oral report.

Personnel update:

Part-time Chiropractor - Keith Zimmerman, DC.

Laurie Flynn - Public Affairs

A PCP at Tilton CBOC is coming on board.

Chief of Urgent Care - expected in April 2023.

Chief of Medicine - search beginning.

Facility Update:

All robo call appointments cancelled due to a pipe break.

Lab to reopen next Monday - 70% capacity initially.

Next month - dental clinic to reopen.

OR - tentative re-opening in April.

Looking at continuity of operations.

Other:

Successful PACT Act Town Hall on 13 Dec 2022 and new enrollees.

Mountain Entrance - June 2023.

Caregiver Support:

145 veterans approved for caregiver support.

63 applications since October 1st.

50% staff vacancy.

Point-In-Time Count for Homeless - late January.

White River Junction VA - Dr. Rusch is Acting Director in Connecticut.

Becky Rhodes is Acting Director in White River Junction.

Al Montoya has a new position in Washington, DC.

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**DMAVS Update:** Warren Perry gave an oral report.

NHSVC (Shawn Buck): wreath pickup is on 7 January 2023 beginning at 10:30 am.

NHOVS (Bill Gaudreau): he is working through some issues; more claims appeals.

Dept of Military & Veterans Services: Amy Cook's position is still vacant.

**NH Veterans Home:** Commandant Kimberly MacKay gave an oral report.

Resident status: 127 veterans (117 men and 10 women).

Maximum number of residents is 131 due to staffing.

State Fire Marshal Inspection - great job.

Vacancy rate - 36.5 percent.

47 nurses.

LNA class.

Volunteers needed.

Doing well in laundry.

Volunteer needed in the kitchen.

No COVID in residents.

3 people in one area with COVID is considered an outbreak.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS:**

Kevin Grady, Legislative Chair, gave a brief report and update on LSR's. There are 3 bills being followed.

HB 189 approved.

RSA 2150 approved.

HB 163 approved.

**LEGISLATIVE ADVISORS:** Written reports attached or emailed separately if submitted to Chair.

**Chris Scott (Senator Shaheen):** brief report.

**Justin Troiano (Senator Hassan):** brief report

**Molly Small (Rep. Annie Kuster):** not present.

**Brett Levasseur (Rep. Chris Pappas):** brief report.

**Upcoming Events:**

7 Jan 2023 - wreath pickup at NHSVC.

**Next meeting date:** Tuesday, February 7, 2023

**Adjourn Meeting:** 1755

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise DeBlois, Secretary