**Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting**

**REGULAR MEETING OF December 9, 2024**

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

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY**: President McAllister at 1730.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Approval of minutes concluding at 1733 hrs.

**MOTION – 24-1209-01** to approve the minutes from the November 25, 2024 meeting.

**1st Reimer 2nd Ray 5-0 Vote** **PASSED**

**Guest Speaker:**

MASH Pantry followed up from an earlier email and to discuss the requests for:

-Greenhouse

-Forklift

-Pallet Jack

-$1,000 weekly funding

-Security & FOB system

A new request for the Holidays:

-25 Christmas Trees

-10 Grave blankets

-100 $25 gift cards

Additional request of a Greenhouse at the MASH Pantry site

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Move:**

An update on the request for a move was given. Dr. Leaf has been contacted to obtain information requested by the county administration. Additionally, a meeting on the new “Social Services” building will occur at 1:00 on 12/12 at the large conference room at the Byxbie Building.

**Veterans Residing in Nursing Homes:**

Kim is working on providing gifts to veterans living in nursing homes/assisted living. The number is currently in the 70’s identified. She has plans to provide blankets, tissues, and Hershey’s bars with an explanation as to why for each coming from correspondence with the facility staff.

**MOTION -24-1209-02** to approve $5,000 for the nursing home project.

 **1st Rey 2nd Santiago-Foos 5-0 Vote PASSED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Flag Boxes:**

Commissioner Hyatt mentioned Americorps reached out to him that potentially three flag disposal boxes would be available. Discussion on potential landing spots with locations away from the City of Delaware and locations that currently have boxes. A great potential location would be the new CBOC. Commissioner Hyatt will follow up.

**MASH Pantry:**

Discussed the requests:

-Previous greenhouse – Director Galligher will follow up

-Forklift – Commissioner Hyatt will see what is available in the industrial area after visiting MASH to get a better idea of needs.

-Pallet Jack – Director Galligher and Commissioner Hyatt will go to MASH on Tue or Wed with tools to see what kind of repair is needed for the jack vice instantly purchasing a new one that may not be as well built.

-$1,000 weekly funding – MASH indicated this request was for programming in the same manner that Stockhands receives monthly funding from the VSC. In return, the VSC is requesting MASH provide the same information that Stockhands provides to include:

 Non-profit overview to include board members, financials (with Delaware broke out), and programs (with Delaware broke out).

 For the programs requesting funding – what are the costs, numbers of veterans attending, why is funding being requested for this specific project.

 The information above can be provided in packets but would recommend a presentation such as PowerPoint with some board members present also similar to what Stockhands has done previously.

**DIRECTOR’s REPORT**

Bill Piwtorak had a chance to attend the ground-breaking for Stockhands. Attendance was good and the non-profit is trending in the right direction.

Discussed current status of cemetery flags and markers. Director will move money at the end of the year and purchase as many additional flags and markers that he can with a goal of 100 boxes of flags.

Discussed the need for an additional van. It will be another wheelchair accessible one and will be procured through Enterprise similar to the previous acquisitions.

**MOTION -24-1209-03** to approve the procurement of an additional wheelchair accessible minivan through Enterprise utilizing the FY2025 budget.

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

Update given on the current status of the two recent postings

Update given on Scott Leonard’s letter indicating he will be retiring on April 4th, 2025.

**NEXT MEETING:** Dec 23rd, 2024 is the next scheduled meeting - 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services).

 **Motion – 24-1209-04** Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1940 hrs.

**1st McAllister 2nd Ray 5-0 vote**  **PASSED**

**Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF December 13, 2024**

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| **Commissioners** |  |
| John McAllister - President | **Present** |
| Christine Santiago Foos – Vice President | **Excused** |
| Merlin Reimer - Secretary | **Present** |
| Dave Hyatt - Member | **Present** |
| Richard Ray - Member | **Present** |
| **Veteran Services** |  |
| Brian Galligher Director | **Present** |
| Wm. Piwtorak Social Services | **Present** |
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| **Speaking Guest(s)** |  |
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**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY**: President McAllister at 1504 hrs.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

**MOTION -24-1213-01** to move into executive session at 1506 hrs.

 **1st Ray 2nd Hyatt 4-0 Vote PASSED**

Discussed 1 emergent financial request

**MOTION- 24-1213-02** return to public session at 1517 hrs.

 **1st Reimer 2nd Hyatt 4-0 Vote PASSED**

**MOTION – 24-1213-03** to approve Veteran REDACTED a waiver to go over the monthly amount allowed by policy

 **1st Hyatt 2nd Ray 4-0 Vote PASSED**

**Motion – 24-1213-03-01** to approve Veteran REDACTED with up to $5,578.18 to cover the cost for the furnace portion of his HVAC unit.

 **1st Ray 2nd Hyatt 4-0 Vote PASSED**

**NEXT MEETING:** Dec 23rd, 2024 is the next regularly scheduled meeting - 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services).

 **Motion – 24-12104** Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1527 hrs.

**1st Reimer 2nd Ray 4-0 vote**  **PASSED**

**Veterans Services – Commissioner Bi-Monthly Meeting**

**REGULAR MEETING OF December 23, 2024 REDACTED**

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

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY**: Vice-President Santiago Foos at 1733.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Approval of minutes concluding at 1735 hrs.

