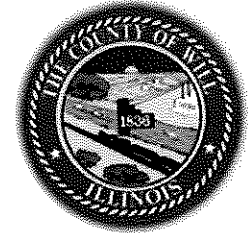




Veteran Assistance Commission of Will County

Kristina McNichol – Superintendent
 Glenwood Center 2400 Glenwood Ave. Ste 110 Joliet, IL 60432
 Ph: (815)740-8389 Fax: (815)740-4329



12 Oct 2021

VAC Executive Meeting 7:00 AM

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor's recent disaster proclamation, the number of COVID-19 cases in Will County and the CDC guidelines regarding COVID-19, the President of the Veterans Assistance Commission has determined that in-person meetings are not practical nor prudent. Therefore, all meetings for the Veterans Assistance Commission of Will County shall be held via video and/or audio until further notice.

The public is invited to comment or pose a questions by email at vacwc@willcountyillinois.com. At the For Good of the Commission/Public Comments portion of the meeting, the emails will be read into the record. Please email vacwc@willcountyillinois.com for a link to attend the meeting via ZOOM.

- I. Call to Order:
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Opening Prayer:
- II. Roll Call of Attendees: Secretary Williams

VAC Commission		
Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jack Picciolo	President	
Nicholas Barry	Vice President	
Denise Williams	Secretary	
Amanda Koch	Sgt-At-Arms	
Jim Singler	Chaplain	
Tom Mlynek	Member	
Janet Blue	Member	
Steve Benicke	Member	
Vic Martinka	Past Chairman	
John Kestle	Past Chairman	
John York	Past Chairman	
Wayne Horne	Past Chairman	

- III. Introduction of Guests and/or First Time Attendees:
- IV. Minutes of Previous Meeting (12 Sept @ 7:00 AM)
 - A. Motion:
- V. Superintendents Report:
 - A. Award Log:
 - B. Project 150 Report:
- VI. New Business
 - A. Will County Veterans Day Ceremony moved to New Lenox Commons
 - B. VAC Intro: State Rep. Natalie Manly, Update from Springfield
 - C. VAC Intro: Quincy McCall, Director ALNC
 - D. Report IACVAC Conference; Attachments
- VII. Old Business
 - A. 1300 Copperfield (New Building)

- B. DCEO Grant – Award letter attached.
- C. Elisabeth Dole Foundation; Hidden Heroes Recognition

VIII. For Good of the Commission/Public Comment

- A. November Meeting Date?
- B. Every Tuesday – VAC at Orland Park Vet Center
- C. Every Thursday – Together We Stand, Peer Support Group – Flyer Attached
- D. 10/21/2021 (Third Thursday) VAC @ Peotone American Legion
- E. 10/23/2021 12-3PM Peotone American Legion – Flyer Attached
 - a) Lunch & Learn Veteran Spouses, Moms, Caregivers: You know your vet best.
- F. PFC Andrew Meari Road Naming Dedication @ Noon. Followed by Celebration at American Legion Marne Post 13.
- G. 11/3/2021 Joliet Public Library, Black Rd Branch: Veteran Benefits 101 7-8PM
- H. The Moving Wall; New Lenox Post 1977 11/10/2021-11/14/2021 – Flyer attached

IX. Motion to Adjourn:

**VAC Executive Committee Meeting
11/??/2021 @ 7AM
VIA Zoom**

Veterans Independence Program

- Are you a veteran?
- Do you need help at home?
- Would you like to hire a family member or friend to help you with day to day tasks?
- Would you benefit from meal delivery services?



WE CAN HELP!

The Veterans Independence Program (VIP) is a new way of providing you with assistance you need to remain at home. **Lovell FHCC VA Medical Center** has teamed up with AgeGuide to bring VIP assistance to you.

VIP is a more flexible option than traditional in-home services. You can get the help you want when you want it. While working with a trained options counselor, you will determine what kind of help you need in order to maintain your independence. Using an approved amount of VA funds, you will be able to hire and manage your own help. This can include:

- Hiring a family member or friend to help you with personal care and/or assistance around the house
- Utilizing some of the funds to make your home more accessible
- Utilizing meal delivery services

The goal of the VIP program is to be flexible and give you the control you want and provide the assistance you need.



For more information about Eligibility & Enrollment, contact Desiree Cox at (224) 610-1469
For General Program information, contact Joy Sobczak at (630) 293-5990

Erik Papineau

Subject: VAC October Meeting
Location: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2116623694>

Start: Tue 10/12/2021 7:00 AM
End: Tue 10/12/2021 8:00 AM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Kristina McNichol
Required Attendees: tmilnek; 'Victor Martinka'; 'sargejohn@comcast.net'; Vic Martinka; dwilliamsblog@gmail.com; John Picciolo; 'nick.barry21@gmail.com'; 'Amanda Koch'; Lisamcglasson; 'Steven Daley'; 'garystieg@hotmail.com'; 'whorne@aol.com'; g.goyco@outlook.com; Janet Blue; 'w9jrr@sbcglobal.net'; Ira Smith; 'sjben212@gmail.com'; 'David Ptak'; Joseph Martin; Gregory Wiza; Jen Solum; Erik Papineau; Amy Georgakopoulos; Valerie M. Tawrel; Elisa Medina; janetbluework@gmail.com; kestels5kfarm@yahoo.com; 'bob metzger'; 'Larry Musson'; sugar13486@sbcglobal.net; Donna Allen Sebok; bmullins@willcountyllinois.com; Nick Reiher; commandervfwpost5788@gmail.com; Jennifer Roach; Garland Mays; Hill, Christopher; gblummer@comcast.net; Geriann Wiesbrook (G); rickywhitley@sbcglobal.net; CHRISTOPHER BENIGNO; William Sutton; Alm13J.Castaneda@gmail.com; juliesander@stfrancis.edu; Natalie Manley; McCall, Quincy

Happy Fall!

