

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)



UVC
P.O. Box 31261
Aurora, CO 80041-1261

Minutes

9 September 2007

MEETINGS AT VFW POST 9644
0900 hours
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>

1. CALL TO ORDER (0907 HRS)
2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
3. MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR POW/MIA's.
4. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

A. First Time Attendees/Visitors welcomed

Frank McCurdy – American Legion

Jay McMaster – Honor Flight Network - announced free flights for WWII vets to see memorial in Washington DC and passed out flyers and cds. Application available @ www.Honorflight.org. Next Flight Oct 13, 2007. Another in November.

B. Special Speakers – Lori Hirshfeld-Zellar/Rick Jones with The Bell Policy Center

Spoke about the Colorado budget and effects of relative limiting legislation

le. Tabor, Ref C, etc. UVC requested they add veterans' needs to their presentation

5. ROLL CALL – quorum present

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS: see minutes below and handouts

7. REPORTS: (9:30 AM).

a) Secretary – minutes approved as published

b) Treasurer – Report approved as published

c) Legislative Committee – Marvin Meyers reported the committee is gear ing up for the coming year.

d) Banquet Committee – Ken Melcher reported next banquet will be April 15, 2008

e) Membership Committee – Wayne Thompson reported no new applications

f) State Veterans Nursing Homes Legislative Oversight Commission – Ralph Bozella, Past Chairman – Waiting for new commission to be appointed.

g) The Fitzsimons State Veterans Nursing Home Advisory Board – Meets on third Friday

h) Congressional members or staffers.

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Senator Allard's Office – no comment sheet

Senator Salazar's Office – Bennie Milliner advised that their deadline for service academy nominations is Oct 1, and asked that we encourage high school seniors to apply.

Congressional Dist. 1 – DeGette – no comment sheet

Congressional Dist. 2 – Udall – no comment sheet

Congressional Dist. 3 – Salazar – not present

Congressional Dist. 4 – Musgrave – not present

Congressional Dist. 5 – Lamborn – no comment sheet

Congressional Dist. 6 – Tancredo – Terry VanKeuren – Veterans Advocate - Expressed concern about the characterization of Gen Petraeus by one organization and the lack of response.

Congressional Dist. 7 – Perlmutter – Bill Holen discussed their military academy nomination process

i) VISN 19, VARO, VA National Cemetery NCA, VA ECHCS, VA DALC, Fort Logan

1.) VISN 19 – Glen Grippen – Network Director – New director, introduced self.

2.) VARO – No comment sheet

3.) Ft. Logan – John Rosentrator, Asst. Director

Veteran's Day ceremonies at Fort Logan will be Nov 11 @ 11 AM.

Raise and Realign Project is ½ complete, with full completion hopefully by fall of '08.

4.) ECHCS – Christina White

Acknowledged major contributors to Denver Fisher House

Burlington Outreach clinic is on schedule to open in Mid October

Replacement hospital is in design phase

ECHCS will be a research site for genomic research. More news re veteran participation to come.

Denver VA & Mountain STATES PVA will host 2010 National Veterans Wheelchair Games.

j) DVA, Colorado Board of Veteran Affairs and Veterans Nursing Homes

1). Co Board of Veterans Affairs – George D. Thomas – Chair – Meeting 9/12 at Lamar. Continue work on Strategic Planning Process to look at Veterans needs for next 5-20 years.

2). State and Veteran Nursing Homes - John Johnson – Division Director - Update on Rifle 20 year anniversary and announced Fitzsimmons 5 year anniversary Open House to be on Nov 11.

3). Colorado State Veterans Home @ Fitzsimmons – Ryan Hoffert – Marketing Director – Open House on Sunday Nov 11 to celebrate Veteran's Day and their 5th anniversary. 2-4 PM. Please come for refreshments and entertainment.

4). Veterans Nursing Home Commission

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5). Pinon Management - Jeff Jerebken – Overview of State and Vet nursing homes

8. NEW BUSINESS:

1. James Bobick announced that Michael Shapiro has volunteered to fill the secretary's position, subject to his continued availability. Paula will train him over the next several weeks.

2. James Bobick introduced two proposed changes to the by-laws for organizational review.

· A change to Article V, a.(1) to allow the President to create ad-hoc committees

· Add a new subparagraph g. to Article VI defining a membership committee

The proposed changes will be voted for approval at the next meeting.

9. ORGANIZATION REPORTS (10:30 AM) limited to 3 minutes.

Air Force Sgts. Assn – Ken Melcher – Past President –

14 Sep AF Ball at Wings over the Rockies Museum

2007 Aurora Veterans Salute on Nov 7 also at Wings Over the Rockies. (Contact Information in the distributed flyer)

VFW, Dept of Colorado – Wayne J. Thompson, Jr – no comments attached

Women Marines Association – Paula Sarlls – National President announced recent, ongoing and upcoming events including the MC Memorial Run – Sept 23rd 9:00 at Jeffco Courthouse main entrance.

NABVETS - Franklin Jackson,- State Commander and Dr James V. Holden, PHD - Vice Commander

Annual regional convention, Nov 8-11, 2007, 3200 Quebec St, Denver. All invited.

DAV – Chuck Dickerson – Commander – Announced that at the DAV Nat'l convention, GE Corp granted \$1.5m for the Transitional Service Program to help returning IRAQ/Afghanistan vets process their disability and benefit claims.

American Legion – Ralph Bozella – Past Dept Commander –

Announced new officers from June state convention 9 Tim Grabin, Canyon City, Cmdr) and fundraising for Matthew Keil. Announced Marty Conaster, Illinois, newly elected Nat'l Cmdr. Have discussed legislative issues to input to UVC Legislative Committee.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS – Certificates of recognition were awarded to the members of last year's board.

11. **ADJOURN** 11:05 AM.

12. **Next Meeting October 9, 2007**

Respectfully submitted, Michael Shapiro Secretary UVC 9/21//07

James C. Bobick UVC President, 303-699-1575

George Dale Thomas, 1st VP, 303-751-8252

Ralph Bozella, 2nd VP; 303 776 3890

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Michael Shapiro, Secretary 303-619-2276 Past Secretary Paula Sarlls 303-766-9023

Daniel Tauriello, Treasurer, 303 343 7507

Marvin Meyers, Legislative Committee Co -Chairman, 303-694-9022;

George Thomas, Legislative Committee Co-Chairman, 303-751-8252;

Bill Hanna, Legislative Liaison, 303-333-3055.

Wayne J. Thompson, Jr., Judge Advocate 303-794-2894

Budget Committee – Ken Melcher

Nominating Committee – Ken Melcher, Immediate Past President

Awards Banquet Committee – Ken Melcher

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