

THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF THE 5/22/12 MEETING

The meeting convened at 1:00 pm.

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

Guests: Sue Bennett, Roger Canthorn, Michael Sanders, Dustin Thompson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Introductions were made by the attendees.

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

Treasurer's Report: Ron Kennedy reported on budget expenditures as follows:

- Printing of Memorial Day programs and flags \$171.00
- Banners with military seals \$200.00
- Certificate for Bill Stanley \$13.99
- Badges for members \$50.00

Total FY expenditures are \$654.00 with a remaining balance of \$346.00.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the new reimbursement form.

Guest introduction: Michael Sanders Financial Advisor spoke about Edward Jones FORCES Program that provides certain new financial advisors, including those transitioning from military service, a comprehensive training and on-boarding program to help ensure a successful start in a career helping individual investors reach their financial goals. Further information about the FORCES program is available on www.edwardjones.com web site.

Old Business

Memorial Day 2012: Josh, Allison and Ken reported that action planning continues to move forward. The MC will be Bill Stanley. USS Asheville PG-21 history will be presented by Ken Vasilik. Veterans Quarters will be providing cooler, water and ice. Parks and Recreation is scheduled to set up at 1:00. A sound system will be provided by Veterans Quarters. The event is scheduled to occur May 28@3:00 at Pack Square Plaza. The program was reviewed by the committee. The major is scheduled to attend.

Committee Restructuring: Josh is planning to present restructuring plans to city council and recommend approval of the Bylaws.

Bele Chere: Gayle provided the committee with a Bele Chere table policy for review as follows:

1. Information will only be accepted from organizations whose representative provides volunteers for the Bele Chere booth or at the Committee's request.
2. The information must be from an established 501(c)3 organization.
3. Information must be focused on issues specific to veterans or their families.
4. Information should focus on services provided to veterans rather than political advocacy or political stances.
5. Information shall not advertise items for sale or services for hire, but should instead represent efforts by non-profits and government agencies to provide assistance to veterans.
6. Brochures and paper materials must be less than 5 years old and must pertain to policies, programs and events which are still in effect.
7. Solicitation of funds is not permitted or sale of items or service is not permitted in the booth.
8. The Committee reserves the right to limit or prohibit information presented at the booth.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the policy and a potential \$50.00 dollar booth lot expenditure for FY 2013 budget.

A volunteer sign up schedule was passed around to the members.

New Business

Lana Greer has requested to be moved into an inactive membership status.

Job Opportunities:

- Double Tree Hotels is seeking qualified veterans to fill positions. For further information contact Josh
- Josh requested that we begin developing an information sheet about community agencies working with veterans on job training and employment placement. This could be given to perspective employers seeking to hire veterans.
- www.employerpartnership.org was identified as a website that assists services members with locating employment.

Announcements, Comments and Closing

Jan announced that the American Mighty Warriors is offering a free week of camping for families of services members near Dallas Texas. The email address is Americasmightywarriors@gmail.com

Josh provided members with Oakley Farmers Market flyer. Their website is www.oakleyfarmersmarket.com

Sue Bennett provided information about Army Strong Community Center in Brevard which provides community resources to soldiers and their family. Their website is www.arfp.org

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 26@1pm at the Recreation Division Office 72 Gashes Creek Road.