



KENTUCKY VETERANS
PROGRAM TRUST FUND

Minutes
15 April 2020

Chairperson Keith Jackson (KDVA) called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. This meeting was conducted via Zoom videoconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency restrictions prohibiting in person meetings.

Roll Call

- Chairperson Keith Jackson (KDVA) called the meeting to order.
- Dennis Shepherd called roll.
- Members Present:
 - Chairperson Keith Jackson (KDVA), Vice-Chairperson Dean Stoops (KDVA), COL Fred Bates, Randy Fisher (American Legion), Carl Kaelin (VFW), David Rummler (JECVO), COL Blaine Hedges (Governor's Advisory Board), and Maj Carla Raisler (At-Large).
- Members Absent:
 - Carlos Pugh (At-Large) and Dave Jarrett (DAV).
- KDVA Additional Staff Present:
 - Dennis Shepherd, Corey Ann Howard Jackson, and Stephanie Belt.
- The majority of voting members were present to satisfy a quorum.

Approval of Minutes

- Approval of Minutes from previous meeting.
 - Board approved minutes from 8 January 2020 meeting as presented (motion made by David Rummler and seconded by COL Fred Bates; motion for approval unanimously carried).

Approval of Financial Report

- Monthly Activity Reports for periods ending January 31, 2020 (FY20), February 29, 2020 (FY20), and March 31, 2020 (FY20).
 - Board approved the Financial Report as presented (motion made by COL Blaine Hedges and seconded by Randy Fisher; motion for approval unanimously carried).

Old Business

- Board approved \$100,000 to remain in the Trust Fund in case of COVID19 emergency and homeless veterans related expenditures (motion made by Carl Kaelin and seconded by Randy Fisher; motion for approval unanimously carried).
- The Board reviewed follow-ups from the following former grant applicants: Connected Nation, Elizabethtown Community and Technical College and Honor Flight Kentucky. The Board discussed the prior 8 January 2020 Trust Fund approval of \$25,000 to Honor Flight Kentucky. Reference 23 March 2020 correspondence from Honor Flight Kentucky President Philip Pittman to Commissioner Keith Jackson stating "HFK's May 16 mission was postponed due to COVID-19 concerns. ...we respectfully request HFK to be permitted to carry over the funds previously received from the Trust Fund for this flight to future dates, with priority going to the proposed all-female veteran flight in the spring of 2021. Our request before the April Trust Fund Board, if approved, is to assist with our August 29 and October 3 missions." The Board agreed the 8 January 2020 grant awarded needs to be returned to the Trust Fund. Vice-Chairperson Stoops will follow-up with correspondence to President Pittman requesting \$17,000 (note: Honor Flight Kentucky spent \$8,000 on a non-refundable airline charter deposit for the May 16 trip) be returned and to submit another Trust Fund grant application in the fall.

New Business

1. Awake Ministries

- o Request for funding to provide HVAC, plumbing, and electric for Tiny Homes Veterans Village Community House/Multipurpose Building in Shelbyville. **\$75,000**
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$35,000** (motion made by Carl Kaelin and seconded by COL Blaine Hedge; motion for approval unanimously carried) and requested the Trust Fund to be recognized as a donor/supporter.

2. Bowman Field Foundation

- o Request for funding to host a festival honoring veterans of WWI through the Afghanistan War to be held October 2-4, 2020. **\$30,000**
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$15,000** (motion made by Randy Fisher and seconded by Maj Carla Raisler; motion for approval unanimously carried; David Rummier recused himself from voting as he serves on the Bowman Field Foundation planning committee) and stipulated the funding must be expended on the festival's airplane and Honor Flight rides for veterans. The Board requested the Trust Fund to be recognized as a donor/supporter. This obligation will be held by the Trust Fund until absolutely necessary due to current COVID19 related Kentucky executive orders and CDC social distancing guidelines for hosting public events in the Commonwealth.

- 3. Cave Run Area Habitat for Humanity – Appalachian Veterans Project**
- Request for funding to build a 24x32 square foot one-bedroom home for a homeless veteran in Morgan County. **\$10,000**
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$1,300** (motion made by Maj Carla Raisler and seconded by David Rummier; motion for approval unanimously carried) and stipulated the funding must be expended on the \$1,300 for purchasing the property's land in Morgan County. The Board requested the Trust Fund to be recognized as a donor/supporter.
- 4. Friends of the Lexington Kentucky Fisher House**
- Request for funding to complete a 16-suite facility that will house and support families of veterans while they complete treatment at the Troy Bowling and Frank Soursley Campus. **\$50,000**
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$50,000** (motion made by COL Fred Bates and seconded by COL Blaine Hedges; motion for approval unanimously carried) and requested the Trust Fund to be recognized as a donor/supporter.
- 5. KY Wounded Heroes, Inc.**
- Request for funding for sponsor the 13th annual Wounded Heroes trip to Alaska. **\$12,000**
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$5,000** (motion made by Maj Carla Kaisler and seconded by Randy Fisher; motion for approval unanimously carried) and stipulated the following: funding must be expended on Kentucky veterans' travel to and from Anchorage, Alaska for the annual Alaska Adventure and trip receipts submitted to the Board must reflect such stipulated expenditures. The Board requested the Trust Fund to be recognized as a donor/supporter. This obligation will be held by the Trust Fund until absolutely necessary due to current COVID19 related Kentucky executive orders and CDC social distancing guidelines for hosting public events in the Commonwealth.
- 6. Marshall County Veterans Support Group**
- Request for funding to purchase a new van that is wheelchair accessible to transport veterans to and from medical appointments. **\$35,000**
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$15,000** (motion made by Carl Kaelin and seconded by Maj Carla Raisler; motion for approval unanimously carried) and requested the Trust Fund to be recognized as a donor/supporter.
- 7. Spirit of Sophia**
- Request for funding to offer full scholarships to Kentucky women veterans to each day retreat, workshop and study circle to be held online in 2020. **\$5,000**
 - The Board voted to approve an obligation of **\$2,625** (motion to remade by Carl Kaelin and seconded by COL Fred Bates; motion for approval unanimously carried) and requested the Trust Fund to be recognized as a donor/supporter.

Grant Summary

- Total amount of Grants approved: 7
- Total amount approved: **\$123,925.00**

Announcements

- All Board Members present with terms expiring 15 July 2020 expressed interest in reapplying and Dennis Shepherd (General Counsel, KDVA) stated he would contact interested Board Members.

Next Meeting

DATE: September 30, 2020
TIME: 9:00 a.m. EST
PLACE KDVA, 1111 Louisville Road, Suite B, Frankfort, KY 40601

Adjournment

- There being no further business, a motion was made by COL Bates and seconded by Maj Marla Raisler to adjourn at 12:20 p.m. Motion for adjournment was unanimously approved.



Keith Jackson
Chairperson
Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund