VCNG minutes for 16 Feb 2015

Present were Steve Headrick, Rob Morris, Rick Roper, Cassie Joseph, Edgar Johnson, Sue Withers, and Glenn Larratt.

Rick called the meeting to order at 1217.

Upcoming event updates (Edgar): the current focus of Edgar’s office is recruitment of disabled individuals and veterans. There is an event on 26 March, in which James Schmeling of the [Institute for Veterans and Military Families](http://vets.syr.edu/) will be coming as the opening speaker for the Recruitment & Employment Center Signature Lecture Series; presentation and Q&A from 3-4pm, and a reception following from 4-4:30; registration is online – follow the link from our blog post <http://vcng.cornell.edu/2015/02/06/recruitment-employment-center-signature-lecture-series/> .

The link is in the Career Life newsletter, and will be distributed via the VCNG newsletter; in addition, Cassie and Edgar will see that it’s posted separately to the mailing list. Edgar wants to draw supervisors and hiring managers to the event; please spread the word. Emily will be introducing James Schmeling.

Committee Updates - Community service/TeamRWB: for the winter, TeamRWB has shifted to MWF workouts in Barton Hall from 1215 to 1245 (bring an ID to sign into Barton Hall; Cornell community members may sponsor guests for signin); typically there have been 3-6 participants. Jase has e-mailed out the schedule of annual TeamRWB events; they will also be posted to TeamRWB’s page.

Committee Updates – Event Planning (Rick): today was the last opportunity for Erica Mims to speak to us – since she was unable to join us, we’re going to see if we can get a copy of her presentation. Rick has two other guest speakers lined up: one from the Chemung Cty Veteran Support Group, the other from the Veterans Hotline in Rochester. Dates are TBD for both speakers.

On the horizon, we’re planning forward to events for Memorial Day and Alumni Weekend – we need to communicate with the ROTC units regarding Memorial Day plans, and we’ve been encouraged to get our plans together early so as to get a better spot. Some discussion was had about whether we should be sponsoring a deployed unit or gathering cards/letters/care packages for a deployed unit as we did before.

Committee Update – Public Relations (Cassie): There are articles planned for spring editions of PawPrint, with focus on student veterans. The prototype of the website has been deployed; the Veterans Day target for the final version was missed, and there is no new target date as yet.

Q(Rick): Do we have information regarding the donations for the Vietnam Veterans Collective Partnership donations? A: don’t know.

Round robin –

* Rob: there is a local veteran in Van Etten who, for various reasons, is two years behind on property tax for a home he inherited from his father (about $6,000); he needs $3,000 by March 2nd, and another $3,000 by June to keep the house. Ideas to help him?
	+ Suggestion: put him in touch with Ben Margolis/STVSG;
	+ Suggestion: put him in touch Edgar for better employment opportunities;
	+ Suggestion: put him in touch with Kevin.
* Rick: What is the current status of our list of initiatives? Some discussion; we should capture the last recorded status at our next meeting.
* Cassie: next Toward New Destinations meeting is in March; following our lead from January, other CNG’s are to present.
* Rob: Should the next (16 Match) meeting be located in Humphreys, so we can participate in the corned-beef-and-cabbage lunch?

Adjourned at 1253.

**Action Items:**

(Upcoming Events) – Cassie & Edgar to send event announcement to mailing list

(Round robin – veteran in Van Etten) – Rob to communicate our suggestions

(Round robin – next meeting location) Rick & Rob to figure out logistics