

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>



UVC
P.O BOX 31261
AURORA, CO 80041-1261

MINUTES

(11 APRIL, 2010)

MEETINGS AT VFW POST 9644
2680 W Hampden Ave
Englewood, CO 80110-1906
303-789-9733

West of Sante Fe on highway 285. First traffic light, turn right (Brady Court) and follow curving road to top of hill. VFW Post on left OR Turn North on Federal, and then right on Hampden and VFW Post will be on your right.

NEW WEB ADDRESS:

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>

NEW Email:

secty@unitedveteranscommittee.com

1. **CALL TO ORDER 0900 hrs**
2. **INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE TO THE FLAG**
3. **MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR MIA-POW:**
4. **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**
 - First Time Attendees / Visitors Welcomed
 1. Lionel Sandoval, Sons of the American Legion.
 2. Kurt Rogers, Affordable Interest Mortgage
 3. Joe Kuka, Healthy Marriage Project
 4. Jamie Weibel, USO Office Manger / Event Planner
 - Guest Speakers - **Kelly Manning - Office of Economic Development and International Trade, State of Colorado - Small Business Opportunities for Veterans**
 1. Spoke on the Veterans Entrepreneur Conference.
5. **ROLL CALL**
6. **REPORTS**
 - Secretary – Minutes approved
 - Treasurer – Report
 - Money Market Account
 - Beginning Balance 4/1/2010 \$ 35,302.10
 - Ending Balance 4/30/2010 \$50,946.56
 - Share Draft Account
 - Beginning Balance 4/1/2010 \$ 670.69
 - Ending Balance 4/30/2010 \$ 1,372.06
 - Total Monetary Assets 4/30/2010 \$52,318.62
 - Accepted
7. **ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS** (not in precise order)
 - VFW – Warren Tellgren, Past State Commander
 1. Planning complete for Memorial Day Service at FLNC..
 2. VFW Sate Convention will be at Post 9644 June 14 - 17.
 3. Wheel Chair Games July 4 – 9. Need volunteer strong backs to meet planes
 - American Legion – Frank McCurdy, State Commander
 1. American Legion Convention June 24 – 27 at the Red Lion Inn I225 and Parker Rd.
 2. Defeat Ref “P”
 - West Point Society of Denver – Robby Robinson
 1. The West Point Society of Denver invites anyone interested to attend their Guest Speaker Program on Tues April 27th at Dimitri’s (Heather Ridge Country Club). The

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speaker is Conrad Netting , author of Delayed Legacy, a book on his father, a P-51 pilot shot down in France on June 10, 1944. The town near his crash site erected a memorial to him and views him as their town hero.

- VWIN - Edmee Hills
 1. Remarks to UVC members and Federal aides, requesting from all to put pressure on both the House and Senate to reverse the application of the 21% cut in Medicare and TRICARE payments to doctors that went into effect on April 1st. A fix must be found before June 1.
- Air Force Sergeants Association – Ken Melcher
 1. Aurora Veterans Salute November 10, 2010 at Wings over the Rockies Air and Space Museum. Theme this year is “The Greatest Generation”. Group Registration Forms are available.
- USO – Jamie Weibel
 1. The Rocky Mountain USO wants to get actively involved with our local veterans organizations and communicate about our upcoming events.
 2. Ride 2 Recovery / USO. Warriors Celebration August 3, 2010 Wings Over the Rockies 1900 Public Concert with Opie Gone Bad.
- D.A.V. – Chuck Dickerson, Past Department Commander.
 1. All UVC members are invited to the 90th DAV Department Convention May 19 – 21, at the Double Tree Hotel at 3203 Quebec St., Denver.
- Project Sanctuary – Kristi Kinnison, Director of Development..
 1. We have a new look (logo) thanks to a donated advertising contract
 2. 11 families will attend a retreat over Memorial Day Weekend hosted by Project Sanctuary.
- NAUS Chapter #01 – Frank W Whitemen, President.
 1. AMMV Convention – Gen Matz is Keynote Speaker – Las Vegas this week.
 2. Also will be Keynote Speaker Buckley AFB 19 June Retiree Appreciation Day.
 3. Bob VanSciver – Home now.
- 8. **UVC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE** - Marvin Meyers
 - The Korean Government is sponsoring 10 Trips to Korea for KW Veterans, scheduled from June to September. The Korean Government will pay 50% for air from West Coast for Veterans and 30% for Companion. All expenses in Korea will be paid including hotel, meal, transportation, fees, etc for 7 days. Applicants must be members of Korean War Veterans National Association. An e-mail with contacts will be sent out to all UVC organizations.
 - The UVC Legislative Update was distributed.
- 9. **UVC BANQUET COMMITTEE** - Report by Ken Melcher.
 - After all invoiced items are received, the UVC Banquet will realize an income of \$16,639.06 from the Banquet. Thanks to all who supported the Banquet with your ads and attendance.
- 10. **UVC MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** –
- 11. **COLORADO BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS** - Report by Ralph Bozella
 - The Board will vote on VTF Grant Applications. There is \$1,029,000 available from the Veterans Trust Fund and \$1,300,000 in grant requests.
 - The June meeting has been moved to June 22nd in Grand Junction, joining Governor Ritter for the ground breaking for the New CNG Armory, a result of the temporary transfer of the UTF principal of approximately \$5 million to the Colorado National Guard for 3 Armories.
- 12. **VETERANS NURSING HOME COMMISSION** - Report by Jay Bobick

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- HB 1217 delay of Trinidad State (not Veteran) nursing home transfer – defeated in Senate 5 to 2 vote in conference
- Commission Meeting 12 May
- HB 1426 funding for Trinidad and Restoration of 505 funds. Passed house, in second reading.

13. VETERANS NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATION - Jeff Jerbecker, Pinion Management, Brad Honl, Fitzsimons administrator

- Overview of Consulting Contract
- Fitz Renewal of Contract
- This is Nursing Home week in the USA
- Homelake – all except 3 residents are in their Domiciliary Units. Had a good survey and waiting for report
- Rifle – new furnishings in place in 23 resident rooms thanks to the DMVA Trust Fund. Census is improving.
- Florence – Sports Grill under construction – Huskies Grill
- Fitzsimons Census is 171

14. FITZSIMONS NURSING HOME ADVISORY BOARD

15. CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS.

- **Congressman Perlmutter - Bill Holen – Congressional Staff**
 - .Fitz VA Medical Center Report
 - Discuss of Golden KIA soldier and Family
 - Aurora Mental health Center opened a Homeless Veterans Residential Center
- **Representative Jared Polis - Stuart Feinhor – Veterans Advocate**
 - .Post 911 GI Bill Benefits, students having problems contact your representative's office.
 - Veterans Helping Veterans Now program, started by Viet Nam vets for Iraq and Afghanistan vets.
- **Representative Coffman - Myron Spanier – Staff**
 - The House overwhelmingly passed HR 5024 designed to get the right equipment into the hands of our war fighters sooner.
 - Cong Coffman and Perlmutter proposed a bill to change how regulators look at existing loans on the books of small banks to loosen strings for small businesses.
- **Senator Bennet – Bennie Millner, Community Liaison**
 - Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2009
 - Focused on OEF OIF severely injured
 - Training, counseling supportive services and a living stipend
 - Health Care under CHAMPVA
 - Eliminates Co-payments for Catastrophically Disabled
 - Reimburse Vets for Emergency care Received at Non VA Facilities
 - Expand healthcare for women veterans
 - Improvements to Mental Health Care for re-adjustment counseling.
 - Authorizes VA Per Diem payments to more organizations for the homeless.
 - Authorizes construction projects including our new VA Hospital on the Anschutz Campus.
 - 21% cut to Medicare – Currently in conference.

16. VISN 19, VARO, VA CEMETERIES, VA ECHCS, VA DALC, VA HEALTH CENTER

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- VA Regional Office Janice Jacobs, Director
 1. VBA has 38 new initiatives.
 2. 4,000 troops coming back from Afghanistan.
 3. Expect increase in WTB and enrollment in disability exam system pilot.
 4. Total Enrolled 1016, 1500 claims in April. Inventory is about 6,000 claims
 5. The average days to complete a claim were 145 days last month.
 6. VARO Director has been appointed to the Req. Council to eliminate Homelessness.
- Fort Logan National Cemetery – Joe Turnbach - Director
 1. Interments for March were 338. 208 were cremations.
 2. Building process has begun on new Columbarium. Construction may start this year.
 3. Memorial Day Ceremony will be held on 5/31 at 11:00 am at Fort Logan National Cemetery.
- ECHCS – Jordan Schupbach – Public Affairs Director
- VISN 19 – Anita Urdiales – Health Systems Specialist
 1. VISN 19 9s making steady progress on establishing 10 new Telehealth Outreach Clinics. All should be open by July 2010. We will have 60 sites of care in VISN 19.
 2. Network Director an DCFO met with the Secretary of the VA to present VSN19 budget. Focusing on Secretary of VA priorities: Homelessness, Access to Homelessness, Improve MH, Expand Telehealth, Transform to PT centered care model
 3. VISN Leadership Update
 4. Lavonne Liversage, DND
 5. Rebecca Keogh, Asst Dir ECHS
 6. Dr Zane, Chief of Staff Cheyenne VAMC
 7. Dir of Cheyenne awaiting approval
 8. Surgical Complexity Decisions:
 9. A national review of all VHA surgical programs has been completed. Few changes in VISN 19
 10. ECHS will retain their Complex rating
 11. Montana and Grand Junction remain Intermediate
 12. Cheyenne designated standard with carve out of 8intermediate orthopedic surgery procedures.

17. DMVA/DVA

18. **OLD BUSINESS** - None

19. **NEW BUSINESS** - None

20. UVC PRESIDENT COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Former Representative Bill Sinclair's wife passed away on May 4 He was a good Veterans Advocate.**
- **Remember we go dark in July and August.**
- **If you have legislative items for nest year, please get them to Jay or Marvin..**

21. ADJOURN

Submitted by Steve Rylant, UVC Secretary

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