

Meeting - Veteran's Service Committee & Commission Minutes

Committee: Veteran's Service Committee & Commission

Date: Wednesday June 14th, 2017

Time: 3:00 P.M.

Place: Forest County Board Room #107

Call to Order

Chairman Chaney called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and read the agenda.

Roll Call

Members Present: Bocek, Papapetru, Cundiff, Chaney, and Laabs.

Others Present: VSO Robert Koplien

Approve Agenda

Motion by Laabs to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Cundiff, all present voting AYE.

Motion carried

Approve Minutes of the March 23rd 2017 Meeting

Motion by Laabs to approve minutes of the March 23rd 2017 meeting, seconded by Bocek, all present voting AYE.

Motion carried

Veterans Benefits Expo Info from April 21st

VSO explained that a rough estimate of 350 Veterans attended the expo in Rhinelander. VSO explained that in the future this expo will be done every other year and that a shuttle will be arranged from Forest Co to transport area veterans to the expo on that date.

WDVA Reimbursement Grant Update

VSO reports that the reimbursement grant will be returned to the original style block grant. VSO explained the WDVA is still working on the final format for applications but ultimately will be able to possibly receive the max grant of \$8500.00 without showing proof of expenses.

Wisconsin Remembers Memorial Wall July 2017

VSO reports that this Wisconsin Remembers Exhibit will be in Forest County (Wabeno July 8th -9th American Legion Post 44 & Crandon July 29th American Legion Post 94) VSO explains that this is to put a face to every name listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington D.C.

Forest County Web Page Update

VSO explained that the Forest County Veterans Office / Department now has clickable benefit links on the website. VSO advises that those links will take you to state & federal benefit sites depending on what is being researched.

Military / Veterans Family Day / Milwaukee Zoo – July 2nd

VSO explained that every year he receives free Zoo admission tickets and parking passes for active Military / Veterans for July 2nd VSO reports that the tickets are required for entry and will be available for immediate family only, with a limit of 10 tickets per family.

The Higher Ground Veteran Tour- Neillsville Idea

VOS reports wanting to possibly take a bus of Forest County Veterans down to The Higher Ground Veteran Memorial in Neillsville. The VSO explained that Pitts Bus Service quoted a Coach Bus with a max capacity of 47 at \$800.00 & a Mini Bus with a max capacity of 20 at \$600.00. VSO reports that his budget could handle either costs and would like to possible do this as an annual event depending on the interest. VSO explained it's about 300 miles' round trip to Neillsville and believes that this idea will promote veteran comradeship.

Approve The Higher Ground Veteran Tour and transport costs

Motion by Cheney to approve The Higher Ground Veteran Tour in Neillsville on Friday August 4th 2017, seconded by Laabs, all present voting AYE.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Motion by Laabs to adjourn, seconded by Cundiff, all present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.