Attached are all of the documents for the next VAC meeting on 10/12/2021 @ 0700. Our guest speakers this month are State Rep. Natalie Manley & ALNC Director Quincy McCall (Whitehead).

After our last meeting, we received the amended award letter from DCEO & it is attached. VAC is currently operating new programs & reporting on two federally funded grants and one state appropriation:

1. DCEO - State Appropriated
2. Emergency Solutions Grant, Shelter (P150) - Federal (HUD)
3. Emergency Solutions Grant, Outreach Services - Federal (HUD)

As discussed last month, CARES funding from the county, utilized for emergency shelter (hotel/P165) is now being reserved for COVID mortgage/rental relief & no longer being used for VAC Hotel.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kristi

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2116623694>

Meeting ID: 211 662 3694
One tap mobile
+13126266799,,2116623694# US (Chicago)

+13017158592,,2116623694# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 720 707 2699 US (Denver)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 211 662 3694

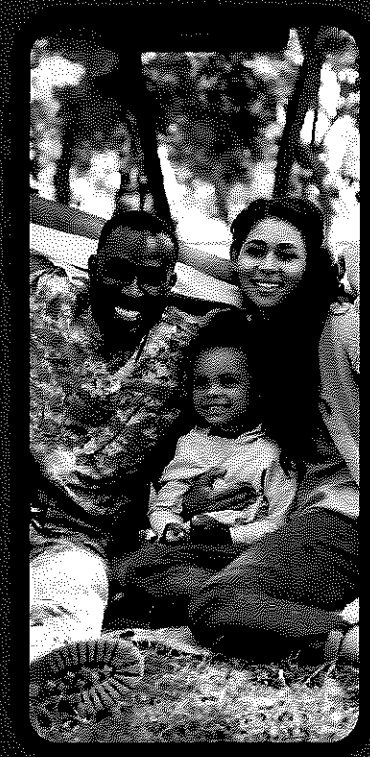
Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/kckOtjdv6N>

VETERANS SPOUSE LUNCH AND LEARN

Peotone American Legion

Learn about veterans benefits

Help us help your veteran



01 **OCTOBER 23, 2021**

02 **12:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

03 **CATERED LUNCH**

04 **FREE TO SPOUSES, MOMS
AND CAREGIVERS**

05 **RSVP TO ANNE NAGEL
NAGEL5963@GMAIL.COM**



AgeGuide Board Financial Report – October 2021

Prepared by Lauterbach & Amen, LLP

Enclosed is the Board Financial Report issued in conjunction with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP (L&A).

The reports enclosed represents activity for the one-month ended, October 31, 2021 of fiscal year 2022. It includes the following areas:

- Available Funds
- Program Summary
- Federal Program Detail
- State Program Detail
- Administrative Expenses
- Appendix – Source Data

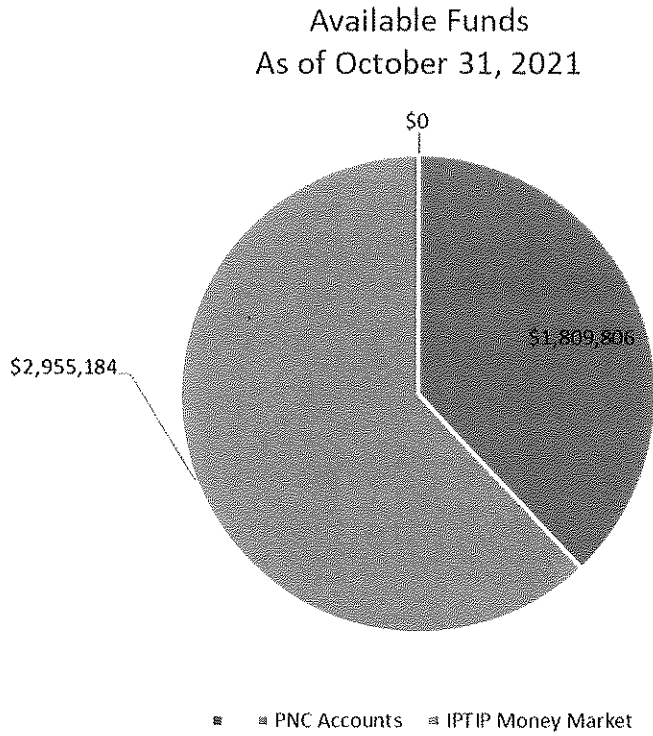
The Agency maintains a healthy financial balance due to the nature of grant requests and disbursements to grantees. There is just over \$4.7 million in Available Funds.

The Agency requests and receives funds from several sources. Those sources are noted in the Program Summary and Detail pages enclosed. Since the Available Funds stays consistent, the receipts and expenditures tend to stay in balance.

We look forward to providing more insight, questions & answers, and overall transparency to the financial activities of the Agency!

