

VETERANS' COMMITTEE MEETING

April 12, 2006 – 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Lucia; Supervisors Hunter, Raymond, Richardson, Sausville, Trottier; Wood; Bob Mitchell, Veterans Service Agency; Kate Jeanson, Publication Specialist; Tom Harris, Employment & Training; Gene Corsale, Veterans' Volunteer; Steve Williams, Daily Gazette

Chairman Lucia called the meeting to order.

Ms. Raymond moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 6, 2005. Mr. Trottier seconded. Unanimous.

Mr. Trottier stated the Vietnam Veterans' Moving Wall Subcommittee just met. He stated it will be at the Shenentaha Park in Malta June 8 – 12, with the opening ceremonies starting at 6pm. He said Chairman Lucia has the budget for this. The biggest thing is getting the word out for volunteers, he said. He stated he has done a few radio shows with Bob Mitchell on this. He stated volunteers will read names, find names, name rubbings, assisting the handicapped, etc.

Chairman Lucia said Kate Jeanson has sent each Supervisor some literature on this. Please check with your veterans' posts for volunteers, he said. He stated news articles, radio programs and the web site all helps. Mr. Trottier said he will give another reminder at the end of next week.

Chairman Lucia thanked Kate and the Subcommittee for all of the work involved in this.

The budget for the Moving Wall event was distributed to the Committee. **Mr. Richardson moved to approve this budget (\$34,000). Mr. Sausville seconded. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Jeanson stated there are going to be things to be added to this budget. Ms. Raymond said she thought \$50,000 was going to be spent. Mr. Trottier stated this is preliminary. Mrs. Jeanson stated we will need to rent port-a-johns, etc. Chairman Lucia said if the budget goes over \$50,000, it will have to come back to Committee.

Chairman Lucia said we will need signage put up to direct people to the Park.

Mr. Trottier said this is all coming together. The next big thing is advertising, he added.

Chairman Lucia said Kate has the job of coordinating where the Veterans' Float will be. He said we do have a Veterans' Float Reservation and Use Policy. This year, two municipalities put in for the same date, and that has happened in the past, but a lottery draw was done, he said. Last year, two towns had put in for the same day, but one parade was in the morning, and the other was in the evening, he stated. He stated we have to add to our policy that if there is a duplicate date/time request for the Float, there will be a lottery draw, and after that, every other year to the municipalities involved. Mrs. Jeanson said it has happened so many times that one or more of the towns stopped putting requests in because they assumed they would not get it. She stated certain towns have parades on the same night. Ms. Raymond said there should be language that stated if you have had the Float before on the same date and time, they will go to the back of the line since they have had it already. Those communities should take turns, she said. Consideration will be given to the community that has not had it most recently, she said. Mrs. Jeanson pointed out the Float is only available May through October. She said the form states the reservation has to be in by April 1st. **Ms. Raymond moved to amend the policy based on the above discussion. Mr. Trottier seconded. Unanimous.**

Mr. Mitchell said on Tuesday, April 18th, we will honor Nathan Brown who was killed in Iraq two years ago.

Ms. Raymond advised the new Supervisors that there is a Saratoga County Veterans' Monument at the Saratoga National Cemetery for veterans from Saratoga County who were killed in service, and Nathan Brown's name was added to that.

On a motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Ms. Raymond, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann