

Soldiers' Home in Holyoke Board of Trustees Meeting

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke on Tuesday, September 11, 2018, in Conference Room A. The meeting began at 2:00 PM.

- **Members Present**
Benjamin H. Cluff, Acting Chairman; Brian Q. Corridan; Christopher R. Dupont; Cindy T. Lacoste; and Cesar A. Lopez
- **Also Present**
Bennett W. Walsh, Superintendent; John K. Crotty, Deputy Superintendent; Deb Foley, Director of Communications & Volunteer Programs; Alice Pizzi, Counsel II; Jessica W. Powers, HR Liaison; Erin Spaulding, Chief Financial Officer; Randy G. Stone, Director of Nursing; Paul Moran, Chief of Staff (Department of Veterans Services) via Remote Participation; Cynthia S. Jacelon, PhD, RN, Professor, Director of PhD Program, UMass College of Nursing; and Lori Beswick, Recording Secretary
- **Pledge of Allegiance**
All present cited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- **Public Comment**
Benjamin H. Cluff asked if any member of the public wished to address the Trustees. No public comment was offered.
- **Regular Minutes**
Upon motion by Cindy T. Lacoste and seconded by Brian Q. Corridan, it was unanimously VOTED to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, August 14, 2018.
- **Executive Committee of the Medical Staff Meeting**
Bennett W. Walsh informed the Trustees that the next Medical Staff Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 13, 2018; therefore, there are no minutes to report.
- **Financial Update**
Erin Spaulding discussed the "Trustee – Combined Cash Account Activity" and copies were distributed to each Trustee. She also provided an overview of the budget.
- **Dignity Enhancement Collaboration Brief**
Dr. Cynthia S. Jacelon presented to the Trustees a proposal for UMass graduate/undergraduate students to conduct a research project regarding the definition of our motto, "Care with Honor and Dignity". The survey will consist of interviews of our Veterans, staff and family members. Benjamin H. Cluff suggested they include family members of Veterans who passed away. Dr. Jacelon will incorporate this in the research plan. Students will use the survey results to develop a program to enhance the care provided, so that it better meets the mission of the Home. Trustees received an outline of the plan. Dr. Jacelon added that our End of Life Ceremonies are very moving.

- **Superintendent's Report**
Bennett W. Walsh presented the Superintendent's Report via a PowerPoint Presentation and copies were distributed to each Trustee. Bennett W. Walsh mentioned that the Northampton State Police will be attending the October Board of Trustees Meeting to provide a presentation on the Security Assessment completed in July 2018. Cost of the recommendations is to be determined. Trustees received a copy of the Security Assessment Report to review prior to the next meeting. Upon motion by Brian Q. Corridan and seconded by Christopher R. Dupont, it was unanimously VOTED to accept the Superintendent's Report as presented.
- **Old Business**
There is no old business to report.
- **New Business**
Trustees received a letter from a Veteran's family member regarding a pet pass that was issued for a pig, but was subsequently revoked because it was inconsistent with the Pet Policy. The situation was handled by Administration. No further action required.
- **Adjournment**
There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bennett W. Walsh
Secretary for the Board of Trustees