

VCC December 15, 2016 Bismarck ND

Called to order by Chairman Russ Stabler

Roll call 16 members or replacements were present as well as the Legislative committee of ACOVA

Roy Fillion, Ken Hasby, Trish Hodny, Myron Langehaug, Jim Verwey, Dean Overby

Treasurers report \$ current balance \$13,328.88 as of 12/13/16 the \$5000 check for the tobacco tax has not been cashed yet. Addendum Dave Johnson talked to the coalition an the check is in processing to be cashed. Bill Tuff asked if the account could be moved to Bell Bank as we are being charged \$6 a month when we don't spend money 1<sup>st</sup> by Dave Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Markey motion passed.

Minutes of last meeting were handed out one correction Goldsmith/Goldstein 1<sup>st</sup> Larry Young 2<sup>nd</sup> Lorreta Kilen motion to accept as corrected passed.

Discussion of agenda :

1. Tobacco tax failure the discussion on this was how thousands of dollars couldn't overcome the millions that the opposition spent and how their innuendos and half-truths and lies couldn't be overcome ,

We also discussed that the current money from the previous tobacco settlement will be going out this year and how the money is distributed throughout the system

45% schools goes into the trust fund for sustainability

45% clean water etc: being spent

9 % community health

1 % cessation of smoking

Lonnie Wangen If we have another go at this we need to be more secretive to keep big tobacco from killing it before we get started . also need to have a war chest before we start.

MOTION Dave Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Markey to at this time go with legislative attempt to get funds for veterans needs from the general funds Motion Passed.

Joe Hall - Impact fund (private fund) fund grants is a one time use of funds filling gaps with other organizations ' hardship grants

Dave Johnson will look into a go fund me account to help with an increase to help Veterans Benefits.

VSSR we discussed the negative comments that were received about our position, overall there were many more positive comments than negative . Lonnie gave a report on his meeting with VSSR leadership which took place on the bridge . it was mostly a show for the VSSR leaders.

Up Coming Legislative Session\_\_--Lonnie

Handed out breakdown of budget and funding requests and some of the Bills that we need to look at and see if they should be supported;

Funding of Budget we need to have a veterans caucus for legislators who will support us.

We discussed Bill #1 motion to support Dave Johnson—Second Gary Himmrich motion Passed.

We discussed what our first priority was, motion to make NSO funding as #1 priority in potential funds from outside the budget: amended to NSO first and have another option to use funds second 1<sup>st</sup> Dave Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim Markey passed

Bill #3 We had a motion to not support Dave Johnson/Gary Himmrich motion failed

We then had a motion to support Gary Maddock/ Orletta Kilen motion failed

Then we looked up in the bylaws if it was a unanimous council vote ie 15-0 or a unanimous organization vote 5-0 it was determined to be an organizational vote move to clarify vote Dave Johnson/Larry Young motion passed. With that clarification Bill # 3 was passed for VCC to support

Bill # 4 Motion to support. Jim Markey/ Orletta Kilen motion Passed

Bill # 5 motion to support Dave Johnson/ Joe Hall discussion Motion Passed

Bill #6 Motion to stay Neutral/ not support Dave Johnson/ Jim Markey much discussion both pro and con vote Passed to stay neutral

Public Relations VCC/ACOVA – Legislative reception to show who we are in a non threatening setting to ask for common sense legislation

Motion to have Legislative Reception asking Dave Johnson to do leg work. 1<sup>st</sup> Gary Himmrich 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim Nelson Motion passed. Date is January 24<sup>th</sup> 2017 5:30-8:30 at Ramkotta Inn

Do not prioritize the legislation

Registration of VCC as lobbyists with Attny General to be handled by Bill Tuff \$25 form on website

Discussion on \$ 300 dues from each organization an invoice will be provided to each of the organizaions

Chairman Stabler brought up that we should have a VCC meeting prior to the Legislative reception it was decided to have a meeting at 10 am on Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup> at the Comfort Inn, we have a meeting

room. A block of rooms have been reserved for Monday night January 23 and Tuesday Night 24<sup>th</sup> tell them you are with the VCC you must let them know if you want the room for one or both of the evenings, rooms will be released on January 9, so if you need rooms lets get them done.

Bill Tuff Sec /Tres NDVCC