

Veterans Committee Minutes  
August 13, 2018 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Mo Wright; Supervisors Phil Barrett, Tara Gaston, Vince DeLucia, Dan Pemrick, Michael Smith, Kevin Tollisen and Chairman of the Board Ed Kinowski; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Frank McClement, Veterans; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Press.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Pemrick, the minutes of the July 9, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. Wright welcomed Supervisor Michael Smith from the Town of Galway to the Committee.

Mr. McClement distributed copies of the Veterans Service Agency Report and gave a brief overview. There were 38 claims assembled and submitted for July. DSS referrals are up. They participated in the Saratoga County Fair in July. There were 136 van transportation rides provided for July. Mr. McClement stated that the van transportation rides are provided for medical appointments at the VA only. The balance on hand for the Veterans Trust Fund is \$55,379.90. Peer to Peer program had several events in July, coffee night at Saratoga Traders is proving to remain successful, other events include Rodeo night, PJ BBQSA Bike night, Mediation Matters training, Shakespeare in the Park and Cry Havoc with Stefan Wolpert.

The honor our Deceased Veteran upcoming months are scheduled as follows:

August 2018 – City of Mechanicville – Stephen Dennis US Navy 1941-1945

September 2018 – Town of Corinth – Otto Clark

October 2018 – Town of Waterford – TBD

November 2018 – Town of Moreau - TBD

December 2018 – Town of Providence - TBD

Mr. Wright said that posters and tickets for the upcoming veterans concert on Labor Day were distributed to all Town and City Halls. If additional posters or tickets are needed they are available at the Board of Supervisors or Veterans Office. Mr. McClement said that the Navy has agreed to send volunteers to help with ushering duties. Mr. McClement said that a social media timeline and plan has been developed with Gramercy Communications. There have been responses from agencies and County Departments for informational tables. Mr. McClement is working with the Sheriff Department to get their color guard to open the event. Mr. Wright said that there will also be a need for volunteers to work the gates and hand out programs for the concert. Supervisors and Department heads are encouraged to sign up to volunteer. Gates open at noon and the concert begins at 2pm.

**A motion was made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. DeLucia, to designate Saratoga County as a Purple Heart County. Unanimous.**

Mr. Tollisen said that the Purple Heart is the oldest military medal offered by our Nation's Military. The medal is awarded to those who have been wounded in battle or killed in action. The Town of Halfmoon was designated a Purple Heart town approximately four years ago and he distributed a copy of the resolution. Mr. Tollisen said that the Town of Malta has also been designated a Purple Heart Town. Mr. Tollisen and Mr. DeLucia recently partnered together for a Purple Heart Ceremony at the Town of Halfmoon Veterans Memorial. Mr. Tollisen said that this designation would be a good thing for the County. Signs could be purchased for to proudly proclaim the designation. Mr. Wright said that an unveiling of the sign could be done at the Labor Day Concert. Mr. McClement distributed photographs of the Towns of Halfmoon and Malta signs. Mr. Tollisen said that Mr. Wallingford can attend an upcoming agenda or board meeting to present the proposal.

Mr. Wright said that the Veterans Display Case is almost completed and it is hoped that it will be completed in time for the Honor the Deceased veteran event for Steve Dennis.

**On a motion was made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mr. Barrett, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Therese Connolly  
Deputy Clerk of the Board