

Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting

REDACTED

REGULAR MEETING OF Nov 13th, 2023

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

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY- President McAllister at 1730.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Reading and approval of minutes:

1734 hrs.

MOTION – 23-1113-01 to approve the minutes from Oct 23rd meeting with a couple minor corrections.

1st Hyatt

2nd Santiago-Foos

3-0 Vote

PASSED

Special Guest(s):

Roxanne Amidon (director), Boardman Arts Park

Discussed their Art contest that is going on from Nov 1 thru Jan 15th, 2024

Diversity in Delaware – Winners will receive 250.00 with display at the park for a year.

Mash Pantry – submitted an email showing another find for three pre-built professional grade 14 x 24 greenhouses totaling \$32,505.00. The previous request was for \$155,517.66. The board discussed and had many questions that could not be answered. The decision was to table this until someone from Mash Pantry could discuss and provide answers to the questions.

MOTION- 23-1113-02 To enter into executive session 1755 hrs.

1st Hyatt 2nd Santiago-Foos 3-0 Vote PASSED

Discussed three veterans: 1 financial Request, 1 homeless situation, 1 indigent burial

MOTION – 23-1113-03 to return to public Session 1840 hrs.

Public Session

MOTION – 23-1113-04 to approve REDACTED a waiver so they can receive financial Assistance for the 7th time in a year.

1st Hyatt 2nd McAllister 3-0 Vote PASSED

Motion – 23-1113-05 to approve REDACTED a waiver to go over the annual \$7,500.00 limit.

1st Hyatt 2nd McAllister 3-0 Vote PASSED

Motion – 23-1113-06 approve REDACTED up to \$900.00 to cover her rent and electric bill that is coming due.

1st Hyatt 2nd McAllister 3-0 Vote PASSED

MOTION – 23-1113-07 approve REDACTED family to receive \$1,000.00 for an indigent burial.

1st Santiago-Foos 2nd Hyatt 3-0 Vote PASSED

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Veterans Day parade committee on initially anticipated the need for \$6,000.00 to cover the costs of the parade. After the event, due to increased costs the budget was over by \$1,244.04

Motion 23-1113-08 to approve \$1,244.04 to cover the remaining costs associated with the Veterans Day Parade.

1st Santiago-Foos

2nd McAllister

3-0 vote

PASSED

Eric Sowers (Previous Veterans Court Cord) is part of Ohio State and oversees a program where Veteran Court Participants are invited to the National Museum for an event for the docket participant and family. There is a cost to this whereas Eric is asking for financial support to the program.

Motion 23-1113-09 to approve \$1,500.00 to cover some of the costs associated with to providing a program for Veterans Court Docket participants with family to attend an organized event held at the National Veterans Museum specifically for them.

1st Santiago- Foos

2nd McAllister

3-0 vote

PASSED

Facilities reported that by the end of the year, the board of elections building will have space that Veterans Services can use for storage of items that are used occasionally throughout the year.

Director will most likely go on Military Orders mid Feb/ Mar 2024 in support of military operations going on globally.

GOOD FOR THE ORDER

Thanksgiving- Have a blessed holiday with friends and family.

HB 294 (I 71 between 36/37 and Morrow Co Line – change name to Delaware County Veterans Highway)

NEXT MEETING: November 27, 2023 – begins at 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services)

Motion – 23-1113-10 Motion to adjourn the meeting

1944 hrs.

1st Santiago-Foos 2nd Hyatt

3-0 vote

PASSED

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|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Merlin Reimer - | President | Present |
| John McAllister – | Vice President | Present |
| Christine Santiago-Foos - | 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 – 23-1127-01 to approve the minutes from Nov 13th meeting with a couple minor corrections.

1st McAllister

2nd Hyatt

5-0 Vote

PASSED

Special Guest

Amber Hudson – MASH Pantry – Discussed last meeting’s request

Re-submitted a proposal for three green houses that would be: Professional Grade, Pre-built, Amish made, 12’ x 24’.

Three locations: Stockhands, Camp Lazarus, and American Legion.

\$10,835.00 each (3) cost \$32,505.00

Discussed the vision for the use of the greenhouses, opened up to take questions from the board, and explained that any involvement would be appreciated because the vision for these greenhouses is important to MASH.

MOTION- 23-1127-02 to enter into executive session.

1804 hrs.

1st Santiago-Foos

2nd McAllister

5-0 Vote

PASSED

Discussed one financial request

MOTION – 23-1127-03 to return to public Session

1910 hrs.

Public Session

MOTION – 23-1127-04 to approve veteran Redacted to receive up to \$4,000.00 to cover household bills and to highly recommend that the veteran connect with the financial adviser. If done, the fee will be covered by the commission.

1st Hyatt

2nd McAllister

5-0 Vote

PASSED

MOTION – 23-1127-05 to approve Mash Pantry to receive \$10,835.00 for one greenhouse as requested in their presentation. This greenhouse shall be placed at Stockhands for the veterans to manage

1st McAllister

2nd Santiago-Foos

5-0 Vote

PASSED

NOTE: Would additionally support more if another organization would provide a portion of funding as well.

OLD BUSINESS

No Report

NEW BUSINESS:

At a recent conference for Veteran Service Commissioners, a motion was presented to support property tax exemptions. During the discussion phase, it became heated with

questions like, How is it going to help? Do all organizations support, Commissioner Support? In the end, the motion passed the body vote.

Training was another topic of discussion, at the conference where multiple opinions were provided. Some points - does the training have any value to it, is more time for the district meeting?

Traveling wall - Application was submitted for 2024. It appears that final notifications will be forthcoming. The wall dates are tentatively set for September 12-15 but until formal notice is given, the wall is still not to be formally released to the public. Confirmation should be delivered near December 1st.

Veteran Breakfast - Reported that 230 people signed up but only 190 showed. Would like to have more attendance in the coming years.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Last meeting, a request was made to provide \$1,500.00 for an event supporting Veterans Court participants at the National Veterans Memorial Museum. This motion was passed. However, due to changes in participation this year, the needed funds are greater and needs additional money to cover the expenses.

Motion: 23-1127-06 to approve an additional \$800.00 to Eric Sower's event at the National Veterans Military Museum supporting Veteran Court Participants.

1st Santiago-Foos

2nd McAllister

5-0 Vote

PASSED

Presentation: Improvements wanted for 2024-2025

Director Galligher gave a Powerpoint presentation of improvements to the Veterans Service Office for additional programs and services that will improve the quality of life for the Delaware County Veterans. Also included in the presentation was a financial discussion based on costs for the changes and future income due to the predicted large jump in the 0.5 MIL funding source for 2024.

The presentation will be sent out to the board to review on their own and more discussion will take place at upcoming scheduled board meetings. Currently, the expectation is that the commissioners will review the Powerpoint and provide feedback next meeting

NEXT MEETING: December 11, 2023 – begins at 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services)

Motion – 23-1127-07 Motion to adjourn the meeting

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1st McAllister

2nd Ray

5-0 vote

PASSED