Available Funds

As of October 31, the agency has maintained a solid fiscal condition with \$1,809,806 in the IPTIP Money Market funds accounts, and \$2,955,184 in the PNC Bank Accounts totaling \$4,764,990 in available funds. This represents an increase from the prior month due to the timing of grant receipts and the distribution of those funds to the grantees.



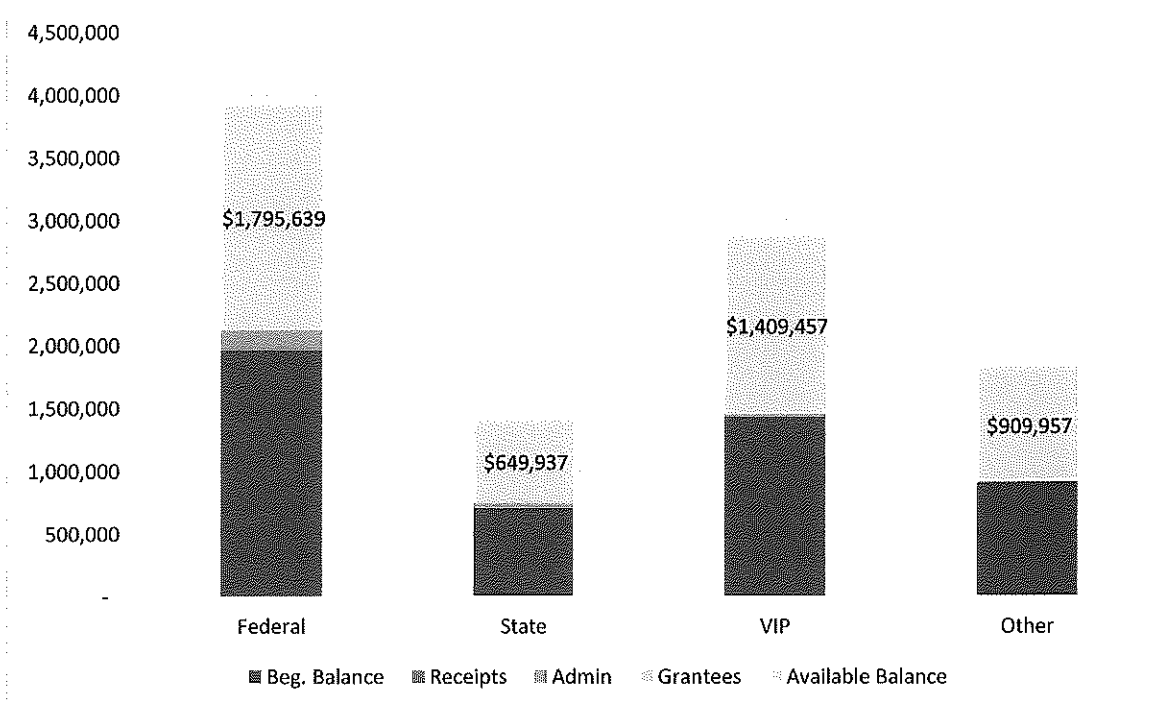
Source Data

Institution	September-21	October-21
PNC Accounts	1,623,134	1,809,806
IPTIP Money Market	1,704,582	2,955,184
	981,406	-
Total	4,309,122	4,764,990

Program Summary (Funding Source)

Below is a summary of Available Funds across Program/Funding Source. You'll notice that the total Available by Program/Source totals the \$4,764,990 as noted on the previous page (Total Available Funds). The bar chart below shows detail for FY 2022 activity, beginning with the Beg. Balance of Funds Available to start the year (in dark blue), the Receipts collected (in orange), the Admin expenses (in grey), the Grantee disbursements (in light blue), and the remaining Available Funds (in light green).

**Program Summary
For the 1 Month Ended October 31, 2021**



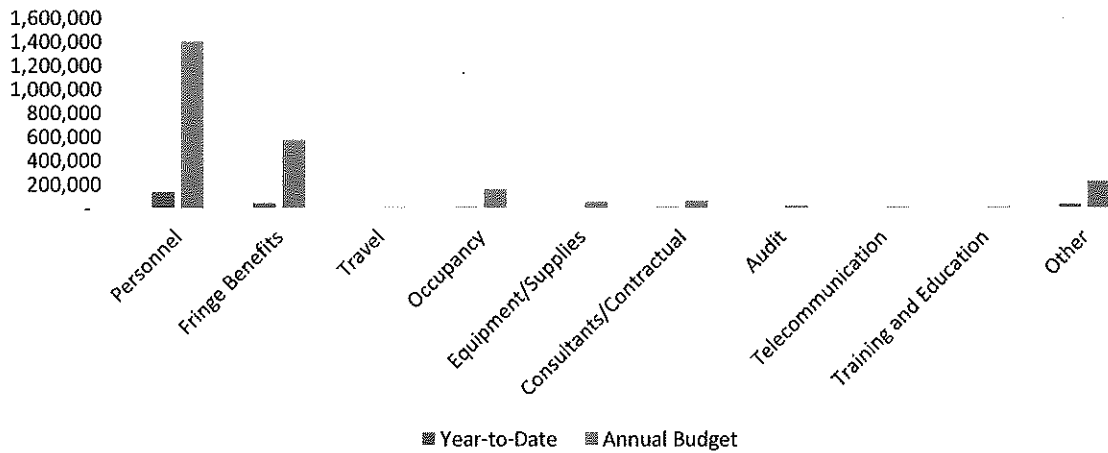
Source Data:

