

Veterans Committee Minutes
February 6, 2017 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Mo Wright; Supervisors Preston Allen, Dan Pemrick, Jon Schopf, Matt Veitch, Tom Wood. Spencer Hellwig, County Administrator; Frank McClement, Veterans.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Wood, the minutes of the December 5, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Wright announced the appointment of Supervisor Wood as the Committee Vice-Chair.

Mr. McClement distributed copies of the Veterans 2016 Annual Report. The Veterans population in Saratoga County has decreased by approximately 200. In 2015, total VA expenditures in Saratoga County was approximately \$80M, with Compensation & Pension and Medical Care topping the expenses at approximately \$38M and \$33M respectively. Mr. McClement reported that the agency has continued to take advantage of as many training opportunities as possible. Mr. McClement said that the rotation for the honor a deceased veteran has been set. The Veterans concert was a successful event with approximately 4,500 in attendance. The annual run was also a successful event. Overall participation was down however funds raised were similar to previous years. For next year, the agency is working on a Veterans Justice Outreach Program with Sheriff Zurlo. They will be hosting an event for this program on March 10, 2017 at the SUNY Adirondack Wilton Campus.

The agency is also working on a Veterans Assistance night. A meeting will be held sometime in April regarding this event.

Mr. McClement said that the Saratoga County Veterans Agency communicate and work with DSS, Aging and Probation in identifying Veterans that need assistance with benefits.

Mr. McClement reported that the Veterans Trust Fund has a balance of \$47,738.48 as of January 2017. The fund has increased approximately \$10,000 since the same month in 2016.

Mr. Wright said that Buildings and Grounds is currently updating the Honor a Deceased Veteran plaques hanging in the Blue Committee Room. Mr. McClement said that the Honor a Deceased Veteran ceremony for February 2017 will be honoring Harry Pruttsman, Town of Moreau. In March the schedule has changed, a Veteran from Clifton Park, James Trainor will be honored. Mr. Wright urged the Supervisors to attend the ceremonies if possible.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board