

Veterans Committee Minutes  
November 7, 2016 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Phil Barrett; Supervisors Preston Allen, John Collyer, Ed Kinowski, Dick Lucia, Dan Pemrick, Matt Veitch and Chairman of the Board Mo Wright; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Tina Potter, DSS; Frank McClement, Veterans.

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

**On a motion made by Mr. Pemrick, seconded by Mr. Veitch the minutes of the September 14, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. McClement presented the monthly Veteran Service Officer summary report for the month of October. They had 20 new claims assembled and submitted, 21 scheduled appointments, 13 walk in clients, 6 DSS referrals and 5 Medicaid referrals.

The agency participated in several events during October including the Submarine Veterans Highway Dedication, the Malta Veteran Appreciation lunch and the Capital District Senior Housing Options Providers meeting. Amy Hughes and Frank McClement also attended a 2 day Dwyer Conference at SUNY Albany.

The transportation van provided 111 rides for October. They are starting to see the ridership and demand increase. They are also seeing a growing need for home pick up, particularly with dementia patients and older veterans with disabilities.

Mr. McClement said that Amy Hughes does individual training for new mentors of the peer to peer program and once or twice a year conducts a group training event. The most recent group training dinner was held on October 18. Mr. McClement said that Mediation Matters recently recognized and honored the Saratoga County Veterans Department at their annual banquet. Mr. McClement recently did an interview with Look TV promoting the Revolutionary Run. He also organized for Look TV to interview Amy Hughes regarding the Peer Connection program, the interview is available on Look TV's website.

The Veterans trust fund has a balance on hand of \$45,252.38. The November Honor our Deceased Veterans ceremony will be honoring William L. McBride from the City of Mechanicville.

Mr. Barrett said that the Revolutionary 5K Run for Veterans was held on November 5 and was a success. Mr. Barret thanked all who attended. There were 361 registered runners. Mr. McClement gave a brief overview of the sponsorships and donations, final numbers are not finalized at this time. Mr. Barret said that the location was a great setting for the run, he thanked Mayor Sherman and Supervisor Wood for their hospitality.

Mr. Veitch informed the Committee that the City of Saratoga Springs is proposing a resolution to provide a tax exemption for gold star parents. A public hearing has been held but the item has

not been voted upon yet. Mr. Veitch said that this is something he would like the County to consider. He has already brought this up to the Equalization & Assessment Committee and will share more information as he receives it.

**On a motion made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Kinowski the meeting was adjourned unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Therese Connolly  
Legislative Clerk