

VETERANS COMMITTEE

May 9, 2016

Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Chairman Phil Barrett; Supervisors Preston Allen, Gardner Congdon, Dick Lucia, Dan Pemrick, Peter Martin and Chairman of the Board Mo Wright; Spencer Hellwig, County Administrator; Frank McClement, Veteran's Director; Phil Barrett, Jr.; Press.

Mr. Barrett called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

On a motion by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Pemrick the minutes of the April 4, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.

Mr. McClement distributed copies of his Veterans Service Agency's Monthly Report. The Veterans Office was busy in April with many events. He highlighted that his office did participate in Yellow Ribbon Day in the Town of Halfmoon which raises a lot of awareness for active service members and veteran's causes. The American Legion National Commander was in Saratoga Springs and he did attend the event the Commander was at. Mr. McClement said he attended an event hosted by Senator Marchione regarding the Moving Wall coming to the Town of Halfmoon. It will be on display the first weekend in June.

Mr. McClement said the transportation program has been running smoothly with 102 rides being provided in the month of April. The Veterans Trust Fund balance is \$40,506.53 and it continues to grow. He spoke about the May 19th Peer to Peer event to be held at the Universal Preservation Hall in Saratoga Springs. He gave the details about this event and hopes Supervisors will be able to attend. Tickets are available online.

Mr. McClement said when Mr. Wright was Chairman of the Veterans' Committee he asked that a schedule be sent out naming what municipality would be assigned to which month. This would give Supervisors the opportunity to see which month was theirs, chose the honoree and then get the information to the Veterans Office quicker. The Town of Edinburg will be honoring a deceased veteran in May for the first time in a few years. The Town of Day will be in June, Town of Wilton in July and the Town of Saratoga will be August.

Mr. Barrett said this year is SPAC's 50th Anniversary and congratulated SPAC on that accomplishment. He has secured Labor Day, September 5th for the concert. He is looking at a 2pm concert start time with the gates opening at Noon. Mr. Barrett said he is extremely excited about the prospect of hosting the Naval Northeast Band. The event will be a little different this year as this band has a ceremonial band as well as a soft rock band. Each will perform separately and at the end of the show will be performing together. Mr. Barrett said he hopes to have the tickets available within the next month or so. He will also get the word out with a press release. Mr. Pemrick asked if this was a free event why tickets are required. Mr. Barrett said it was more for organization purposes as well as keeping a count for the band. He said once the tickets are out it also helps with promoting of the concert. Mr. Barrett hopes the attendance will be at least 5,000. Mr. McClement said he will be promoting the Peer to Peer Program as funding for that program will be used to cover the cost of the concert. Mr. Barrett said this band will appeal to a large cross section of demographics. He said there are many details to be worked out and they will be looking for volunteers for that day. Mr. Barrett thanked Mr. McClement for speaking with the band and securing them for the concert.

Mr. Barrett said he had the honor of being invited to be the key note speaker at the Korean War Veterans Annual Convention at Longfellows. He spoke on the many programs offered by the Veterans Office and the County. He spoke about the Korean War as well as the veterans today and the challenges they face.

On a motion by Mr. Allen, seconded by Mr. Pemrick, the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Wright
Clerk of the Board