

“Unapproved”
Veterans’ Committee Minutes
November 7, 2011 – 2:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman MaryAnn Johnson; Supervisors Collyer, Lucia, Wright, Yepsen, Southworth, Wood; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Andrew Davis, Veterans Director.

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

On a motion made by Ms. Yepsen, seconded by Mr. Lucia the minutes of the October 12, 2011 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mrs. Johnson said she would schedule a meeting with the Veterans’ subcommittee members to discuss concerns with regard to the Veterans Trust Fund. She said the current balance in the fund is \$795.

Mr. Davis distributed a handout with regard to the Demographics of the Veterans Population and Agency Customers; work that has been done on behalf of the clients; and the Federal expenditures in Saratoga County on behalf of Veterans.

Mr. Davis said as of September 1, 2011 there were 22,234,242 Veterans residing in the United States. There are 913,489 Veterans living in New York, with 16,870 living in Saratoga County. Saratoga County’s ranking in New York is 16 out of 62.

Mr. Davis said between June 2010 and September of 2011 the Veterans Office in Saratoga County has served 6,769 Veterans in some capacity.

Mr. Davis said the fiscal impact on Saratoga County is approximately \$50,275,000 with approximately 27% of that spent on healthcare for County Veterans. The money is spent on disability compensation, pensions, education and healthcare. Additional monies are spent on home loan guarantees, home modifications and vocational rehabilitation benefits.

Mrs. Johnson announced that there have been 2,000 favor cards distributed and the program continues to do well.

Mr. Lucia said a gentleman from his town wanted to thank the County for administering the Favor Program. He said in the short time that he has used his card he has saved \$683.

Mrs. Johnson asked Mr. Wood if new businesses continue to be added? Mr. Wood said, yes, the Veterans’ themselves are one of the strong promoters with 230 businesses currently participating in the program.

Mr. Davis said there have been 1,873 additional requests for favor cards from people who did not have their discharge papers and have been helped through the Veterans’ Office.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom