

United Veterans Coalition of Colorado
General Meeting by ZOOM
Tuesday, July 14, 2020
9:00am

MINUTES

___ participants on the call

Pledge of Allegiance – Dick Young, 1st Vice President

Roll Call – Dick Wilson

These primary members were absent: Gold Star Wives, Jewish War Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America.

Membership – Dick Wilson reported that total Associate Members are now at 68; his team's goal is to reach 80 by the end of the summer.

Introduction of Guest – Dick Smith, President Colorado Council of Chapters, MOAA

Home Front Military Network – Kate Hatten

This was formed from a merger between The Home Front Cares, and Pikes Peak Military Network. They provide financial assistance (for rent, utilities or transportation issues), navigation among resources, plus education and outreach on existing services/resources for veterans. They have 50 community partners. She will write up a brief description for the UVC Newsletter.

VARO – Renaye Murphy She reported on the phased openings of their clinics. A status report can be found on their web page.

Secretary – Karen noted that the June minutes are posted on the web page.

Treasurer's Report – The checking account balance is \$53,025.07. The Bob Woodruff Foundation has just made a \$5000 donation to UVC; this will go into the Foundation account to be tax-deductible.

Budget – Dick Young reported that the Executive Committee reviewed and approved the budget for FY2021. He moved, and Gary Force seconded, that the budget be ratified by the general membership. It was unanimously approved.

State Legislative Committee – Shelly Kalkowski noted that the committee has been busy developing general policies and specific goals for 2021. They have distributed these to the primary member organizations, asking them to prioritize the goals and get back to them. Once feedback is received, Shelly, Robby Robinson and Dan Jablan will begin strategizing on possible sponsors for these topics. Dan Jablan then commented on the coming election: who is favored in which race, etc. He is happy to provide more detailed information to member organizations. He reminded the group that UVC is non-partisan, and will not be endorsing any individual candidates. Even though the budget situation is dire this year, Dan feels UVC can have a proactive agenda in the next legislative session.

Federal Legislative – Dennis Churgovich said the only bill that UVC is currently supporting is HR5995, SB3393, the Major Richard Star Act. He will update the group on additional bills to follow as they come up.

Banquet – Karen and Michelle Mallin are exploring virtual options for the event. After discussion, it was clear that many people will not attend due to the COVID health threat. A special Executive Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 9 at 10:00 to discuss and make a decision.

UVC Veteran Suicide Prevention Committee – Richard Nagley will chair, and Tony Jones will be the Vice Chair. They have met once, to start strategizing an action plan. When this is developed he will share it with the group.

Assistant Regional Vice Presidents – Richard Nagley mentioned an offer from the VA to have online communication with the Alamosa clinic. This will greatly improve their communication.

CVBA – No report

DMVA – Adam Sutton reported for Rich Tremaine. They are still working on their library research project, to get many YouTube videos on their Facebook page. A star has been added to the women's license plate, signifying the Space Force. They have hired two new VSO's, and one of them, Ishmael Darjean, will be focusing on diversity and inclusion as well as womens veterans issues.

Corona Virus Model – Adam Zarrin described the modeling software that would allow planners access to a program that, when you enter different parameters (e.g. number of people wearing masks or attention to social distancing) will project the number of cases an event would produce, or even the number of deaths.

Check out coloradocoronavirusmodel.org

Congressional Staffers – Staff from these congressional offices gave brief status reports on legislation and case work:

- Cong. Crow – Emily Amador
- Cong. Lamborn – Tony Archer
- Cong. Buck – Molly Ford
- Sen. Bennet – Brenden
- Sen. Gardner – Stephen

VCLC – Dick Young gave COVID statistics on the five nursing homes, and all their staff are doing fantastic work keeping the spread of COVID relatively low in relation to the total number of residents.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55am.

Karen A. Hone