**MOTION – 24-1223-01** to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2024 meeting.

**1st Reimer 2nd Ray 3-0 Vote** **PASSED**

**MOTION – 24-1223-02** to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting December 13, 2024 meeting.

**1st Reimer 2nd Ray 3-0 Vote** **PASSED**

 **MOTION -24-1223-03** to move into executive session at 1736 hrs.

 **1st Reimer 2nd Ray 3-0 Vote PASSED**

Discussed 4 financial requests

**MOTION- 24-1223-04** to return to public session at 1843 hrs.

 **1st Ray 2nd Reimer 3-0 Vote PASSED**

**MOTION – 24-1223-05-01** to approve Veteran REDACTED spouse a waiver for receiving funds greater than the $12,000.00 limit.

 **1st Reimer 2nd Ray 3-0 Vote PASSED**

**MOTION – 24-1223-05-02** to approve Veteran REDACTED spouse a waiver for receiving funds for the 5th time in an annual cycle

 **1st Reimer 2nd Ray 3-0 Vote PASSED**

**MOTION – 24-1223-05-03** to approve Veteran REDACTED Spouse to receive $1,051.00 for rent.

 **1st Reimer 2nd Ray 3-0 Vote PASSED**

**MOTION – 24-1223-06-01** to approve Veteran REDACTED a waiver for receiving funds greater than the annual limit.

 **1st Ray 2nd Reimer 3-0 Vote PASSED**

**MOTION – 24-1223-06-02** to approve Veteran REDACTED to receive funds of $4,249.00 to cover the purchase and installation of a furnace.

 **1st Reimer 2nd Ray 3-0 Vote PASSED**

**MOTION – 24-1223-07-01** to approve Veteran REDACTED a waiver for receiving funds greater than the annual limit.

 **1st Reimer 2nd Died due to no 2nd**

**MOTION – 24-1223-08-01** to approve Veteran REDACTED waiver for receiving funds greater than the annual limit.

 **1st Reimer 2nd Died due to no 2nd**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Location Update (possible move):**

Delaware County officials held discussions. No Feedback reported

No feedback from County admin received since last meeting.

Jon Melvin received email from the director – getting updates to report back

Received Dec 16th

Director was asked when his military deployment was scheduled.

**Mash Pantry**

Picked up the check for the Refrigerator / Freezer No report if it has been delivered yet

Restaurant equippers was used instead of Wasserstrums as this company was already **n**otified.

Need to clarify if it has been delivered or when it is scheduled.

Gift cards from Delaware Veteran Services were given to Mash Pantry to hand out to veterans that visit their Delaware Co site.

They were given 25 - $25 cards- provided a log and they signed with published expectation of use.

Request for $1,000.00 per week similar to what Stockhands receives.

To approve this request, the expectation is to have a detailed annual report and updates as appropriate throughout the year so the board is informed of the success of the programs they are supporting.

The director still needs to loop back with Mash Pantry to discuss.

**Grady Hospital**

There is an established meeting scheduled for January 8th – Bill and Kim G will be attending to discuss improving the acknowledgement of Veterans at the hospital to see how Veteran Services can support that program including providing our brochures and other items to enhance the veterans stay.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Cemetery intern – Interview will be done the week of Jan 6th – HR is setting them up.

They will be based at the office but the expectations that will be on the own working at multiple locations throughout the county. IE Records Centers, Recorders office, various cemeteries.

Some data is available but the work will help with monuments, grave markers, and foot stones provided by the VA. Throughout the county, older veteran’s graves may be unmarked and the cemeteries are unsure where they are located.

There was a discussion about a 3rd party requesting help with veterans who are buried. They notified a board member stating the records office nor would the Veteran Service office release info.

The director was unaware of any discrepancy. He was going to look into this for further clarification.

**DIRECTOR’s REPORT**

Delivery of Blankets to Nursing Homes – Kim Gilley took on the project of finding out how many veterans were living in each Delaware County Nursing facility. After collecting the data, she was approved to purchase nice blankets and had the Delaware County Veteran Service Logo embroidered one them, purchased nicer tissues, and on the advice of the nursing homes – provided candy to the veterans.

Kim Gilley led the delivery with Karen Kish, Kim Lemmons., and Foxx Schneider assisting in the delivery before Christmas. They returned with heartwarming stories and pictures showing the veterans happy with their new gifts.

A transportation report was provided showing the use of the vehicles on hand and providing proof that an additional vehicle is needed to continue the growing program.

The director inquired if the board wanted to entertain the annual increase for the salaries of the staff?

The board discussed what the county was doing for their employees and reflected on what the increase was from the Feds. After a discussion a motion was moved forward:

**MOTION 24-1223-09** to increase the salaries of all employees by 4% for 2025.

**1st Ray 2nd Reimer 3-0 Vote Passed**

**GOOD FOR THE ORDER:**

Merry Christmas and HAPPY NEW YEAR to all!

**NEXT MEETING:** Jan 13th, 2025 is the next scheduled meeting - 1730 hrs. – At 91 N. Sandusky (Veterans Services).

 **Motion 24-1223-10** Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2000 hrs.

**1st Reimer 2nd Ray 3-0 vote**  **PASSED**