

Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting

REGULAR MEETING OF Oct 9th, 2023

Commissioners		
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 1731

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Reading and approval of minutes:

1735 hrs.

MOTION – 23-1009-01 to approve the minutes from Sept 25th meeting with a minor corrections.

1st McAllister

2nd Hyatt

5-0 Vote

PASSED

This Portion left blank

Financial Report:

No Financial Applicants

September Monthly Activity Report

		Social Service Officer - Activity Report (official)							2023			
		September										
#	Denied	Veteran	F/A	Comm	Approved	Meijer	Dental	Burial	Hotel	Annual #	Lifetime req	Lifetime \$\$
1			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	4	4	\$7,437.00
2			\$303.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	7	\$7,631.96
3			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	0	\$0.00
4			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	3	\$6,625.83
5			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	5	\$10,291.96
6			\$1,134.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	3	12	\$11,638.59
7			\$477.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	4	13	\$8,400.65
8			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	4	4	\$5,272.49
9			\$1,101.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	4	4	\$7,033.00
10			\$85.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	6	\$3,300.00
11			\$2,129.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	1	\$2,129.37
12			\$1,229.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	9	\$9,436.05
13			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	9	\$15,000.00
14			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	12	\$11,891.58
15			\$1,443.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	2	\$3,237.34
16			\$1,115.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	3	3	\$3,345.00
17			\$961.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	2	\$1,922.00
18			\$996.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	2	\$1,992.00
19			\$0.00	\$1,909.28	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1	1	\$1,909.28
20			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	2	6	\$4,456.23
21			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0	5	\$2,802.16
22			\$392.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$392.36	1	1	\$392.16
23												
24												
25												
26												
27												
28												
29												
30												
			Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total			
			\$ 11,369.79	\$ 1,909.28	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 392.36			
			Total exp - This month				Total exp - Year					
			\$18,762.15				239,316.44					

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and acceptance of Veteran and Friend of the Veteran of the year.

Nominations were due at this meeting. The only nominations officially submitted are for the following:

Vet of the Year – Richard Morris

Friend of the Veteran of the year – Moose Lodge (City of Delaware) Lodge # 1167

Discussion ensued – There were other prospects to be submitted but as the minutes of the last meeting stated the nominations would close at this meeting.

MOTION – 23-1009-02 Accept the nominations that have been officially submitted and follow the published wording from the last meeting minutes.

1st Ray 2nd Santiago – Foos 4-1 Vote Passed

Motion – 23-1009-03 Accept the single nomination for Veteran of the year to be Veteran Richard Morris

1st Santiago-Foos 2nd Ray 5-0 Vote Passed

Motion – 23-1009-04 Accept the single nomination for Friend of the Veteran of the year to be: Loyal Order of Moose Lodge #1167 (City of Delaware)

1st Ray 2nd Santiago-Foos 5-0 Vote Passed

NEW BUSINESS

No Report

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Oak Grove Cemetery has been working on upgrading the Veteran Section of the property. They provided an estimate of \$12,800 required to pour a concrete slab and build a shelter so funerals during inclement weather can be protected from the elements

Data Project – A document was passed along to show what data would be collected. Jerry Walraven from the IT department is almost ready for Veteran Services to begin testing the program that was created to capture the requested data. Coming Soon!

Financial Assistance SOP – Bill and Brian have discussed and will be bringing forward some change requests to the policy. Since working the document, there are some areas that can potentially be tweaked to streamline the process or quantify the criteria to receive the assistance while meeting all the mandates.

There are dress shirts, suit jackets, and some full suits available for any veteran that may need these items to have for an interview. These will be available for a couple of weeks. Whatever items are not taken, will then be taken to another venue.

Is all of the commission receiving the communication emails from the director's office? Yes with one caveat, found that a commissioner had a setting established where the email, once opened would go automatically to the deleted file. Assistance was provided.

GOOD FOR THE ORDER

Remember the Veterans Day Parade is coming up – November 5th

NEXT MEETING: October 23rd, 2023 – begins at 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services)

Motion – 23-1009-05 Motion to adjourn the meeting

1825 hrs.

1st McAllister 2nd Ray

5-0 vote

PASSED

Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting

REGULAR MEETING OF Oct 23rd, 2023 (REDACTED)

Commissioners		
Merlin Reimer -	President	Present
John McAllister –	Vice President	Present
Christine Santiago-Foos -	Secretary	Excused
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 – 23-1023-01 to approve the minutes from Oct 9th meeting with a couple minor corrections.

1st McAllister

2nd Hyatt

4-0 Vote

PASSED

MOTION- 23-1023-02 to enter into executive session.

1737 hrs.

1st Hyatt

2nd McAllister

4-0 Vote

PASSED

Discussed three financial applicants and one pending program/ event

MOTION – 23-1023-03 to return to public Session

1830 hrs.

Public Session

MOTION – 23-1023-04 to approve veteran REDACTED an income waiver so that this veteran can receive financial assistance

1st McAllister 2nd Reimer 4-0 Vote PASSED

MOTION – 23-1023-05 to approve Veteran REDACTED up to \$4,200.00 to cover his utility bills; water, electric, and gas. A portion of these funds (\$ 1,292.96) to be reimbursed to the VFW Post# 8736, which provided the funds initially, so the utilities would be returned to service or stop the pending stoppage.

1st McAllister 2nd Hyatt 4-0 Vote PASSED

MOTION – 23-1023-06 to approve veteran REDACTED a waiver allowing to have a 6th request in an annual cycle.

1st McAllister 2nd Hyatt 3-1 Vote PASSED

MOTION – 23-1023-07 to approve veteran REDACTED \$852.00 to cover her rent and an electric bill.

1st McAllister 2nd Hyatt 3-1 Vote PASSED

MOTION – 23-1023-08 to approve veteran REDACTED an income waiver so that this veteran can receive financial Assistance.

1st McAllister 2nd Ray 4-0 Vote PASSED

MOTION – 23-1023-09 to approve Veteran REDACTED to get his vehicle repaired for \$1,766.00.

1st McAllister

2nd Reimer

4-0 Vote

PASSED

OLD BUSINESS

The veteran of the year and the Friend of the Veteran of the year have been notified and both will be represented at the Veterans Day breakfast.

They are Richard Morris – Veteran of the Year and The Moose Lodge Post 1167 (Delaware Ohio) Friend of the Veteran.

Air Force Museum Trip – went well. The trip had many positive comments. A review is occurring collecting both positive and negative aspects so that the next trip can be emulated with the good things and improve the bad. The document will be available soon.

A reminder the trip was designed to be small / manageable to work out the challenges with a new endeavor. To allow the trip to be effective, the committee decided to limit the trip to veterans only that had limited ambulatory issues. Future trips will include veterans, spouses, caregivers, and the ability to take their own prosthetic device.

Due to county policy, the “purchasing card” cannot be used for some items to purchase. The movie tickets and some of the ancillary items could not be purchased with the “purchasing card”. Two military organizations provided these funds and requested to be reimbursed.

MOTION – 23-1023-10 to approve American Legion Post 115 to be reimbursed \$100.00 and the Disabled American Veterans Post #79 \$250.00. These funds were originally approved by passing **Motion!!67-0925-07**

1st McAllister

2nd Reimer

3-0 Vote (1 Abstain)

PASSED

Additionally, ideas were listed to where potential visits can / should occur:

Motts Military Museum; baseball, hockey, soccer; tank manufacturing in Lima; other military historical sights; Flight 93 site

NEW BUSINESS:

Veterans Day Parade (November 5th) question: do the commissioners want to participate? The consensus is that most of the commissioners will already be participating in some other capacity. Commissioner Hyatt will get with Commissioner Santiago–Foos to see if they will take a vehicle to represent.

Oak grove cemetery was mentioned last meeting where they are asking for financial support in developing the veteran’s portion of the cemetery. They are in need of finances to pour a concrete pad for a shelter and 40+ feet of sidewalk. After seeing a map of the plan and discussing the following was presented:

MOTION- 23-1023-11 the Veterans project at Oak grove Cemetery that continues to evolve.

1st Ray 2nd Reimer 4-0 vote PASSED

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The data project will have an update by the end of the week. The IT department stated the working side will be available for Veterans Services to start importing the DATA.

Two binders were on the table and updated with the latest information regarding the Financials of Veterans Services and the Statistic of the office and their activity over the last couple of months. Aug and September were above normal for claims and transportation continues to grow, what appears to be a constant increase.

The suits and shirts are still available to any veterans who need a suit for an interview. These will stay for a bit longer but then be moved so others can take advantage of the free clothes. First come first serve.

DC Facilities was approached in regards to storage at the Bixby building. Sometime in November they will have a better idea what is available in county buildings. If not available, a shed will most likely be purchased to keep all Veterans Services items that are not required on a daily operation.

Kudos to Bill and Karen for the work on the Air Force Museum.

Passed around was a Letter of Appreciation directed towards Lisa.

Andrew and Bill will be developing and presenting a Powerpoint in regards to their specific aspects of what they provide to Veterans services.

Director was asked about the TV working at the DMV – He will be inquiring about the operation in the coming days. Most likely, the tv has just been turned off.

GOOD FOR THE ORDER

Veterans Day -White Castle and City Barbecue will be providing FREE food to all veterans

NEXT MEETING: November 13, 2023 – begins at 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services)

Motion – 23-1023-12 Motion to adjourn the meeting @ 1940

1st McAllister

2nd Ray

4-0 vote

PASSED