

THE MILITARY / VETERANS COALITION of INDIANA
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Minutes of the September 8, 2017 Meeting held at Fort Harrison VFW Post #7119

Members Present: Ron Martin, VFW; Jim Bauerle, ROA; Milan Testanovich, CHPA; Dean Farr; Jay Kendall, IVSOA; Teresa Petree, Sen Donnelly's office; Dennis Donaldson, NARFE; Lisa Cler; Charles Russell, ESGR; Marcus Murray, KIPVA; Mark Fiddler, PFC; Colleen Nicholson, INNG FAS; Amy Carter and Erin Marey, Ind. Institute for Working families; Andrew Janovicz, Marine for Life; Bob Tate, AFA; Mil Compo. AFA; Roger Vandry, MOAA; Dothy Simpson-Taylor. SSN; Mike McDarrah, Sons of AMVETS; and Lisa Wilken, AMVETS.

Chairman Ron Martin opened the meeting at 0930 hours with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes for August 4, 2017 approved.

ACTION ITEMS:

The Legislative Goals for 2018 was distributed to all present and each goal was discussed in detail. Many points and key issues were highlighted for when the goals are presented to Legislators. This is a living document, subject to change, as issues may be defined or altered by Legislators prior to Bill presentations. This version will now go to printing as the Coalition's 2018 Goals.

Ron and Jim and others had a second meeting with IN Workforce Development Director and staff concerning employment opportunities for Indiana veterans. Issues continue on how opportunities are disseminated in communities and how outreach to Vets is conducted. IDVA Director Brown and staff also provided input.

Planning for Vet Day @ the Statehouse on January 9th continues. Lisa Wilken is the new Chairman. Fewer Speakers are to be scheduled so more time will be available for Vets to meet with their respective Legislators.

Upcoming Events:

- Sept 12 -Veteran Town Hall at AMVETS Post 222, Terre Haute
- Oct 3 - Veteran Town Hall at VFW Post 10003, Carmel
- Oct 13 - Veterans Commission at Indiana Veterans Home, Lafayette
- Oct 14 - Red, White, and Brew, Legion Mall
- Oct 17- Veteran Town Hall at American Legion Post 64, Holt Road, Indy
- Nov 18 – Vet Appreciation Day and Info Fair at the Armory on Old Fort Harrison.

Next Meeting date: October 6, 2017