

Veterans Committee Minutes
November 6, 2017 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Mo Wright; Supervisors Preston Allen, Phil Barrett, Dan Pemrick, Jon Schopf, Matt Veitch, Tom Wood and Chairman of the Board Ed Kinowski; Spencer Hellwig, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Frank McClement, Veterans; Press.

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Wood, the minutes of the October 3, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. McClement distributed copies of his monthly report and gave a brief update. Mr. McClement said that they had a presentation at Coburg Village on 10/4 in collaboration with Supervisor Barrett, a lot of follow up phone calls were received from that event. The Veterans Assistance Night was held at the Saratoga City Center on 10/11 and they participated in the Malta Veterans Brunch on 10/13.

The van provided transportation for 153 in October. The balance as of the end of October in the trust fund was \$48,824.97. This figure does not include a significant amount of activity in the past week from the Revolutionary Run held on 11/4.

Mr. McClement said that the Tuesday coffee night at Saratoga Coffee traders is very successful. Through the Peer to Peer program, the agency covers the cost of coffee and food for those that attend. Saratoga Coffee Traders gives the agency a 50% discount on all purchases that night.

Mr. McClement said that for the past several Thursday evenings, they hosted the Stephan Wolfert Seminar, their final performance event was on 10/26 and was very successful with each participant performing their own written performance work. Mr. Wolfert also organized a go fund me event which provided each participant with a \$100 stipend to help cover fuel and transportation costs.

For the honor our Deceased Veterans event, November will be for Arthur L. DeVoe from the Town of Halfmoon. December - Mark. L. Wilde from the Town of Galway, January - Jeffrey T. Clark from the Town of Northumberland. February 2018 will honor a veteran from the Town of Edinburg.

Mr. McClement said that they have seen an increase in people stopping by the new office. News coverage of the ribbon cutting and grand opening helped spread awareness of the office. The signage for the building is road sign material and shows up well during the evening hours.

A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Allen, to amend the Rules and Regulations of the Saratoga County Veterans Trust and Agency Fund. Unanimous.

Mr. Wright said that these changes have been discussed for a few months now. Mr. McClement and Mr. Dorsey distributed drafts of the proposed changes to the rules and regulations. Changes include definitions, increase in grant eligibility amounts and further defining acceptable uses and process for disbursement. Mr. Dorsey said that the original rules and regulations were approved by a resolution of the Board of Supervisors and therefore a resolution is needed to make an amendment.

Mr. McClement distributed a memo from County Clerk Craig Hayner inviting all Supervisors to an event at the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Library scheduled for 10am on Thursday November 9. The memo was also emailed to all Supervisors earlier today. The event will feature new enhancements to the Veterans FAVOR discount program and will also highlight the Veterans Office, Peer to Peer Program and Honor our Deceased Veterans Program.

Mr. Barrett congratulated Mr. McClement and his team on a successful event held on November 4. Mr. McClement said that for future races he would like to see more teams participate which would hopefully increase the number of participants.

On a motion was made by Mr. Pemrick, seconded by Mr. Schopf, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board