Source	October 1, 2021		FY 2022			October 31, 2021
	Beg. Balance	Budget	Receipts	Admin	Grantees	Available Balance
Federal	1,961,215	9,559,051	-	161,896	3,680	1,795,639
State	701,220	10,400,030	750	46,784	5,250	649,937
VIP	1,432,537	-	-	23,081	-	1,409,457
Other	906,149	53,333	5,100	1,293	-	909,957
Totals	5,001,122	20,012,414	5,850	233,052	8,930	4,764,990

Admin Expenditures

October 31, 2021 represents the first month of the 2022 fiscal year. This equates to 8.33% of the year and the detail below denotes that the Agency has expended 9.2% of the budgeted Admin dollars. Personnel costs (including Personnel and Fringe Benefits) represent the largest portion of Admin expenses and the Agency is slightly over the 8.33% target.

Admin Expenses For the 1 Month Ended, October 31, 2021



Source Data:

Admin Expenses	Month-to-Date	Year-to-Date	Fiscal Year 2022		% Expended
			Annual Budget	(Over)/Under Budget	
Personnel	136,502	136,502	1,399,611	1,263,109	9.8%
Fringe Benefits	40,760	40,760	573,297	532,537	7.1%
Travel	120	120	9,962	9,842	1.2%
Occupancy	10,488	10,488	157,835	147,347	6.6%
Equipment/Supplies	1,442	1,442	50,702	49,260	2.8%
Consultants/Contractual	9,483	9,483	61,125	51,642	15.5%
Audit	-	-	25,000	25,000	0.0%
Telecommunication	3,502	3,502	11,000	7,498	31.8%
Training and Education	87	87	12,000	11,913	0.7%
Other	30,669	30,669	229,469	198,800	13.4%
Totals	233,052	233,052	2,530,001	2,296,949	9.2%

Appendix – Source Data

Source	Name	October 1, 2021	Budget	FY 2022			October 31, 2021
		Beg. Balance		Receipts	Admin	Grantees	Available Balance
Federal	Title III B	577,432.63	2,534,452.00	-	108,703.65	-	468,728.98
Federal	Title III B Ombudsman	50,161.31	118,892.00	-	1,097.62	-	49,063.69
Federal	Title III C-1	1,436,345.05	3,314,219.00	-	16,859.43	3,680.41	1,415,805.21
Federal	Title III C-2	(441,446.34)	1,951,215.00	-	11,715.05	-	(453,161.39)
Federal	Title III D	4,285.86	163,875.00	-	4,154.50	-	131.36
Federal	Title III E	97,175.00	1,326,893.00	-	17,235.55	-	79,939.45
Federal	Title VII OMB	9,833.00	116,132.00	-	1,072.14	-	8,760.86
Federal	Title VII ANE	11,567.09	33,373.00	-	308.08	-	11,259.01
Federal	Title III C-1 FFCRA	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal	Title III C-2 FFCRA	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal	Title III B CARES	(842,975.95)	-	-	-	-	(842,975.95)
Federal	Title III C-2 CARES	790,234.92	-	-	-	-	790,234.92
Federal	Title III E CARES	83,419.00	-	-	-	-	83,419.00
Federal	Title VII OMB CARES	18,513.00	-	-	-	-	18,513.00
Federal	Alzheimers Disease SS - Rev 6/19	1,099.00	-	-	-	-	1,099.00
Federal	Census	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal	MPPA	4,093.72	-	-	749.66	-	3,344.06
Federal	NSIP	41,809.00	-	-	-	-	41,809.00
Federal	CAA Nutrition	119,669.00	-	-	-	-	119,669.00
State	State GRF Match	98,274.51	472,674.00	-	32,865.53	-	65,408.98
State	State GRF Comm Service	(185,902.23)	2,117,824.00	-	-	-	(185,902.23)
State	State GRF Isolation	187,050.21	197,200.00	-	-	-	187,050.21
State	State GRF ADRD	193,339.66	197,200.00	-	-	-	193,339.66
State	State GRF Comm Equal AAA	-	134,708.00	-	-	-	-
State	State GRF HDM	259,432.00	5,935,720.00	-	-	-	259,432.00
State	State GRF OMB	5,309.00	672,875.00	-	-	-	5,309.00
State	State GRF ANE	(3.00)	-	-	-	-	(3.00)
State	State GRF SDG	2,418.56	25,010.00	-	2,308.98	-	109.58
State	State GRF SESP	(427.27)	17,968.00	-	1,658.85	-	(2,086.12)
State	State GRF CB/SHAP	67,236.36	300,233.00	-	2,753.23	-	64,483.13
State	SHAP Benefit Applications	128,769.54	84,300.00	-	-	-	128,769.54
State	State GRF GRG	7,753.00	15,000.00	750.00	-	5,250.00	3,253.00
State	SHIP	2,720.84	-	-	1,518.89	-	1,201.95
State	LTC Provider Funds	30,860.00	229,318.00	-	-	-	30,860.00
State	CVS	35,384.00	-	-	-	-	35,384.00
State	APS	7,267.11	-	-	5,678.10	-	1,589.01
Other	SMP	1,980.81	-	5,000.00	1,015.54	-	5,965.27
Other	MMAI	(10,286.00)	53,333.00	-	-	-	(10,286.00)
Other	AAoA Initiatives	406,899.89	-	100.00	-	-	406,999.89
VIP	Veteran's Independence Prog.	1,432,537.47	-	-	23,080.57	-	1,409,456.90
Other	AAoA Earned Income	337,959.65	-	-	276.97	-	337,682.68
Other	Other/General Funds	169,594.85	-	-	-	-	169,594.85
	Total	5,001,122.25	20,012,414.00	5,850.00	233,052.34	8,930.41	4,764,989.50

