

Veterans' Committee Minutes

April 7, 2008 – 4:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Barrett; Supervisors Jenkins, Lucia, Sausville and Wright; Spencer Hellwig, Mgmt. Analyst.

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

On a motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Sausville to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2008 meeting. Unanimous.

Mr. Mitchell said he has had many phone calls from Veterans inquiring about how they would apply for the Cold War Veterans Tax Exemption. It passed on the State level and then it is passed on to the municipalities. Each municipality has the option to buy into the program. He explained that Cold War means, peace time Veterans that were not in during the war time period. Right now on a countywide basis, there are approximately 7,000 veteran's exemptions. There are approximately 19,000 veterans in Saratoga County, with 7,000 on the war time tax. There would be 12,000 veterans able to apply for the cold war veteran's exemption countywide. Municipalities, should they decide to offer the exemption can either opt for a 10% reduction on the assessed value or with the alternative exemption of a 15% reduction on the assessed value.

Mr. Mitchell said he has spoken to Ms. Holley from Real Property and at the next Veterans meeting she will have more information.

Ms. Ciulla said there are no issues with any of the float requests that have been received. A request for the float has been made through the Town of Saratoga for the American Legion Statewide Convention on July 18th

A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Sausville to approve the County Veterans' Float request for the American Legion Statewide Convention on July 18th. Unanimous.

Ms. Ciulla gave a brief overview of the Event Details for the United States Army Field Band Concert to be held at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center on September 20, 2008, with Fireworks presented at the end of the concert by Alonzo's.

Tickets will be mailed to Veterans throughout the county along with distributions to all Town, Village and City Halls, and Stewart's shops.

Ms. Ciulla suggested including vendors from the Veterans' Assistant Night event that is held every other year at the SPAC Concert.

Mr. Mitchell said he would form a list of interested vendors to Ms. Ciulla before the next Veterans' meeting.

Mr. Mitchell said the county would be honoring five Dougherty brothers from the Town of Corinth during the Deceased Veterans' Program for April.

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Jenkins the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom