

**Keweenaw County Veterans Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2020**

Roll Call Present: Huwatschek

Aho

Koljonen

Absent: Finch

Rajala

Call to order: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the July meeting was called to order at 10am.

Approve Agenda; The agenda for today's meeting was accepted on a motion by Huwatschek, 2nd by Aho. All in favor. Motion passed.

Approve Minutes of March 13, 2020. The last regular scheduled meeting was held on March 13, 2020. A motion to accept the minutes of that meeting was made by Huwatschek, 2nd by Aho with all in favor. Motion passed.

Additional Note: A meeting had been scheduled for June 30, 2020 10am at the courthouse. Present for this meeting were members Huwatschek and Koljonen. There was no quorum due to work conflict and schedules. No other members in attendance. A brief discussion was held reference grant status and a future meeting date. This was later set for today's date. July 10th. It was decided to table any further meetings until confirmation of our grant. There were no guests or public comment.

Guests: James Huovinen and Frank Ozanich.

Public Comment: James Huovinen expressed high regards and be a reference for Frank Ozanich to become our VSO. He is a Vietnam Veteran and very active in local veteran activities. He also has a vast knowledge of local persons and contacts in the Veteran community.

Old Business: MVAA Grant status was discussed. Grant has been signed, returned and accepted by all parties. MVAA has notified us we are authorized to begin executing the grant and begin expenditures. Ref this members of this board will be attending the Allouez Twp Board meeting on July 16th, 2020 at 6pm to discuss details of office set up in the Allouez Twp. Community building. Other purchases will commence this week as well concerning grave marker flags, and office equipment.

A discussion was held in reference to the status of the Honor Roll repair project. Koljonen advised he had been in contact with several of our smaller local contractors in an attempt to hire a local person to perform the repairs. However it now appears the scope of the project will require the services of a professional mason. No contacts made were interested in doing the work. Contact will now be made with larger contractors in the Houghton County area. These will include Moyle and Johnson Construction.

New Business: Frank Ozanich accepted our invite to attend today's meeting to express his desire to become the VSO for Keweenaw County. He comes to us highly recommended by fellow Veterans and board member Joe Finch, as well as James Huovinen who is attending today's meeting.

Ozanich expressed a keen desire for this position and to accept the responsibilities of being a VSO. He has agreed to attend the required VSO training when it becomes available.

After discussion a motion was made by Aho, 2nd by Huwatschek to hire Ozanich as our VSO. All members in favor, motion passed.

Also at this time Ned Huwatschek expressed his desire to step down as Chairperson and become the secretary, changing positions, making Koljonen the new Chairperson. A motion was made by Aho to make this change, 2nd by Huwatschek with all members in favor. Motion passed. As of this meeting Koljonen is the new Chair and Huwatschek assumes the secretary duties.

Final Public Comment: None

Next meeting: The next scheduled meeting is Friday August 14th 10am at the curthouse. All members are encouraged to attend. This meeting will be important and key as we proceed with our grant expenditures.

Further meeting Dates: Sept 11th 2020 and Nov 13th 2020

Adjourn: Being nothing further to discuss at this time a motion to adjourn was made by Aho, 2nd by Huwatschek, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 11:20am.