Board of Directors Meeting – October 8, 2021
 Approved as written _____
 Approved with corrections _____
 By the Board of Directors _____

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Kreger opened the AgeGuide Board of Directors meeting at 1:01p on Friday, October 8, 2021. The meeting was held as a hybrid at both 1910 S. Highland Ave, Lombard and virtually.

INVOCATION:

Ms. Murphy presented the invocation.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Feese called the roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gregory Barry (V)
 Ralph Feese – Secretary
 Gary Ford
 Amy Georgakopoulos (V)
 Cheryl Ghassan
 Monica Guilhot-Chartrand
 Lou Ann Johnson (V)
 Jack Kreger – Chair
 Gregory Lind (V)
 Ken Maurice
 Debra Mayconich-Baron (V)
 Kristin Murphy
 Katie Monahan Brooks (V)
 Robert O’Connor (V)
 Melissa Schmitz
 Mike Steiner (V)
 Gregory Thompson – 1st Vice Chair (V)
 Paula Yensen (V)

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Bruce Conway – Treasurer
 Daniel Parsons

STAFF/GUESTS PRESENT

Marla Fronczak
 Angela Bentsen (V)
 Jeri Colucy
 Leslie Edstrom
 Kaitie Hauser (V)
 Cherise Hogan
 Gretchen Knowlton
 Brianne Moser

 Rollin Barton, IDOA Regional Coordinator (V)
 Steve Litko, Lauterbach & Amen
 Rick Fry, Kendall County Board Member

INTRODUCTIONS:

Mr. Kreger welcomed the Board members to the meeting. He also recognized Mr. Barton, (IDOA Regional Coordinator), Mr. Litko, (Lauterbach & Amen) and Mr. Fry, Kendall County Board Member.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Kreger presented the minutes from August 13, 2021. Minutes were approved by consensus.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Ms. Colucy presented the July and August financial reports which were previously emailed to all members for review. She noted that we continue to remain in solid financial condition.

CEO REPORT

Ms. Fronczak welcomed everyone to the Fiscal New Year! She hoped everyone had the chance to read Ms. Knowlton's blog this month. She stated a Continuing Resolution (CR) was passed by Congress, so we can continue to receive funding through December 3rd. Ms. Fronczak added that they also passed a temporary extension to the debt ceiling. Ms. Fronczak discussed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIF) and the Build Back Better Act (BBB). She noted the importance of advocacy for the \$1.2 billion increase to the Older Americans Act funding and the expansion of Medicare benefits.

Ms. Fronczak highlighted that AgeGuide has been doing more trainings regarding advancing equity for LGBTQ and HIV older adults to better enhance our outreach efforts. She discussed the Illinois Aging Together campaign and shared the link to acquire more information. She stated AgeGuide will receive roughly \$10 Million in additional funding through ARPA, about \$1 Million will come to us at the Administrative level. AgeGuide is working with the Department on Aging to put a plan in place to enhance and expand programs.

Ms. Fronczak stated the Executive team met for a 2-day strategic planning retreat, and conducted a Needs Assessment (SWOT) of the Agency, identified FY22 goals, evaluated staff and created better empowerment to lead management in accomplishing their goals more effectively. She discussed the Funded Partners Meeting which was held on September 23rd at Cantigny in Wheaton. Mr. Thompson felt it would be nice for Board members to also attend these meetings. Ms. Fronczak agreed. She announced that the AgeGuide Learning Center (ALC) is now live and registering participants. Ms. Murphy stated that it would be nice to include some courses that are associated with CEU's to attract additional audiences. Ms. Fronczak said this would be possible in future courses. AgeGuide will be hosting a virtual Caregiver Conference on November 30th in partnership with AARP.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Kreger reviewed the Board vacancies in (1) Grundy, (2) Kendall and (1) McHenry counties. He encouraged members to recruit any candidates they feel would be a good fit.

GRANTS COMMITTEE

Mr. Feese stated the Grants Review Committee met on September 28th and have 2 motions to bring before the Board. He introduced Ms. Moser to review the recommendations in more detail. She reviewed the strategy and coordination to develop a service design and delivery plan which Senior Services of Will County will completely transition I&A services to Catholic Charities by the end of FY22.

MOTION: To approve the FY22 Will County Funding recommendations.
FEESE/Ford Vote Conducted and Motion Passed Unanimously

Ms. Moser discussed the process of the application review for SHOWBUS for transportation funding in Kankakee. She stated SHOWBUS has worked in 9 counties and with other Area Agencies.

MOTION: To approve the FY22 Kankakee County Funding recommendations.
FEESE/Guilhot-Chartrand Vote Conducted and Motion Passed Unanimously

Ms. Moser shared information about the goal of the collaborative monitoring process, which is to make it easier and more effective in checking on how funds are spent. She discussed a few changes in the process: AgeGuide has established a schedule for monitoring for the next 3 years, site monitoring is scheduled by county and all site monitoring will be jointly conducted by grants and program staff.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Feese invited all Board members to attend the Special Advocacy sessions. He feels it's a great opportunity to make connections with community members and legislators. Ms. Knowlton provided a review of Advocacy accomplishments in 2021. She discussed our social media outreach, participation in Community Listening sessions, Advocacy Collaboratives, the Tech Connect program, COVID-19 support, letters and meetings with legislators. She discussed the need to continue the momentum built this last year with Special Advocacy sessions, Advocacy Collaboratives this Spring, Legislator outreach and a new AgeGuide Podcast. She reminded everyone to utilize the "take action" button on the Advocacy page of the website so our voices can be heard on important legislation.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Colucy shared information about Corkill Insurance Group which will be the new broker for employee benefits for FY22. She stated employee performance reviews were completed and noted this year the process was enhanced with a compensation summary statement for staff. She outlined the new process for Funded Partners cash requests. Ms. Colucy shared the target date of January 2022 for a new at a glance dashboard to review financial status in the monthly reports.

Ms. Fronczak led a robust discussion for Bylaws amendment. She stated we benchmarked our Bylaws with fellow organizations in the reviewing process and had Mr. Barry provide his professional legal counsel. Several Articles were up for review: Recruitment county affiliation and age requirement, moving duties to Board manual, annual meeting date, update Committees descriptions, Advisory Council meeting dates and representation and an addition of dissolution clause. Mr. Thompson stated whenever possible, with a minimal requirement of 51% of older adults that will capture both the flexibility, as well as the need to keep the Board representation of the older community. He also stated we can get professional expertise while still maintaining the OA representation on the Board. Ms. Johnson's concern is to be sure the Board has a balanced representation from all the counties. Ms. Fronczak stated that the Board level makes decisions regionally. County representation is much more relevant at the Advisory Council level. Mr. Ford stated we can have "at large" members to bring certain expertise to the Board. Ms. Fronczak stated that Ms. Johnson had previously brought up Ad Hoc members to participate on Committees rather than the Board so that is something to be reviewed as well. Mr. Thompson stated it would be helpful to note in the Bylaws to reference where you can find the details. Ms. Johnson asked if Bylaws can have "footnotes". Mr. Barry said it is not commonly done but it can be done. Mr. O'Connor asked if the recruitment requirements were governed by the Older Americans Act. Ms. Fronczak said no, the Board recruitment is really the governing body of a non-profit and that is what your Bylaws are as well. Ms. Yensen supports adding a Finance & Audit Committee. Mr. Thompson felt the Advisory Chair should have voting privileges during Board meetings to represent the consensus of the Advisory Council. Ms. Fronczak asked that if anyone has any ideas or comments that were not shared today to please email them to her. She thanked everyone for their feedback and as the next step will submit a Bylaws draft to the Operations Committee for review.

SENIOR LIFESTYLE EXPO

Ms. Bentsen shared highlights from the 26th Annual Senior Lifestyle Expo. She discussed the success from the AARP Tele-townhall with 14,611 participants. Ms. Bentsen shared the benefits and lessons learned from hosting the event virtually. She discussed the challenges of investment, financial viability, engagement, and connection. Her recommendation was to participate in another virtual partnership with AARP and step back from the Expo until we can hold it "in person". Ms. Johnson asked if we sent out a survey afterwards to the Expo participants. Ms. Bentsen stated they will put one together and get it out to participants. Y

HOLIDAY MEALS ON WHEELS (HMOW)

Ms. Bentsen outlined the reasons for recommending AgeGuide sunset the HMOW program and the brunch fundraiser. She offered other ways to support our nutrition partners.

VIRTUAL CAREGIVING SEMINAR

Ms. Bentsen announced AgeGuide will be partnering again with AARP for a Caregiving Seminar on November 30th from 1:00p-2:30p. She said more information will be sent out on this event.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

**MOTION: Move to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel issues.
 THOMPSON/O'Connor**

Staff was released from meeting at 3:00pm and returned at 3:38pm for the remainder of the meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ms. Baron wanted to thank the Board for their support of Ms. Cowhig over the years and encouraged members to let her family know how much she was appreciated.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Board meeting will be held on December 10th at 1p.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:43p.

Respectfully submitted by Cherise Hogan



Veteran Assistance Commission of Will County

Kristina McNichol – Superintendent
 Glenwood Center 2400 Glenwood Ave. Ste 110 Joliet, IL 60432
 Ph: (815)740-8389 Fax: (815)740-4329



12 Oct 2021

VAC Executive Meeting 7:00 AM

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor's recent disaster proclamation, the number of COVID-19 cases in Will County and the CDC guidelines regarding COVID-19, the President of the Veterans Assistance Commission has determined that in-person meetings are not practical nor prudent. Therefore, all meetings for the Veterans Assistance Commission of Will County shall be held via video and/or audio until further notice. The public is invited to comment or pose a questions by email at vacwc@willcountyillinois.com. At the For Good of the Commission/Public Comments portion of the meeting, the emails will be read into the record. Please email vacwc@willcountyillinois.com for a link to attend the meeting via ZOOM.

