



ILLINOIS JOINING FORCES
*Supporting Service Members, Veterans
and their Families*

IJF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 19th, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Union League Club Chicago – 65 Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604

The IJF Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Co-Chairman
Steve Goodwin

Pledge of allegiance

Roll Call with Introductions

On the phone: Tom Miller, Ed Landreth, and Michael Cassel

In person: Steve Goodwin, Kevin Smith, Jaime Martinez, Dave Leckrone, Megan
Everett, Jim Dolan, Taylor Colliau and Carlos Luna

Old Business and Updates:

- Steve explains Monday meeting with Executive Board Chairmen (Smith and Goodwin) and Executive Director
- Motion for last minutes: Kevin Smith motion, Dave Leckrone motions for discussion
 - Correction to notes: Dave Leckrone being on the line for last meeting minutes, Ed Landreth on the line for last meeting minutes,
 - Dave Leckrone seconded motion
- Tour of possible new WeWork office facilities, (100 S State St.)
 - Steve Goodwin and Kevin Smith advocate in favor of moving to WeWork office location
- Jaime explains to group that moving to the WeWork offices provides a variety of positive amenities and why it makes sense moving to that space
 - Working next to Bunker Labs
 - Shaping the dialogue for our personal organization growth,
 - Partners to invite in and partners that are already in the space
- Set to move May 1st, would have an increase with rent, but there are services that we can absorb the price with moving to the WeWork offices

WeWork Discussion:

- Tom Miller: mentioned that we need a quorum
- Steve Goodwin mentions that the WeWork topic is just discussion, not a voting matter

- Kevin Smith: important to know that they are giving us 25% veteran discount, escape clause for month to month leasing privileges, have additional space (first right to refusal) for growth with employees
- Steve Goodwin: Resolute does not provide a professional working space for an Executive Director and WeWork has better atmosphere with better amenities
- No other comments

Staff Reviews:

Jaime Martinez Update:

- Next time Board Members are in Chicago should visit the WeWork office space
- Goes over agenda:
 - By laws and statute
 - Working group data and summary for quarterly data
 - Staff calendar for 90-days
 - 1- pager for NVI Micro grants
 - VSC development
 - Minutes
 - Budget activity report to Executive Committee
- 90-day Staff Calendar: keep it simple, and so the board can know where staff is at during the next three months
 - Follows engagement model
 - Mirrors our timeline to get 18 VSCs by July 4th.
 - June staff retreat
 - Gives a large picture of what the staff is doing, in time
 - In theory, there will be a separate staffer that is dealing with our events calendar
- Jim Dolan: the calendar is made available so if any BOD with contacts on the ground in these communities to make it known and make those contacts while the staff is visiting
- Steve Goodwin “Ask” to BoD: if you see events or communities that you can leverage, please do so
- Tom Miller: Did not get the statute or bylaws documents, but they are recirculation from the March Board Meeting
 - Bylaw changes are recycled from last month’s meeting that didn’t get addressed,
 - Old business on new agenda
 - Since no quorum, send out on distribution list
- Looking into creating a fundraising calendar that will highlight when grants funds due, status reports due, new application cycle due, superimposed those two calendars staff will make sure that they are available

Jim Dolan Update:

- NVI Grants: They had reached out to us last summer and we connected them to Lake County and they were rewarded \$2,000 grant
 - Aligned with VSCs model for funding
 - Talked to Armstrong about our initiatives and roll out to rest of state
- Follow up call scheduled to discuss specific strategy, but we are not in a position to dictate who will receive the grants. We have boots on the ground and relationships established with community partners.
- Will have more info on this after April 25th meeting with the Director. Great opportunity to get this funding to organizations in Illinois.
- Megan Everett explains what NVI is and does
- Jim: Every state is trying to collaborate on the community level by supporting veterans financially, shared learning, collaborating, and leveraging resources
- Jaime: 18 NVI grants by end of calendar year, IJF becomes brand name nationally for this program
- Megan: IJF becomes value added to these communities
- Jim: The structure with my VA communities, and veteran support communities very similar
- Jaime: gives example of Rock Island and our support and convening, paying it with NVI grant, coordinating with Army Garrison. Gives credibility to John Deere coming in
- Any other questions: None

Taylor Colliau Marking Update:

- Sent out individual working group data to all available working group chairs
- The data gives a snapshot of what the data has collected from 2018 YTD
 - Women Veteran Data mentioned
- Call center incoming calls increasing steadily
- Showing that our VSC outreach is working and that we need to continue our VSC development approach
- Data also shows that many popular services do not have working group chairs and needs to be solved immediately
- Website 2.0 should be completed by Memorial Day Cruise
- Have never had detailed data reports before
- If a working group chair or any board member would like a more detailed data selection of a certain demographic, service, etc. just shoot Taylor an email.

Jaime & Carlos Environmental Scan Updates:

- Environmental scan draft just been given to executive committee
- Scans are major environmental scan process
- Climate that has affected state

- Organizations cutting services out so that their web pages and literature are inconsistent with what they actually do
- Working with other paid consultant, identifying them throughout the state and counties
 - Working and finding different technologies to have it available in user-friendly way
- Jaime: IJF is mapping, and will be sending out when completed
 - Providing all agencies that we have been mapping out, scan through excel
 - Jaime gives example of Behavioral health and lake county
- No questions

Jaime Financial Update:

- Explains amount of cash and credit available through April
- BBMC and IMLS funds to get us through April 19, 2018
 - With others to help us out
- Model takes us through May, close out 1st quarter and work with other funders to move into 2nd quarter stronger than we were a year ago
- Opposed to go into credit to pay legacy debt
 - Legacy Debt: unite us, winning systems, resolute, ULCC,
 - Jaime has worked on a more relaxed repayment
- No questions

Jaime Operations Update:

- Calendar shows footprint, but does not show other meetings that have been ongoing
- Jim went to Lighthouse for the Blind, Jim has coordinated with making all improvements with the Lighthouse,
 - \$18/hr. for coordination center 12.40 to 18 per hour
- Continuing to work with VSC Development, working with current funders, good relationship with executive committee
- No questions

Jim VSC Development Update:

- Document provided is update and review
 - Review: structure in place to identify candidates and metrics to see success attributes and possible candidates of potential VSCs
 - Targeted: Vet population density in that area
 - Developing: established relationship with one key stake holder in that area with an organization (Rock Island example)

- Active: Identifying key stakeholders, in touch with our call center and to coordinate call and assist requests (convening and collaborating), ready to receive call center license
- Full Active: achieved all success attributes that we have identified (Lake County) establish centralized hub organization, convening authority, utilize unite us platform, work with 6 core organizations, in a position to provide quality peer support, recruit and engage corporate and foundation sponsors
- Progress grid on second page in where we are in the development of our 18 VSC across the state, as VSC moves up the list they are moving in their status
 - July 4th all of these are in the developing stage
- Megan: McCormick is interested in going down state, and would like to fund organizations down there (\$25,000 seed grants)
 - Highlight for McCormick and NVI to target areas for these micro-grants

Executive Board Update:

- Statute and By Law Amendments will be postponed again
 - Taylor will send it out by 10 AM with instructions
 - 1 hour of comments, don't reply all
 - 11:30 AM with voting
 - Send comments to "reply only", then vote
- Questions?
 - Leckrone: asked what the statutes are for IJFF
- Jaime explained Statute:
 - Board of Advisors, statute appointees
 - Language struck that made sense when evolving, growth in private public partnership
 - Act does not cover liability and protections, so that is removed, another reason to create advisory board
 - Definition made sense initially, but worth response
- Steve: Bylaws are a living document that can be changed
- Propose: IJFF fiscal policy review: under audit
 - Issues that the executive board has address
 - As auditor general, we will bring up for next board meeting about the auditors response mid May
 - Steve, have audit committee with new treasure or DeBlasio
- Violations of Bylaw and good governance
 - IJF was new entity and growing pains and had conversation with auditor general
 - "Not like we haven't seen them before", governance becomes very important issue

New Business:

- Perpetual annual funders and fundraising effort
 - Board working aggressively through that
 - Will work with the board and executive committee on that

- Steven opens up the floor for new business:
 - Standardize board: 3rd Thursday of every month, synchronized, 3:30-5PM
 - May 17th next board meeting, and June 21st
 - Taylor will send invite

- Jaime: New Business Alibi
 - May 23rd, stake and announcement into honoring the fallen into Memorial day weekend
 - Chicago river cruise partner with Road Home and Mission Continues
 - 80-120 passengers on Eventbrite
 - IJF hat for the summer
 - First night of fireworks, 3 hours long with good weather
 - Working with budget and funding
 - Moment of silence, falcon fly with the fireworks
 - Make it into a fundraiser to pay for itself, or the proceeds go to organization to honor the fallen for these types of events
 - Steve: Go forward with it

- Megan: can't be at May's board meeting

- Jaime: will be asking the board with creative ways to support us (grow staff, new website, new social media, new workspace, and new events)
- WGs with co chairs one working in growth and one in wellness
 - Personal endorsement on social media
- Advisory board recruitment, valuable contributors and nominations
 - Victor Lagroon accepted position in CA

Last Call for Comments:

- Meeting adjourned