Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting REGULAR MEETING OF Aug 14, 2023

Commissioners		
Merlin Reimer -	President	Present
John McAllister –	Vice President	Present
Christine Santiago-F	oos - Secretary	Present
Dave Hyatt -	Member	Present
Richard Ray -	Member	Present
Veteran Services		
Brian Galligher	Director	Present
Wm. Piwtorak	Social Services	Present
Guest(s)		

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY President Reimer at 1730

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Reading and approval of minutes:

1734 hrs.

MOTION – 23-0814-01 to approve the minutes from July 24th meeting with a minor correction.

1st McAllister

2nd Santiago-Foos

5-0 Vote

PASSED

MOTION – 23-0814-02 to go into executive session.

1735 hrs.

1st Santiago-Foos

2nd McAllister

5-0 Vote

PASSED

Discussed two veteran's request

MOTION – 23-0814-03 to exit executive and return to public session

1805 hrs.

1st Hyatt

2nd McAllister

5-0 vote

PASSED

MOTION-23-0814-04 To approve Veteran Redacted to pay for 750 gallons of propane (Home heating) fuel at a discounted rate at \$1,359.79. In addition, a \$100.00 Meijer Card.

1st Santiago-Foos 2nd McAllister 5-0 Vote PASSED

Motion 23-0814-05 To approve Veteran Redacted up to \$1,200.00 to cover the cost of rent, a currently due electric bill, and the balance of a washer she owes. In addition, a \$100.00 Meijer Card.

1st Hyatt 2nd McAllister 4-0 Vote 1 abstained PASSED

OLD BUSINESS

Data (stats on office) discussion with Brian Galligher creating, either in EXCEL or ACCESS, a database to refine to determine the exact parameters before potentially finding a program at a cost that would meet those parameters. At the commissioner conference a presentation from Lorain County was discussed as they brought up additional ideas to explore with potential of improving IT based operations such as own server, access to web/ digital advertising, assist with creating reports. Discussed was the idea of bringing on an IT type person to assist with IT type operations as well as public outreach via social media as Rey Cordero is too busy with claim-work to devote the required time.

Bus Trip – 15 people signed up, so far

Arts Fair- had final judging- winners will be displayed at the Delaware County Fair and then moved to the National Museum for display.

NEW BUSINESS

Forever Grateful Dinner (FGD) – discussed some concerns about controlling the attendance and purchasing of too much food. Concerns should be taken to the FGD committee as a discussion point.

DIRECTOR REPORT

Update on PACT act – 24 additional submissions came into the office. Rey Cordero cleared Friday Aug 11th schedule to handle all PACT act calls/ walk in/ paperwork submissions.

A question arose if additional flags had been ordered. Brian said he directed Karen to order flags a month ago, but would check on the status.

Vet Shoot – there are numerous people signing up for this event. There are some costs involved that need covered.

MOTION – 23-0814-06 to allow up to \$500.00 be used to purchase items needed to provide a successful event. Items include food, targets, and misc. items.

1st Ray

2nd Santiago-Foos

5-0 Vote

PASSED

GOOD FOR THE ORDER

Accolades to Brian and Rey in helping with identified Markers without Plaques

THANK YOU

In return, John Crouse – without you walking through the graveyard, the identification of issues with the graves would not be reported.

Thank you, in return!

NEXT MEETING: August 28th 2023 – begins at 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services)

Motion - 23-0814-08 Motion to adjourn the meeting

1907 hrs.

1st Santiago-Foos

2nd McAllister

5-0 vote

PASSED

Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting REGULAR MEETING OF Aug 28, 2023

Commissioners		
Merlin Reimer -	President	Present
John McAllister –	Vice President	Excused
Christine Santiago-Fo	oos - Secretary	Present
Dave Hyatt -	Member	Present
Richard Ray -	Member	Present
Veteran Services		
Brian Galligher	Director	Present
Wm. Piwtorak	Social Services	Present
Guest(s)		
MASH PANTRY - Amber		

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: President Reimer at 1730

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Reading and approval of minutes:

1734 hrs.

MOTION – 23-0828-01 to approve the minutes from Aug 14th meeting with a minor correction.

1st Hyatt

2nd Santiago-Foos

4-0 Vote

PASSED

MOTION – 23-0828-02 to go into executive session.

1735 hrs.

1st Santiago-Foos

2nd Hyatt

4-0 Vote

PASSED

Discussed two veteran's request

MOTION – 23-0828-03 to exit executive and return to public session

1805 hrs.

1st Hyatt

2nd Ray

4-0 vote

PASSED

Guest:

MASH PANTRY—Amber Hudson

Mash Pantry resides currently at 222 E. William St and subleases the location at no cost.

At any time Mash Pantry could be requested to vacate, thus have been researching a new residence. A location has been found in Ostrander on Marysville Rd (SR 36) across from Leeds Farm. A 3900 sq. feet rental space building is available that can be developed for a more permanent place that would include an opportunity to be open more often, host other events, etc.

Mash Pantry needs \$5,000.00 for guard rail placement, access to a different bathroom, and hire an electrician to allow for a walk-in cooler. Furthermore, a three year lease will cost \$44,000.00 annually (\$3,666.67 a month).

Veterans Services has to check with legal to confirm ability to support financially. In previous discussions, the Prosecutor's Office has stated Veterans Services has to support "veterans only" programs and must be within an entity/organization.

Director Galligher will be reaching out to legal for confirmation. Until an answer is received, this will be tabled.

Mash Pantry would like to move in October 1st and attain a 3 year lease.

MOTION 23-0828-04

To pay requested amount of \$647.55 to pay for Veteran Redacted home mortgage.

1st Hyatt 2nd Santiago Foos 3 to 1 vote PASSED

MOTION 23-0828-05 – After discussion, NO motion moved forward for Veteran's spouse Redacted.

OLD BUSINESS

Data (stats on office) discussion continues with additional ideas to explore with potential of improving collecting office activities.

Discussion ensued

Motion 23-0828-06

That on or before October 9th, 2023 County Veterans Service Commission meeting, the County Veterans Services Director shall explore access database software and provide cost estimates of software that will be able to provide relevant information regarding our

constituent inquires and services that the commission was led to believe would be tracked in Vectraspec software the Delaware County Veterans Services Office purchased and continues to utilize for Veterans Administration Claims only. The database information should allow for the Director to produce and report the following (but not limited to) information that the commission continues to seek:

Name

Branch of Service

Service

Phone Number

Nature of Inquiry: VA Claim, Financial, Services Rendered, Events, Legislative Etc.

Produce a printout report to be shared at the first Delaware County Veterans Service Commission meeting each month, reflecting the metrics/ Status of services and activities of the Delaware County Veterans Service Office. The report should include but not be limited, to the following information:

- # of Veterans Assisted by in-house transportation and to where
- # of Veterans assisted by External /Data transportation and to where
- # of outreach event attended (i.e. county fair, special events, services, funeral, etc.)
- # of phone inquiries received that required a more in depth research and type of inquiry.
- # of walk in inquiries received that required in-depth research/ assistance (i.e. VA Benefit claim info request, submission, emergency assistance requested, emergency assistance granted by VSO, emergency assistance requiring VSC approval.

1st Santiago - Foos

2nd Ray

4-0 Vote

PASSED.

MOTION 23-0828-07

That the director, Delaware County Veteran Service Office, provide the commission on a quarterly basis, account balance/ status of the current budget, ensure all staff are utilizing the new software, and review with DCVSC additional capabilities of the software based (or the new recommended software) on DCVSC "requests for information" (i.e. – how the software can add fields, etc. to enhance Delaware County Assistance).

1st Santiago - Foos

2nd Ray

4-0 Vote

PASSED.

Bus Trip – Slowly growing in attendance.								
NEW BUSINESS No Report								
DIRECTOR REPO	RТ							
Part time intermittent driver - Director handed out a resume of the potential candidate. After a brief review and discussion, a motion was brought forward to hire.								
Motion 23-0828	-08							
to approve the hiring of Heath Cox filling the part time intermittent driver position.								
1 st Hyatt	2 nd Santiago-	Foos	4-0 Vote	Passed				
From last meeting, the flags have been ordered but unknown when they will arrive. There are two or three boxes in storage.								
GOOD FOR THE C	ORDER							
No Report								
NEXT MEETING: September 11, 2023 – begins at 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services)								
Motion – 23-0828-09 Motion to adjourn the meeting 2015 hrs.								
1 st Santiago	-Foos 2 nd	Hyatt	4-0 vote	PASSED				