

Veterans' Committee Minutes
August 6, 2012 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman M. Johnson; Supervisors Rowland, Lucia, Wright, Yepsen, Wood, Southworth, and Collyer; Gene Corsale, Veteran Volunteer; Andrew Davis, Frank McClement, Veterans Agency; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Rowland the minutes of the July 2, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Davis said the Mechanicville WWII Ceremony will be taking place on Saturday, August 11th at the Mechanicville High School Auditorium. The ceremony will begin at 2:00 p.m. with 53 Veterans recognized. A Saratoga County WWII Medal will be presented to any family members present, as well as a photo of the County Monument with all the Deceased Veterans names on it, highlighting the Veterans from Mechanicville.

Mrs. Johnson asked that directions to the Mechanicville High School be sent to all Supervisors.

Mr. Davis said the Revolutionary Run for Veterans is now available on active.com for registration. He said the link is also on the county website and also with a number of local running clubs, such as Saratoga Striders, etc. Mr. Davis said there are currently three sponsors, with GE and Empire State leading the way. There are different levels of sponsorships based on military awards, he said. A packet explaining the different levels of sponsorships was distributed to all committee members.

Mr. Davis said there is a \$30 on line registration fee for the run and a \$40 fee if registering the day of the race. All proceeds will go to the Veterans Trust Fund. The course has been set, working with Chairman Wood and Mayor Sherman to determine the details of the 3.5 mile course. There are currently 20 runners that have registered on line and GE's promised runners are coming in on paper, he said. The goal at first was 150 runners and has now been increased to 1,000, which will provide approximately \$30,000 to the fund.

Mr. Davis said they are in need of 100 volunteers and every volunteer will receive a T-shirt that signifies they are a volunteer. There are volunteer registrations forms available through the Veterans Office and also on-line registration at active.com. Currently there are 30 registered volunteers.

Mr. Davis requested a resolution authorizing the Treasurer to pay the expenses of the Run out of the registration money deposited into the Veterans Trust Fund.

A motion was made by Mr. Wright, seconded by Mr. Rowland to authorize the Treasurer to pay the expenses of the Run out of the registration money deposited into the Trust Fund. Unanimous.

Mr. Davis said the Veterans Agency has been reintroduced by Senator McDonald and Senator Zeldin in the last two weeks to release \$200,000 for the Peer to Peer support program. The official name from the NYS Senate Mental Health Committee is the PFC Joseph Dwyer Veteran Peer to Peer Support Pilot Program. Mr. Dwyer was an IRAQ Veteran from Long Island. The idea is that four counties including Jefferson, Saratoga, Rensselaer and Suffolk will receive \$200,000 each for the next two years to implement a Peer to Peer support program within the county with the future hopes that there are monies to do it statewide in every county.

Mr. Moore gave a brief update on the Veterans' Memorial Bridge signs stating that Senator McDonald's office is going to put the county in touch with a representative at the Department of Transportation who can walk through the details as to what the counties responsibilities would be with painting the signs and when they can be expected, in order to move forward with scheduling a dedication.

Mr. Lucia said the Town of Corinth is planning a candlelight vigil on Veterans Day in the evening at Town Hall honoring all personnel currently in the service.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom