

THE MILITARY / VETERANS COALITION of INDIANA

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Minutes of the August 4, 2017 Meeting held at Fort Harrison VFW Post #7119

Members Present: Jim Bauerle; ROA, Milan Testanovich, CHPA; Andy Gothreau, MOAA; Jordan Isaacs, Sen Donnelly's office; Kent Morgan, DAV; Russell Pryor, VFW Dist 11/ Ivy Tech; Dennis Donaldson, NARFE; Amy Carter, Ind. Institute for Working families; Lori Turpin, IVSOA; Brittany Wallaire, Rep Rokita's office; Russ Dowden, IMVHOF; Ann Gardner, Veterans Upward Bound; Mike Sturm, NGAI; Marge Washburn, NGAI; Andrew Janovicz, Marine for Life; Bob Tate, AFA; Mil Compo. AFA; Roger Vandry, MOAA; Mark Fiddler, PFC; Colleen Nicholson, INNG FAS; Shari McLaughlin, INNG FAS; Dean Farr; Ron Wilson, HCV; Richard Leiver, VFW; Tim Cahoon, TCVC

VP Jim Bauerle opened the meeting at 0930 hours with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction: New Group with us today – Indiana Institute for Working Families Amy Carter, Erin Macey.

Minutes for July 7, 2017 approved.

ACTION ITEMS:

2016 GDX numbers and analysis were explained and documents supporting shared & posted to web.

Joe Elsener update on HBOT indicating "RULES" and RFP development begun; and Homelessness initial meeting with some organizations have happened.

2018 New Legislative Agenda items were identified and handout of latest Version 2 provided. Legislative Committee to meet at 9:30 AM on Friday 18 August at VFW Post #7119. Bob Tate, Mike Sturm, Amy Carter, Dean Farr, Emmy Hildebrand (via email response), and Jim Bauerle.

Blair Milo—new State Personnel Department was announced to group. She is former mayor and Navy veteran. We hope to work with her on some of our legislative initiatives.

2017 Indiana Senate Newsletter "VETERANS"—passed around the marketing flyer received from John Ruckelshaus (S30). Flyer touts "provides funding to hire additional state VSOs", "Increases the military retirement income tax deduction", and "Funds \$2 million program to fight veteran homelessness and PTSD".

CLACLS—9/11 era veterans fairing in the modern economy study was discussed. Study concluded in June 2017 by NYU was an extensive study that examined key socio-economic and demographic trends among non-active duty American Veterans. This post 9/11 vet group on the whole performed well above the national average in most socio-economic categories (income, education, employment) and lower in poverty rates than the general population.

HBOT update -- Senator Donnelly sent ltr on July 19 to Sec. Schulkin asking for update as he believes positive results are happening. Also discussed a Rubicon Foundation Report identifying "more than 60 approved indications for HBOT in Russia". Another report confirmed that less than 5% of medical professionals know about approved use of HBOT.

Vet unemployment rate-- Discussed DWD action to terminate the contract with OJRV because of federal grant no longer being provided.

Upcoming Events:

- US Global Leadership date change—28 August – you will need to RE-RSVP.
- Joining Community Forces meeting 24 August at 76th BDE at 10AM.
- DWD meeting at VFW 7119, 3 PM
- Hall of Fame – 80 nominations. Dinner is 3 November at Garrison.

Next Meeting date: September 8, 2017 selected due to Labor Day Weekend..