

UNITED VETERANS COMMITTEE OF COLORADO (UVC)

<http://unitedveteranscommittee.com>



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

MINUTES

(14 DECEMBER, 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. Mary Ann Wilnet – Veterans Helping Veterans Now
 2. Jack Anderson - Veterans Helping Veterans Now
 3. Sandra Ripe – Military Order of the Purple Heart.
 4. Cynthia McCormack – Director, Cheyenne VA Medical Center.
 5. Richard Young – Employer Support of Guard and Reserve
 6. Geneva Temleton – Challenge America
 7. Bill Baldaccini – Korea War Veterans Chap #195
 - Guest Speaker – Rich De Blasio, homeless coordinator for VISN19.
 - Secretary of VA Re-emphasized the need to end homelessness of Veterans at the National Forum in DC
 - Colorado Resources to end homelessness robust and will grow
 - Need UVC to help VA partner effectively with VSO's.
 - Kelly Manning - Veterans Coordinator at the new VA Hospital.
 - Update on Kiewitt-Turner building of VA Hospital
 - Update on INVESCO field training day.
 - Veterans data base vetbizassist.org
 - Veterans Grant and conferences early spring and late fall.
5. **ROLL CALL**
6. **REPORTS**
 - Secretary – Minutes approved
 - Treasurer – Report
 - Money Market Account
 - Beginning Balance 10/1/2010 \$34,762.93
 - Ending Balance 10/31/2010 \$33,219.59
 - Share Draft Account
 - Beginning Balance 10/1/2010 \$ 90.01
 - Ending Balance 10/31/2010 \$ 46.43
 - Total Monetary Assets 9/30/2010 \$33,266.02

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- Accepted
7. **ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS** (not in precise order)
- Gold Star Wives of America – Patti Sampers, Chapter President
 - US Senate Resolution 654 designating December 18, 2010 as “Gold Star Wives Day” recognizing the contribution of GSW to the widows and widowers of military personnel who died on active duty or as a result of service connected causes.
 - VFW – Steve Rylant, Past Dept Commander and Wayne Thompson, State Legislative Chairman.
 1. The Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen programs are moving forward.
 2. The State Voice of Democracy Banquet will be at Post 4051 in Colorado Springs on January 29.
 - VFW Post 1 - Izzy Abbass, Commander
 1. VFW Post 1 will be consolidating with Post 6616 They intend to have room for many VSO's under 1 roof.
 - VFW Post 1 - 12009
 1. With the help of our Post, the Ladies Auxiliary sent a Christmas message to every veteran that is in a State Veterans Nursing Home or a Colorado VA Nursing Home.
 - VWIN – Edmee Hills, National Chairman.
 1. Last week the Senate postponed the law dictating a 25% cuts in Medicare and Tricare for 12 months.
 2. Please contact your congressman concerning this.
 - VA PACT – Bernie Rogoff
 1. Report on My Health e-Vet Model.
 - Korean War Veterans – Bill Baldaccini
 1. The 2010 “I am Proud to be an American” Awards will be presented at a presentation ceremony January 15, 2011 at 10:00 AM, Northglenn Recreation Center, DL Parsons theater, 11801 Community Center Drive, Northglenn.
8. **UVC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – James Bobick, Nate Gorman,**
- 2011 Legislative JBC meetings are in progress with UVC participation.
 - Meetings with State Senators and House will take place during the week of 27 Dec 2101.
 - Legislative Committee will be addressing new issues to ensure the UVC goals are met where possible.
9. **UVC BANQUET COMMITTEE** - Report by Ken Melcher.
- The UVC Awards Banquet will be held on 10 April, 2011 at the Renaissance Hotel located at Quebec and Smith Road. Guest speaker unknown at this time.
10. **UVC MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**
- Motion was passed to accept for full membership Combat Vets CBMA.
 - Application for Associate Membership was submitted by Challenge America.
 - Application for Associate Membership was submitted by NARFE.
11. **COLORADO BOARD OF VETERANS AFFAIRS – Ralph Bozella, Chairman**
- The Board will meet today at A.L HQ.
 - The Governor's Annual Report is completed but awaiting printed copies. UVC will receive its official copy. Member organizations wishing hard copies can order from DMVA.
 - Board member Jason Crow is chair for Governor-Elect Hickenlooper's transition team regarding Military and Veterans Affairs.
- **UVC Sub-committee Veterans Small Business Contracts – Ralph Bozella, Chairman**

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- Working with VAMC Joint Venture Contractor, through the State Small Business Development Center. Kelly's office has database of veteran-owned business and she is working to offer training to vets.

12. VETERANS NURSING HOME COMMISSION - Report by Jay Bobick

- 2010 Annual Report complete and at printer.
- Trinidad transfer underway. Contract signing scheduled for 31 January 2011 with transfer effective 1 February.
- Emphasis next year will include individual resident involvement in day-to-day living within the community.

13. VETERANS NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATION – Jeff Jerbecker, CEO, Pinon Management

- Update on State Veterans Nursing Homes.

14. FITZSIMONS NURSING HOME ADVISORY BOARD – Ken Melcher

- VA survey was completed in November, state survey due anytime.
- VA Per diem increased \$75 a day to \$94 on 1 November.
- Census was 171. Veterans occupation is 80.99%.

15. CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS.

- **Congressman Perlmutter - Bill Holen – Congressional Staff**
 - Effort to secure funding in CR for 450 jobs at Raytheon and Ball Aerospace facilities in Aurora.
 - Acknowledge Kelly Manning SBDC, Kaewitt-Turner, and UCVC on veteran participation in new VA Medical Center construction contract.
- **Congresswoman Markey – No Representation**
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- **Representative Jared Polis – No Representation**
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- **Congressman Lamborn – No Representation**
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- **Representative Coffman – No Representation**
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- **Senator Bennet – No Representation**
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- **Governor Ritter – Adrian Miller, Senior Analyst**
 - No Report.

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

- VA Regional Office – Rebecca Sawyer Smith, Public Affairs Officer
 1. We are piloting a 6 month team in claims processing called fully integrated teams or POC SQUAD. The goal is to improve communication cycle time and quality.
- Fort Logan National Cemetery – Joe Turnbach, Director
 1. 297 internments during November, 165 were cremations.
 2. Construction of Columbarium is progressing well. Good weather has helped.
 3. Thank VFW District 10 and Post 9644 for their support of our Veterans Day Ceremony.
- ECHCS – Jordan Schupbach, Public Affairs Officer

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1. PACT training moving forward.
 2. Discussions with Planetree Group have begun.
 3. Holiday greetings from ECHS.
- Cheyenne VA Hospital – Andrew Ruben, Public Affairs Officer
 1. New Ambulatory Clinic – site prep and installation of utilities underway. Plan will provide about 50 new exam rooms, increase access and availability.
 2. Consolidating check-in for scheduled primary care appointments to main lobby.
 3. Call center in place to answer inbound calls quicker.
 - VISN 19 –

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17. VA Denver Acquisitions and Logistics

18. VA Health Administration Center – Glenn Johnson

19. DMVA – Mickey Hunt, Deputy Director

20. OLD BUSINESS - None

21. NEW BUSINESS –

- **Governor's Transition team report from Marvin Myers. Report can be found at partnersforamerica.com .**

22. UVC PRESIDENT COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

23. UVC SECOND VICE PRESIDENT COMMENT

- **Remember the UVC Banquet.**
- **Military and Veterans Appreciation Day at the Capitol, date TBA.**
- **Happy Holidays.**

24. ADJOURN

Next meeting is January 11, 2011.

Submitted by Steve Rylant, UVC Secretary

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