



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

IJF Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 8th, 2018 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Resolute Consulting – 180 N LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL 60601

The IJF Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Chairman Tom Miller.

In attendance in-person or by teleconference: Jaime Martinez, Jim Dolan, Taylor Colliau, Carlos Luna, Director Erica Jeffries, Steven Goodwin, Kevin Smith, Bill Browne, Tom Miller, John DeBlasio, CSM Sean Carney, Don Cooke, Rev. Oluwatoyin Hines, Modwene Lavin, David Leckrone, Dr. Ed Landreth

Old Business and Updates

- Took roll, introduction of guests, and established quorum.
- Executive Director Report
 - Introduction of new IJF Staff to Board
 - Jim Dolan is now full-time employee of IJF
 - Taylor- Marketing, data analytics, program management, Unite US
 - Carlos Luna – Consultant
 - Willie Mack Introduced himself

Staff Updates

Taylor – Marketing Campaign

- 2017 snapshot – Data from coordination center/call volume
 - In 1st 2 months of '18, have doubled women veteran callers from all 2017.
 - Call center update
- Marketing campaign
 - Wellness and Growth:
 - Women veterans
 - Suicide prevention – Call center has been trained
 - Male vs female veteran needs
 - Platforms:

- Social media, direct letters to policy makers, video boards, events, radio & TV to drive call numbers and increase referrals
 - Marketing will vary throughout the state
- Bill Browne asked for breakdown of where calls came from/for
 - Employment and Housing
 - Are data collected on who referrals are going to? (yes)
- Jeffries: suggested to ask “how they got the number” at call center to track efforts
 - Don(McCormick) – suggested to “capture numbers” from – call center, partners, and partners who refer to other partners (Jaime: UniteUs will be able to collect all data)
 - USO of Illinois will receive grant to work with active duty personnel 6 months prior to separation – Have “pathfinders” to link with USO’s “Pathfinders”
- Jim: uptick in volume due to increased promotion: with help of Boeing CBS radio, WGN TV, and call center capacity to handle calls.
 - Chaplain: Level I suicide intervention training for call center
 - Jeffries: Link call center with IWOP for clinical referrals

Jim – VSC Update

- Initiative approved by board last year, it’s been successful!
 - Lake and McHenry counties are “MyVA communities” and “gold standard”
- Added structure, provided guidance to succeed,
- Lake County is “fully active”
 - Referral network, McCormick donation to support efforts
- Three in development in Chicago w/ MVI
- Tinley Park
- Effingham w/ Road Home
- Tom: Peoria
 - Data from United Way w/ crisis center
 - Actively working to stand partnership up
 - Jaime: Carlos will complete Environmental scan/asset map
 - Chicago veterans
 - WeWork
 - Bunker Labs
- VSCs differ across the state.
- What are the costs associated with initial set-up of VSC; what are costs to support?
- Peer support training and certifications essential to mission
- Improving relationships with corporate partners – Walgreen’s

Jaime- Working Groups

- Legacy – working groups, stove-piping,
- IJF 2.0 based on data from “tiger group” and historical
- Need Chairs for:
 - Career
 - Legal
 - Housing
 - Education
 - Sports and Recreation
 - Volunteering

Open Meeting Adjourned; Guests Left: 1500 hours

Closed Meeting:

In attendance in-person or by teleconference: Jaime Martinez, Carlos Luna, Director Erica Jeffries, Steven Goodwin, Kevin Smith, Bill Browne, Tom Miller, John DeBlasio, CSM Sean Carney, Don Cooke, Rev. Oluwatoyin Hines, Modwene Lavin

Financials

- Tom presented motion to conduct business with board members on phone
 - Seconded by Steve Goodwin
 - “Yes” vote was unanimous
 - Jeffries: Leave by-laws and move forward with elections

Tom: Any nominees for any positions?

- Co-chairs, secretary, treasurer

Jeffries: Nominated (Modi or Rev. Hines) to fill secretary or treasurer positions

- Shared her experience as Sec. on Exec. Board

Jaime: explained duties needed for Treasurer. Audit on horizon; treasurer will need to be “nimble enough” to make

- Possible conflict of interests addressed

Steve: asked that John remain as interim Treasurer for 90 days until transitional challenges can be met.

- All agreed

Electing of Co-chairs and Secretary

Co-Chairs – Steve Goodwin and Kevin Smith
Sec. - Rev. Hines
Interim Treasurer: John DeBlasio

Jeffries: move to accept nominations as presented
Bill Brown: seconded
Unanimous Vote – Aye.

Changes to Statute:

Jaime:

- Board of advisors committee beneficial for building
- Directive language changed to include more organizations and entities
- Removes statutory language limiting partnerships to Veteran Service Organizations
- Added language that advisors and Chair cannot be compensated

Term of directors from 2 years to 3 years

- Don: suggested 1 year

Tom: changes need board approval

- Statute will allow for autonomy as organization but will remain under IDVA

Jaime:

- State employment act does not protect (?)
- Directors and officers liability insurance
- Language “assisted by IDVA and IDMA...” should be removed given the evolution of IJF
 - Jeffries: language as of now is not
- Language about funding: change to allow for private funding without perception that funding can come from public funds.
- Jaime recused himself from making legal recommendations – is searching for counsel for IJF.

Bylaws deferred to next month’s meeting.

Awards presented to Thomas Miller and Erica Jeffries for their role in bringing IJF this far.
Steve motioned to adjourn, Browne seconded.

Meeting adjourned 1557hrs.