

## **Keweenaw County Veterans Committee Meeting Minutes January 11, 2019**

Keweenaw County Courthouse 10am.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Huwatschek at 10:01am.

Roll Call: Huwatschek  
Rajala absent  
Finch  
Aho  
Koljonen

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The agenda for this meeting was presented and accepted on a motion by Joe Finch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wes Aho with all members in favor-passed.

The minutes for the Nov 9<sup>th</sup> meeting and the minutes for the special meeting held Dec 14 2018 were accepted on a motion by Ned Huwatschek, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wes Aho, all members in favor-passed.

Guests present: None

Public Comment: None

Unfinished business: Discussed at length was our budget proposal. We are still waiting for word from Lansing on the status of our grant. No monies have been received to date and it is the general consensus that this is due to the change in the Governors office.

Until this happens several ideas have been tabled. Ideas addressed have been the increase in the death benefit for county veterans. Also discussed was adding funding for the Houghton County VSO to expand service for veterans and get that office some much needed assistance. .

A motion was made to accept a proposed budget should the grants monies be received. Motion by Wes Aho, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Finch, with all members in favor-passed. Budget needs yet to be typed and presented in written form.

Wes Aho brought up that we have some younger veterans in the area that may be experiencing mental health issues that are not being addressed. Its not known if this is due to being too proud to seek help or not knowing what services are available.

New Business: Ideas to improve communication with county veterans was discussed. One idea is to create a veterans information packet that could be distributed. The Clerks office has agreed to assist in disbursing information to veterans that come into the courthouse. A public announcement through local media could be done to advise the availability of these veteran packets. These packets would also include a form requesting ideas, and needs and wants of county veterans. It was noted that at present there is no accurate listing of veterans in Keweenaw County.

Final Public Comment: None

Final Committee Comment: Next meeting date is March 8, 2019 10am at the courthouse.

Adjournment: Motion made by Joe Finch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ned Huwatschek with all members in favor.