

Veterans Committee Minutes
December 3, 2012 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman M. Johnson; Supervisors Kinowski, Lucia, Hargrave, Wright, and Collyer; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Andy Davis, Frank McClement, Veterans Agency; Press.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the minutes of the November 5, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Davis thanked all those who volunteered to help with the Veterans Run. He said there was \$4,000 raised through sponsorships, \$2,500 in runner registrations for a total of \$6,500 raised with approximately \$3,500 in expenses.

Mr. Davis said after all deposits were made the trust fund balance is \$7,721.

Mr. Davis said it has been a month since the Van changes to three days a week and we are now running at 90% or better for daily rider rates. Before the change the rider rates were approximately 40% to 50% full.

Mr. Davis said there was an anonymous donation received in the mail approximately two weeks ago of \$500 to be given to Veterans who were impacted by Hurricane Sandy. Mr. Davis said he found a Veteran, Andrew Carro from Staten Island who had just bought a home approximately a month before the hurricane hit for his wife and two month old child. Mr. Carro has spent two tours in Iraq and lost everything in the hurricane. Mr. Davis is requesting that the \$500 donation be sent to Mr. Carro.

A motion was made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Lucia to approve giving a \$500 anonymous donation to Andrew Carro, a two time Iraq Veteran from Staten Island. Unanimous.

Mr. Davis said there is a hearing taking place on Wednesday that he would like to attend and may speak at the State Assembly. This is an oversight public hearing on the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs and its relationship with the county and City Veterans Service Agencies. There is a movement amongst the County Veterans Service Officers Association to redefine how the State division operates.

Mr. Davis said he would like to go to see what they have to say and also to talk about the partnership Saratoga County has had with the State division, which has been positive.

Mr. Davis said the Peer to Peer Program was approved by the Board of Supervisors at the November Board Meeting and the first event is now being planned. The first training event for mentors is scheduled for January 11, 2013 at Empire State College. Mr. Davis said there are ten people who have volunteered to become mentors thus far. He said the goal at the end of the day is to have mentors that are certified to operate within the program. Mr. Davis said all Supervisors are invited to attend. A program outline was distributed to all committee members.

Mr. Davis announced that a Saratoga County Marine from Mechanicville was recently killed in the war in Afghanistan.

Mr. Davis said his office has received the first vetted applicant for the trust fund. He said after reading the resolution it states that the subcommittee has to meet before the Veterans Committee votes to approve. Mr. Davis said the applicants that will apply are people who are looking for a resolution very quickly because they are in an emergency situation.

On a motion made by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Wright the committee adjourned for a recess for a meeting of the subcommittee.

On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the meeting was reopened to regular session. Unanimous.

Mrs. Johnson said the subcommittee has made a recommendation to pay \$500 from the Veterans Trust Fund to an applicant.

A motion was made by Mrs. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Kinowski to grant \$500 from the Veterans Trust Fund to an applicant. Unanimous.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom