

Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting

REGULAR MEETING OF Sept 12th, 2022

Commissioners		
Dave Hyatt	President	Present
Christine Santiago-Foos	Vice President	Present
John McAllister	Secretary	Present
Ric Ray	Member	Present
Merlin Reimer	Member	Present
Veteran Services		
Brian Galligher	Director	Present
Wm. Piwtorak	Social Services	Present
Guest:		
Board of Elections -		

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: President Hyatt AT 1732.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

McAllister read the minutes from the Aug 22nd Commission Meeting – 1732 hrs.

MOTION – to approve the minutes with minor corrections in titling.

1737hrs.

1st Reimer 2nd Santiago-Foos 5-0-0 Vote

Special Presentation

1738 hrs.

Delaware County Board of Elections -

Quick discussion about voting and poll workers are needed. Also attended to become more educated in what Veterans Services does in the community.

OLD BUSINESS

Veteran visit program – Visitation has not occurred yet.

Grave Markers – Based upon data received by the Recorder’s office there is approximately 700 veteran deaths per year. Each Marker costs 400.00. That said projected cost to pay for these markers would cost 280,000 dollars.

Think about how this project/ program should look for the Delaware County. Discussion to ensue next meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion regarding upcoming fair and the layout of the coliseum to include discussion on needing one or two of the booths?

KUDDOS: The Steib Family sent a card and a bucket of lifesavers showing their gratitude for the work above and beyond by these two employees – Andrew and Rey

Position Description – Permanent Part Time for another driver for Veterans Services transportation. Description tweaked to accommodate the work hours required and some experience.

MOTION: 22-09122022-01 to accept the verbiage as written on the document to be posted soon

1st McAllister 2nd Santiago-Foos 5-0 vote

The Fair – a Vendor will be bringing in military supplies for a display. The cost of this to happen cost is \$1790.00. These funds were paid for by the Vietnam Veterans. Veteran Services asked to reimburse this cost.

MOTION: 22-09122022-02 to reimburse the Vietnam Veterans for the cost of the military display that will be showing during the Delaware County Fair.

1st McAllister 2nd Ray 5-0 vote

Oak Grove Cemetery – Veterans Area – Flag poles are leaning and needing to be fixed. A meeting commenced that discussed taking this area and improving it immensely where it may cost up to 300,000 dollars. That said a heavy discussion ensued and the request is that the commission, specifically commissioner Ray, Santiago-Foos, and Hyatt would participate in future meetings to discuss this potential opportunity.

2022 Brush Pile Fishing Veterans Benefit Tournament Sponsorship request –

MOTION 22-09122022-03 to give \$1,000 dollars to support his event for Delaware County Veterans.

1st McAllister 2nd Reimer 5-0 Vote

Mash Pantry – Thanksgiving Dinner: Last year it cost \$2750.00 dollars with a reported attendance of approximately 50 people. A request to support the event for 2022 has been received. This event is scheduled for Nov 20, 2022. The discussion ended with a request for MASH Pantry to attend the first meeting in October to discuss their request and expectations.

Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting

REGULAR MEETING OF Sept 26th, 2022

Commissioners		
Dave Hyatt	President	Absent
Christine Santiago-Foos	Vice President	Present
John McAllister	Secretary	Present
Ric Ray	Member	Present
Merlin Reimer	Member	Present
Veteran Services		
Brian Galligher	Director	Present
Wm. Piwtorak	Social Services	Absent
Guest:		
Ashley American Legion Post Members		
John Crouse		

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Vice President Santiago-Foos at 1731.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

McAllister read the minutes from the Aug 22nd Commission Meeting – 1732 hrs.

MOTION – to approve the minutes with minor corrections in attendance.

1743 hrs.

1st Reimer 2nd McAllister 4-0-1 Vote

OLD BUSINESS

Veteran visit program – Reimer, McAllister, and Santiago-Foos made contact. Santiago-Foos brought the Korea War veteran to the dinner with a sincere appreciation by the veteran.

Grave Markers – Each Veteran Service Commissioner will write down what they would like to see for the program for the next meeting. Galligher stated he would do the same and the VSC requested that Piwtorak also write down thoughts.

Driver position – Galligher stated that only two applications have been received thus far. All will try to spread the word for additional applications.

Oak Grove Cemetery Veteran’s Memorial – the next meeting will be on October 12th at Mingo Park. All VSCs will try to be present.

Mash Pantry Thanksgiving Meal – Director Galligher will reach out to Amber to attend next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Santiago-Foos will follow-up with additional information for the Fair Dinner after-action.

DIRECTOR REPORT

Shelters at Stockhands – Met with Tim from Stockhands and Duane and Gary from the County Building Dept (Delaware County Building Safety) to discuss the possibility of placing temporary housing shelters at Stockhands. Duane and Gary had many good ideas and the next step is to discuss with Liberty Township zoning. Duane will be present to assist for the zoning meeting.

Fair After Action – Discussed the possibility of have a more collaborative effort between the VSC/VSO and the service organizations. This would allow a more efficient use of time and ensure more are present during busy times. Next year for the display costs, those costs will be directly submitted to the VSC vice through the VVA. Santiago-Foos will have a list for the after-action next meeting. A discussion ensued about how we help the family of a Veteran that has passed due to suicide. Santiago-Foos will do more research and Galigher will follow up with Tim Funk.

POLICY REVIEW

The vote on the updated Financial Assistance policy was tabled until next meeting so that Commissioner Hyatt can be present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Scott Lucas from the Ashley American Legion Post – Scott has a POC that can potentially assist families that have experienced a veteran suicide. He gave another resource “Grief Share” that is not specific to veterans. Scott asked about Stockhands and what they do in the community. He asked how many vets were in the area. Galligher stated that there is no real answer do to no “formal” count, but in the discussion the VSO can share people that have asked for financial assistance in the area in case the post want to reach out to also assist.

John Crouse from the VVA – John asked when the next parade meeting will be, the answer was October 5th at 1130. John also asked how we can do a better job of letting veterans know Friday of the fair is free. This will be discussed as part of future after-actions.

Actionable items:

- Permanent part time driver position
- Oak Grove Cemetery Project
- Invite Mash Pantry to the First Meeting in October
- Review Financial Assistance policy and application – ready to accept Next meeting
- Fair after-action

Next Meeting: Oct 10th @ Veteran Service Office Conference Room beginning at 1730 hrs.

MOTION - TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 1850 hrs.

1st McAllister 2nd Reimer 4-0-1 vote

Range Day – Veteran Services arranged a day for Veterans to gather at the outdoor range in Northern Delaware County. To confirm everyone was safe, supplies were purchased such as hearing and eye protection. Furthermore, to make sure everyone attending could participate, some targets were purchased just in case someone forgot to bring. The amount requested is less than 150.00 dollars.

MOTION 22-09122022-04 to provide up to 150.00 dollars to purchase safety supplies (Hearing and Eye protection) and some targets.

1st McAllister 2nd Reimer

5-0 Vote

Question: Is the VA considering to build a new facility in Delaware County.

Not a lot of information is available at this time. There is high level talks that a high consideration for this is to take place but details to location, size, and functionality is not available at this time.

Policy: The Financial Assistance Application was presented for review of the commission. Asked to review and at the next meeting to be prepared to discuss and adopt the policy and application as one package. A short discussion ensued. Follow up will occur at the next meeting.

Activities:

Dr. Moore – Free Dental treatment for veterans Nov 10, 2022

Delaware County Fair – Sept 17 thru Sept 24th.

Actionable items:

- Visitation program
- Update on permanent part time driver position
- Oak Grove Cemetery Project
- Invite Mash Pantry to the First Meeting in October
- Review Financial Assistance policy and application – ready to accept Next meeting

GOOD FOR THE ORDER

Kuddos to Andrew and Rey – see above

Next Meeting: Sep 26th @ American Legion Post 518 in Ashley beginning at 1730 hrs.

MOTION - TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 1908 hrs.

1st McAllister 2nd Reimer 5-0-0 vote