



VETERANS TRUST FUND OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Board Meeting Minutes

15 December 2021

- I. **Call to Order:** The Board Meeting of the SC Veterans' Trust Fund (VTF) was called to order at 1:00PM, by Mr. Jim Hawk, Chairman.
- II. **Attendance:**
 - A. Present: James Brown, Valerie Brunson, Dale Ellenburg, Jim Hawk, Robin Ghent, Jim Lorraine (via phone), Secretary Will Grimsley, John D. "JD" Wilcox, Jr.
 - B. Absent: Gloria Evans, Chris Maddox (resigned 30 Jun 21), Bevin Studstill, Ronnie Taylor (stopped attending when he retired Mar 21), James A. White (resigned 31 Dec 20)
- III. **Minutes:** Minutes from the 16 June 2021 meeting were read and approved by those in attendance.
- IV. **Old Business:**
 - A. Investment Policy: It was decided to hold any action on this for now
 - B. Grants: There were no grants requested this quarter.
- V. **New Business:**
 - A. Remarks from Secretary Grimsley:
 - There was a ribbon cutting on the new Veterans Nursing Home in Gaffney on the 10th. The next one should be Sumter and then Orangeburg
 - Solicitations were sent out for a new state cemetery and it has been narrowed down to three (Bamberg, Union, Berkeley) and the paperwork has been submitted to the National Cemetery Administration
 - The South Carolina General Assembly will be returning in January and military retirement income tax exemption will be #1 priority
 - inducted into the U.S. Army at Fort Jackson in Columbia, SC. On June 25, 1950, the Korean War began, and Corporal McCollum was transferred to the battlegrounds. Corporal McCollum was a member of Dog Company, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team. In November 1950, his unit reached the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, and endured repeated attacks from the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces before withdrawing on December 1. Following the regrouping of his unit, Corporal McCollum could not be located and on December 2,

- 1950, was reported as missing in action. It was not until December 31, 1953, that he was declared dead, with his family receiving an Army telegram. The location of his body, however, was unknown. As decades passed, Corporal McCollum's family still hoped his remains would be returned home.” The funeral service for Corporal McCollum, with military honors was held at M.J. “Dolly” Cooper Veterans Cemetery in Anderson
- B. Secretary’s Report: No report at this time.
- C. Treasurer’s Report by Mr. Brown:
- Finance report was presented and accepted.
 - Year end funds (funds not expended for grant requests) was discussed.
- D. Year-end Grant Monies Distribution:
- There is a balance of \$8,907.10 in unexpended funds for fiscal year 2021.
 - By laws allow the VTF to make donations with unexpended funds, which the VTF has been doing for five years.
 - Discussion: Donate to one or more organizations; donate entire amount or divide it up.
 - Recommendations: 49th Vietnam POW Reunion (325 left), Charleston Fischer House (later withdrawn), Big Red Barn Retreat, support Student Veterans Association (later withdrawn).
 - Vote: It was proposed to split the monies between the 49th Vietnam POW Reunion and the Big Red Barn Retreat – each would receive \$4,453.55.
- E. Develop three/five-year plan:
- This should be revisited every 3 (three) years.
 - Mr. Hawk requested board members submit their recommendations to TerryLynn by 15 January.
 - Should VTF goals be aligned with SCDVA goals or be separate and distinct? VTF is a separate and distinct body but could line up with SCDVA goals. Mr. Wilcox suggested VTF review SCDVA goals. Ms. Ghent asked that SCDVA goals be provided to the board.
- F. Meetings will continue to be held at 1300 on Wednesdays. The 2022 Meeting Schedule will be as follows:
- 16 March 2022
 - 15 June 2022
 - 21 September 2022
 - 14 December 2022

VI. Miscellaneous:

- There were no Executive Board concerns or recommendations for the full board at this time.
- Ms. Ghent asked about new members being appointed to the Veterans’ Trust Fund. Secretary Grimsley explained the State House was working on this and would be submitting packets to the General Assembly. They would be filling vacancies/resignations.

- Mr. Hawk thanked the board members for their contributions to the VTF, a lot has been accomplished regarding investments and by serving on the board. The key to success in participation.

VII. "Due Outs"

Board members to provide their recommendation for 3 and 5-year plans to TerryLynn by 15 January 2022.

SCDVA to provide their goals to the board.

VIII. Identification of Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of the Veterans' Trust Fund of South Carolina will be at 1300 on 16 March 2022 at SCDVA at 1800 Saint Julian Place, Suite 305, Columbia, SC 29204.


IX. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned.



Bevin Studstill, Secretary



Date of Approval



Jim Hawk, Chair
Veterans' Trust Fund of South Carolina



Date of Approval