

THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF THE 3/27/12 MEETING

The meeting convened at 1:00 pm.

Those attending: Mary Albert, Jan Banks, Allison Bond, Andrew Clark, Debra Collington, Karl Katterjohn, Ron Kennedy, Mike Lathrop, Richard Leatherman, Josh O'Conner, Michael Reich, Gayle Sovinee; Kenneth Vasilik

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Introductions were made by the attendees.

Motion made, seconded and passed that the February meeting minutes be accepted

Treasurer's Report: No changes

Old Business

Memorial Day 2012: Josh, Allison, Andy and Ken reported that action planning continues to move forward. People on proposed agenda will be contacted to verify scheduling. The event is scheduled to occur May 28@3:00 at Pack Square Plaza. Josh reported that Weaverville town is planning to host an event that day as well.

Committee Restructuring: Josh reported having discussed with the Mayor the committee be partnered with an existing city or county office possible Parks and Recreation as an advisory board. Current membership would remain unchanged. We are awaiting Mayors approval of the Bylaws and planning. Josh will follow up with the Mayor. Motion made, seconded and passes to discuss committee members interest for chair, vice chair, secretary and treasurer at April meeting and to continue current members in their positions. The appointments are from May 2012 through April 2013.

Dogs and PTSD Treatment: There are programs available to veterans needing dogs as part of treatment for PTSD. One web link is vimeo.com/37335768 Also Disabled American Veterans NCO2 Fox Hole Buddies contact person is Vennie 845-709-3399.

VA Coffee Cart: Jan reported being told that donations made to the coffee cart are not permitted to be used to purchase coffee and supplies. This policy is seen as a barrier to helping to maintain this needed free service to veterans coming to

the VAMC. A motion was made, seconded and passed to ask John Mitchell to begin the process of attempting to amend this policy to allow for donations made to support this service to veterans.

Bele Chere: Gayle is awaiting verification that we will be located at the Battery Park lot. She is accepting new materials and is anticipating having 2012 Veteran Benefits available to hand out.

New Business

2012 Budget Expenditures: May 1 is the dead line for all budget expenditures.

Meeting attendance: Josh plans to contact any current members that have not been able to attend meetings scheduled since October 2011.

Announcements, Comments and Closing

Andy Clark announced that Square Foot Ministries has a lot available to build a home for a disabled veteran from OIF/OEF conflict.

Captain Lathrop announced an introduction to TRI Care event being held at down town library in Asheville this Saturday from 11-2:00.

Michael Reich reported that the Veterans Quarters will be transporting veterans to the welcome home event being held in Charlotte this coming Saturday.

Gayle Sovinee reported that the Mayor and Director for the VAMC attended the Helios Warriors open house . The organization is seeking some clerical support.

Alyce Knaflich announced that the Buncombe Co. Veterans Council is hosting a dinner on April 12@6:00pm at the 851 Haywood Road American Legion Post.

Jan Banks reported that the Honor and Remember Flag was recognized in the state of Oklahoma.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 24@1pm at the Recreation Division Office 72 Gashes Creek Road.