- I. Call to Order:
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Opening Prayer: John Kestle
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VAC Commission		
Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jack Picciolo	President	P
Nicholas Barry	Vice President	A
Denise Williams	Secretary	P
Amanda Koch	Sgt-At-Arms	P
Jim Singler	Chaplain	P
Tom Mlynek	Member	P
Janet Blue	Member	P
Steve Benicke	Member	P
Vic Martinka	Past Chairman	P
John Kestle	Past Chairman	P
John York	Past Chairman	A
Wayne Horne	Past Chairman	A

- III. Introduction of Guests and/or First Time Attendees: New – Quincy McCall, Director ALNC; William Sutton, SVO AL Post #13; Guests-Geriann Weisbrook, MMN; Nick Reiher, Farmer's Weekly; Joe Martin, VAC Peer Support Specialist; Brandy Mullins, VAC Outreach Services; Julie Sanders, VAC Intern; Gregory Wiza, VAC Sr. VSO; Valerie Tawrel, VAC Homeless Community Collaborative Manger; Jennifer Roach, Plainfield AL; Jen Solum, Asst. Superintendent VAC; Amy Georgakopoulos, VAC VSO.
- IV. Comments from Quincy McCall moved up in agenda per Picciolo-Director since Oct 2017; listed most common questions - eligibility requirements to be buried at ALNC; pre-need eligibility paperwork goes to St. Louis, states 90-120 days; adult dependents must be declared prior to burial of veteran/spouse to be buried at ALNC; veterans buried at private cemetery entitled to marker, headstone, military honors at burial; 64K total internments at ALNC,

averaging 350-400 per month currently; in September, 60% were cremains; next unaccompanied honor ceremony is

WAA will probably be held off site like last year, still awaiting guidance; Phase 3 construction expected to be completed mid 2023, is 30+ acres at north end of the cemetery, including new Memorial Wall for remains never recovered; Phase 4 to being 2025, another 30+ acres, should accommodate for 15-20 years;

ALNC acquired Ft. Sheridan Army Post Cemetery in December 2019, adding 2000+ inground cremation sites, project near completion; Millennium Project to regrade, raise all headstones, to be complete 2022; Wood National Cemetery in Milwaukee also under the aegis of ALNC

Looking for volunteers for the public info center and admin center

Questions

Williams-when will public water access be restored? McCall-either in Phase 3 or Phase 4

Roach-What is your email, phone? McCall- Quincy.Whitehead@va.gov, ph-815-423-9958

McCall exited meeting

V. Minutes of Previous Meeting (12 Sept @ 7:00 AM)

A. Motion: Question from Mlynek-the mission of the Elizabeth Dole Foundation; McNichol-re:veteran caregivers;

Motion Past Chairman Kestel; Second, SGT-At-Arms Koch; Unanimous

VI. Superintendents Report:

A. Award Log: McNichol-added 104 new clients, down from August, incl. 1 week out of office; \$87.6 million in award benefits since 2016; average adjudication time is 30-35 days

B. Project 150 Report: McNichol-closed down Project 165, CARES funding; Tawrel reported continues Project 150 work; 3 male veterans at Quality Inn, all have housing plans, awaiting space; trying to keep some rooms open for female head-of-household veterans, working to get male veterans into other GDP programs due to shortage of emergency shelter spaces; Martin stated no new entries into Project 150 due to Holiday, going back to the area today

VII. New Business

A. Will County Veterans Day Ceremony moved to New Lenox Commons

McNichol advised ceremony moved from Will County Courthouse to New Lenox Commons; will co-occur with Portrait of a Soldier and the Moving Wall; Veterans Day ceremony will be at 11:00am, Gov. Quinn will appear at 12:30pm; located just off Rte 30 in New Lenox;

Koch advised New Lenox Legion still looking for volunteers for 4 hours shifts for the Moving Wall

B. VAC Intro: State Rep. Natalie Manly, Update from Springfield

McNichol – Rep. Manly, staff not present

C. Report IACVAC Conference; Attachments

McNichols-note slide 7 from PowerPoint, programs VAC's should run, WCVAC runs all of the listed programs; States WCVAC has won the most caselaw of all VAC's, recommended Board Members review the documents, very informative; Tawrel, Martin, Muller received certificate for Mental Health First Aid for attending training

VIII. Old Business

A. 1300 Copperfield (New Building)

McNichol advised capital improvements will winterize, states current lease to expire May 2022, new building moving forward slowly; gym equipment on hold, awaiting move-in date

B. DCEO Grant – Award letter attached.

McNichol advised was DCOE grant was intended for new building, is an appropriations grant, can and will use in current building; WCVAC only VAC in the state to receive such grants

C. Elisabeth Dole Foundation; Hidden Heroes Recognition

McNichol advised resolution to be read into Will County Board meetings, highlighting what VAC does/will do for veteran caregivers, start today 9:00am, County Board meeting

IX. For Good of the Commission/Public Comment

A. November Meeting Date?

Tuesday, November 9th, 7:00am

B. Every Tuesday – VAC at Orland Park Vet Center

VAC Wiza staffs every week

C. Every Thursday – Together We Stand, Peer Support Group – Flyer Attached

Flyers attached, also one at Hope Manor monthly

D. 10/21/2021 (Third Thursday) VAC @ Peotone American Legion

Papineau staffs every week;

E. 10/23/2021 12-3PM Peotone American Legion – Flyer Attached

a) Lunch & Learn Veteran Spouses, Moms, Caregivers: You know your vet best.

F. PFC Andrew Meari Road Naming Dedication @ Noon. Followed by Celebration at American Legion Marne Post 13

G. 11/3/2021 Joliet Public Library, Black Rd Branch: Veteran Benefits 101 7-8PM

McNichols advised RSVP on Library Website

H. The Moving Wall; New Lenox Post 1977 11/10/2021-11/14/2021 – Flyer attached

I. Jennifer Roach-Plainfield American Legion has movie day every Wednesday; November will be an invite all veterans; Reiher will include in Farmer's Weekly as a standing event

J. William Sutton-December will have Christmas Party, will advise dates, asking for donations/gifts for children; Weisbrook advised MMN will donate \$1k of toys

K. Reminder to send any events to Nick Reiher to be included in Farmer's Weekly-needs TWO WEEKS lead time for publication; free to VSO's

L. McNichol advised when Unaccompanied Burials are sponsored by an organization, the limits for attendees are removed; contact ALNC, Jack Picciolo, Kristi McNichol; Blue asked what is involved, Picciolo advised the sponsoring group supplies a speaker for remarks, works with Honor Guard, no other requirements

X. Motion to Adjourn: Member Mylnek; Seconded Member Blue; Unanimous Meeting Adjourned @ 805AM.

VAC Executive Committee Meeting

11/09/2021 @ 7AM

VIA Zoom

R/S

Denise Williams, VACWC Secretary

AGEGUIDE
Planning Committee Meeting
Minutes of Meeting on October 21, 2021
10:00 a.m. via Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Greg Barry, Lance Clemens, Lou Ann Johnson, Ken Maurice, Deb Mayconich- Baron, Sharon McNeil, Greg Thompson, Stephanie Tintner, Marla Fronczak, Leslie Edstrom, Cherise Hogan, Collette Jordan, Megan Wileman

Members Excused: Jennifer Agne, Monica Guilhot-Chartrand, Katie Monahan-Brooks, Patty Steffens

I. Call to Order, Roll Call and Approval of Minutes

Greg Thompson

Mr. Thompson opened the AgeGuide Planning Committee meeting at 10:10am on Thursday, October 21, 2021. He then took roll call for this meeting.

Mr. Thompson called for a motion to approve the minutes from the April meeting.

MOTION: To approve the minutes from the April 22nd Planning Committee meeting.

MAURICE/Tintner

Motion passed unanimously

II. Revisions to the Service Standards

Colette Jordan/Megan Wileman

Ms. Edstrom introduced Ms. Jordan and Ms. Wileman to discuss service changes to enable more data collection, which were recommended by the Administration for Community Living and Illinois Department on Aging. This was also an opportunity to revise the outdated language for several services. The following services were reviewed in detail.

A. Service Revisions

1. Title IIIB Information and Assistance Services
2. Title IIIB Outreach Services
3. Title IIIB Counseling Services
4. Title IIIB In-Home Services
5. Title IIIB Legal Services
6. Title IIIE Caregiver Resource Center
7. Title IIIE Caregiver Counseling Center

III. American Rescue Plan Update

Marla Fronczak

A. State and Federal Updates

1. American Rescue Plan and Build Back Better Bill update was provided. Ms. Fronczak

discussed the ways in which this additional funding will enhance existing programs and allow for expansion of innovative services.

IV. FY21 Strategic Plan Update

Leslie Edstrom

A. Overview of the Completed FY21 Strategic Plan Initiatives.

1. Increase the visibility of the Agency as a leader
 - a. Implement communications/marketing plan for the Agency
 - b. Implement an Advocacy Awareness/Outreach Plan
2. Become the network hub for connecting aging services
 - a. Educate key groups
 - b. Build Coalitions
 - c. Educate Funded & Community Partners
 - d. Conduct and incorporate findings of Community Needs Assessment
3. Foster effective informal partnerships across sectors to strengthen the aging network
 - a. Establish informal partnerships with organizations that align with the Agency's mission and vision
 - b. Expand efforts to leverage existing networks of social services within communities.
4. Engage and educate Key Groups in the Community
 - a. Conduct outreach to and engage potential faith-based partners
 - b. Partner with organizations that serve ethnic and culturally diverse populations
5. Create an environment for Innovative Programming
 - a. Offer an Annual Summit on Aging (October 2022)
 - b. Spur innovative programming through collaboration among HCBO's
6. Become the known experts and resource for connecting businesses and stakeholders to our clients and aging services
 - a. Utilize our region's large senior population to target pilot programs that would better meet the needs of the seniors we serve
7. Increase AgeGuide's fundraising capability and capacity through a bootstrapping approach
 - a. Attract consulting opportunities by being a thought leader
 - b. Develop and deliver services that fall outside OAA
8. Evaluate Grant Distribution process and Grant Renewal procedure

V. FY21 Strategic Plan Extension

Mr. Thompson discussed extending the current Strategic Plan until 2023.

MOTION: To recommend an extension of the current Strategic Plan for FY22 with the intention of reviewing and updating the entire Strategic Plan in 2023.

THOMPSON/Johnson

Motion passed unanimously

VI. Reminders and Adjournment

Mr. Thompson thanked everyone for attending and asked for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: To adjourn the Advisory Council meeting.

COGHAN-GERC/Courney

Motion passed unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21am.

Respectfully submitted,

Cherise Hogan