



Veteran's Center Meeting Minutes

Chairman Mitch Reed
Secretary Bobbie Jones
Treasurer Lisa Bender
Member Mayor Debra Wimpee
Member Gary Briggs
Member Jeff Martin
City Liaison Lori Hill

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

13:30

Broken Arrow Veteran's Center

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mitch Reed called the meeting to order at 13:30

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Gary Briggs led the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Present: Mitch Reed, Bobbie Jones (on phone), Lisa Bender, Debra Wimpee (on phone), Gary Briggs, Jeff Martin, Eddie Crisp, Lori Hill
Absent: None
Guest: Bryan Bandy

VETERANS CENTER GENERAL BUSINESS

Eddie Crisp Board Resignation- Eddie Crisp submitted his resignation to the board on February 27, 2025. Before the board accepted his resignation, Eddie requested that the board consider Bryan Bandy as the board chair. The board accepted Eddie's resignation and he stayed for the remainder of the meeting as a guest.

Motion: A motion was made by Lisa Bender, seconded by Jeff Martin
Move to accept Eddie Crisp's resignation from the Veterans Center board.

Aye: Mitch Reed, Bobbie Jones, Debra Wimpee, Gary Briggs, Jeff Martin

Nay:

Presentation of February 4, 2025, meeting minutes – Jeff Martin requested an update to the meeting date listed in the February 4th minutes. The date listed should be January 7, 2025.

Lisa Bender also requested that the Wellness and Safety Fair reference in the minutes be updated to remove "Blue Star Moms" as this is not their event.

Lori Hill stated she would update the minutes and send to everyone before posting on the website.

Motion: A motion was made by Jeff Martin, seconded by Gary Briggs
Move to approve the February 4th meeting minutes with the corrections noted above.

Aye: Mitch Reed, Bobbie Jones, Lisa Bender, Debra Wimpee, Gary Briggs, Jeff Martin, Bryan Bandy
Nay:

Treasurer's Financial Report – Lisa Bender presented the financials and noted that the balance forward is \$5,717.34. Lisa had to purchase checks for the center, and a first aid kit for the center. Bobbie said the center purchased what OSHA requires for first aid kits.

Lisa mentioned that she has been trying to meet with Rebecca Olsen to learn QuickBooks and get everything figured out. Lisa will install QuickBooks on her personal computer but would like for another board member to have access.

It was discussed during the meeting, the terminology that we need to use going forward, as it references VSO rent and rentals. Lori Hill referred to the January 4, 2025, meeting minutes, how Rebecca Olsen suggested the board transition to the new terminology.

Motion: A motion was made by Jeff Martin, seconded by Bryan Bandy
Move to approve the February financials as presented.

Aye: Mitch Reed, Bobbie Jones, Debra Wimpee, Gary Briggs, Jeff Martin, Bryan Bandy
Nay:

Update on QuickBooks and Tax Preparation – This item could not take place since Rebecca Olsen was not present at the meeting.

Vote for 2025 Board Member positions for Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary

Mitch nominated Bobbie Jones as Chair. Jeff Martin nominated Bryan Bandy as Chair. The board took a vote and approved Bryan Bandy as Chair and Bobbie Jones as Vice Chair.

Members of the board nominated Lisa Bender as Treasurer and Lori Hill as Secretary.

Key Management for Building – Lori Hill mentioned that Building Maintenance would soon be transitioning to new master keys for the building and would start the process by the end of the summer.

Informational only, no action required.

Annual Pest Control Services – Lisa Bender provided quotes for pest control services. The board decided to go with Lil Buggers with a one-year contract

Motion: A motion was made by Bryan Bandy, seconded by Bobbie Jones
Move to approve Lil Buggers as the new pest control service. Lisa will notify Natureguard that they will complete their March service, and the Veterans Center will terminate the contract starting in April 2025.

Aye: Mitch Reed, Bobbie Jones, Debra Wimpee, Gary Briggs, Jeff Martin, Bryan Bandy
Nay:

Oklahoma Center for Non-Profits Membership – Jeff Martin said he felt the membership to OCN would benefit the board.

Motion: A motion was made by Jeff Martin, seconded by Lisa Bender
Move to approve the membership for the Veterans Center up to \$200 for the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits.

Aye: Mitch Reed, Bobbie Jones, Debra Wimpee, Gary Briggs, Jeff Martin, Bryan Bandy

Nay:

Veteran's Center Sign Addition Request from VFW – Eddie Crisp suggested this item be dismissed as he could not get the sign company to assist.

Motion: A motion was made by Mitch Reed, seconded by Jeff Martin
Move to dismiss this request.

Aye: Mitch Reed, Bobbie Jones, Debra Wimpee, Gary Briggs, Jeff Martin, Bryan Bandy

Nay:

Wellness and Safety Fair – Lisa Bender addressed this item earlier in the meeting during the January 4, 2025, meeting minutes discussion.

No action required.

Wreaths Across America – Lisa Bender said that 56 wreaths have been sold. The date for the 2025 event is December 13, 2025 at 11:00 AM at Park Grove Cemetery.

The goal is 777 wreaths at \$17.00/ea. The Veterans Center will receive \$5.00 from each wreath sold.

Bobbie Jones proposed reaching out to the Junior ROTC groups to see if they could assist with selling and the placing of wreaths at the December event. Jeff Martin also suggested contacting Union's ROTC.

Bryan Bandy suggested looping in the Muscogee Creek Nation's veteran's group. Jeff Martin said that the American Legion will take the lead on the event again this year.

No action needed, informational only.

Valentine's Party for Blue Star Mom – Lisa said the event went really well. There were 7 veterans in attendance and everyone had fun.

No action needed, informational only.

Review of rental calendar duty – Lisa Bender shared the March event calendar.

No action needed, informational only.

REMARKS AND INQUIRIES FROM VETERANS CENTER BOARD MEMBERS

Bobbie mentioned the Veterans Center was supposed to have their annual meeting in January. He requested that the center's bylaws be added to the April agenda for review, discussion, and possible approval.

Gary Briggs thanked the Blue Star Moms with the assistance of a scooter for a veteran.

Mitch thanked everyone for their support the past 3 ½ years he has served as the Center's Executive Director.

Lisa Bender thanked Jeff Martin for taking a veteran to a doctor's appointment.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None

Guests' opportunity to address the Veterans Center board on general topics related to the Veterans Center business or services (no action may be taken on matters under this item).

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: A motion was made by Jeff Martin, seconded by Bryan Bandy
Move to adjourn the meeting at 14:35

Aye: Mitch Reed, Bobbie Jones, Debra Wimpee, Gary Briggs, Jeff Martin, Bryan Bandy

Nay: