

Veterans Committee Minutes
March 4, 2013 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman M. Johnson; Supervisors Collyer, Hargrave, Lucia, Southworth, and Veitch; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Amy Hughes, Peer to Peer Program Coordinator.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Collyer the minutes of the February 4, 2013 meeting were approved unanimously.

Ms. Hughes gave a brief update on the Peer to Peer Program as follows: Thus far there are eight trained mentors, with the first training session on January 11, 2013, with three more mentors scheduled for training. There were two applicants for mentee's, both in transition, just coming out of the military, but unfortunately they both left town, she said.

Ms. Hughes said she has sent letters to all the Synagogues, and service organizations, amounting to approximately 200 letters, asking them to be aware. A press release was also sent to a number of newspapers and TV stations.

Mrs. Johnson asked that Mr. Moore take charge to see that the Peer to Peer Program is put on the County website. Ms. Hughes said she has also developed a Facebook page.

Mrs. Southworth asked Ms. Hughes to send all committee members, a copy of the press release via email so it could be put on Town websites and in Town Hall.

Ms. Hughes said the preference is combat and the goal is PTSC or PTSC symptoms, and veterans having troubling re-acclimating to civilian life.

Ms. Hughes said April 12th will be the next training session for mentors with a goal to have quarterly refresher training for the current mentors to keep them up to date. The office is located at the Veterans Service Office.

Ms. Hughes said there will be an evening event on June 13th where some of the local law enforcement will be invited to a media event working with the Military Museum and University College.

Ms. Hughes said she is scheduled to speak at the Aging and Disability Network in March in another effort to network and get the word out. She said work is in progress to arrange a date to speak to MOAA, which is the Military Officers Association of America to be held in Rexford.

Ms. Hughes said she will continue to look for mentors even though at this time she has no mentees. Mrs. Southworth said when she went to the volunteer expo that Ballston Spa had,

the VFW and the Elks Club were very interested in the information they were given about the Peer to Peer program. She suggested that Ms. Hughes contact them as they felt they may have people interested in being mentors.

Mrs. Johnson reported that the balance in the Veterans Trust Fund remains at the same balance as last month of \$5,458.55.

Mrs. Johnson said a new Veterans Director, Felipe Moon, a retired Major in the Army, has been selected by the Personnel Committee.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom