## Veterans Committee Minutes March 12, 2018 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Mo Wright; Supervisors Preston Allen, Phil Barrett, Vince DeLucia, Dick Lucia and Kevin Tollisen; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Frank McClement, Veterans; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Press.

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

## On a motion made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Lucia, the minutes of the February 12, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. McClement distributed the Veterans Service Agency Report for January and February. Mr. McClement said that they are continuing to see a steady number of walk-ins however the number of referrals from DSS is down. Mr. McClement said that he will be reaching out to DSS to address this. Mr. McClement said that if a person self identifies as a veteran or spouse of a veteran to DSS, it's required by NYS law that they are referred to the local Veterans Agency.

Mr. McClement said that they took part in several events during January and February. The van continues to be strongly utilized. They had to cancel a couple of times due to recent snowstorms, however they do try to wait until the last minute to cancel as the VA hospital does not typically shutdown. The Peer to Peer program remains busy and the Tuesday gatherings at Coffee Traders is very popular.

The honor the Deceased Veteran program is scheduled as follows:

March 2018 – Town of Day – Samuel Johnson – Vietnam

April 2018 - Town of Wilton - James Lant - WWII

Mary 2018 - Town of Saratoga - Joseph Sulli - WWII

June 2018 – Town of Malta – Donald Kramer – KIA WWII

For June 2018, both the Town of Malta and Town of Waterford will honor Mr. Kramer as he was originally from Waterford.

Veterans Trust Fund has a balance of \$55,60.90 as of February 2018. Mr. McClement said that a trust fund grant of \$750 was just facilitated for a veteran for car repair. The recipient was also connected to DSS and VA healthcare for savings on his health care.

Mr. Wright said that Tuesday, March 20, 2018 honor the Deceased Veteran ceremony will be honoring the husband of Mary Ann Johnson, former Supervisor from the Town of Day. Mr. Wright said that he will be emailing the Supervisors to encourage all to attend and show support for a former Supervisor. Mrs. Johnson was also chair of the Veterans Committee for several years.

Mr. Wright distributed flyers for an upcoming event at Halfmoon Town Hall for Yellow Ribbon day. This is an annual event which will be held this year on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 11am and is run by Carol Hotaling the "Yellow Ribbon Lady". They will also be collecting donations for NY 2 Blue Star Mothers of America. Mr. Hayner said that the County Clerk's office have been collecting donations for the past few years for Blue Star Mothers and his office has recently

reached out to all the County Towns and Cities to increase participation. They will provide boxes to gather donations and will organize pick up and drop off.

Mr. Wright said that the Army Field Band has been confirmed for the Monday Labor day concert however they are still waiting to have the date released by Live Nation and confirmed by SPAC. They hope to know by the end of the week.

Mr. Wright said that from the most recent Human Resources & Insurance meeting, a resolution will be passed onto Law & Finance and then hopefully the full Board, to approve waiving civil service fees for honorably discharged veterans.

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

Respectfully submitted, Therese Connolly Deputy Clerk of the Board