

Meeting - Veteran's Service Committee & Commission Minutes

Committee: Veteran's Service Committee & Commission

Date: Thursday December 21st 2023

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Place: County Board Room #107

Call to Order

Chairman Chaney called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and read the agenda.

Roll Call

Members Present: Chaney, Skallerud, Alsteen, Bocek, Spaude, Thornton & Papapetru

Others Present: VSO Robert Koplien

Approve Agenda

Motion by Skallerud to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Thornton, all present voting AYE.

Motion carried

Approve Minutes of prior meeting

Motion by Thornton, to approve minutes of the Wednesday June 28th 2023 meeting, seconded by Skallerud, all present voting AYE.

Motion carried

ADRC Booth

VSO reports that on Wednesday July 19th he set up and occupied a Veterans Services information booth at the ADRC Aging and Disability Resource Center for an Open House & Info Fair. VSO states he was present from 10-2 and networked with numerous other local resource vendors.

VAMC TOWN HALL

VSO reports that on Wednesday October 10th 2023 he set up and occupied a Veterans Services information booth at Crandon City Hall for a Caregiver Connect Info Fair. VSO states he was present from 10-2 and networked with numerous other local resource vendors.

Caregiver Connect Booth

VSO reports that on Thursday November 2nd 2023 he set up and occupied a Veterans Services information booth at Crandon City Hall for a Caregiver Connect Info Fair. VSO states he was present from 10-2 and networked with numerous other local resource vendors.

WDVA Grant Increase

VSO reports that the annual grant of \$9350 he applies for from the WDVA Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs will increase to \$11688. VSO explains that the annual grant assists the county as a salary/ wage offset in regards to budget assistance.

WDVA VORP Mental Health Training

VSO states that on December 15th he set and hosted a mental health resource & training session with the Wisconsin Department of Veteran Affairs Outreach & Recovery Program Coordinator Todd Marks & Wisconsin Department of Veteran Affairs Clinical Coordinator Josh Andreini. VSO states that approximately thirty-eight Forest County Sheriff's Department staff attended. VSO reports that this training provided was presenting about what resources are available for veterans regarding housing/homeless, medical/mental healthcare, nursing care, and the breakdown of the responsibilities of the different levels of Veterans Affairs (county, state, federal). VSO also states that a clinician talked about Trauma Informed Care when speaking to veterans.

Donation Update

VSO reports that he's received another donation from a local veteran (KW) in the amount of \$200. VSO explains that all of these donations are deposited into a non-lapse account that he uses to assist needy veterans, dependents and survivors. VSO states he recently purchased gas cards from Lotter's BP & Stone Lake C-Store in the combined amount of \$1000.00 VSO report that the account balance is \$1348.63.

Public Comments

VFW Post Commander Thornton advises of Oscar G Johnson Medical Center Children's Christmas 2023 which is a special project of gathering of gathering funds for Christmas gifts for children of needy veterans from Northern WI and Upper Michigan. Thornton advises that the VFW Laona Post 5233 donated five hundred dollars to this and he wanted to pass along the need to other organizations in case they also want to donate as well.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Motion by Thornton to adjourn, seconded by Alsteen, all present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.