

Veterans Committee Minutes
May 9, 2018 – 3:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Mo Wright; Supervisors Preston Allen, Vince DeLucia, Dick Lucia, Dan Pemrick, Tom Richardson, Jonathan Schopf, Kevin Tollisen and Tom Wood; Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Frank McClement, Veterans; Andrew Jarosh, Treasurer.

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

On a motion made by Mr. DeLucia, seconded by Mr. Allen, the minutes of the March 12, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. McClement distributed the monthly Veterans Service Agency Report and gave a brief overview. Some of the events held included a Jail Quarterly meeting, Yellow ribbon day and Transition Assistance Program (TAP). For the quarterly jail meeting, they do an Incarcerated Veterans Program in partnership with the Peer to Peer program, Sheriff's office and Probation. The van provided 121 rides for April. The balance on hand of the Veterans Trust Fund is \$54,858.08. There is one outstanding \$750 grant for a veteran that is in a domestic violence situation and this will help her with the deposit for a new location. The Peer to Peer Tuesdays at Coffee Traders is a very successful event. They are averaging over 20 people a week.

In June the Saratoga County Suicide Prevention Coalition will begin holding their meeting in meeting space at the Veterans office.

The honor our Deceased Veterans program will be honoring Peter and Ardeen DeMarco in May. For June the Town of Malta and Town of Waterford will be jointly honoring Donald J. Cramer, July the Town of Stillwater honoring Mr. Farnan. August will be the Town of Mechanicville and the honoree is TBD.

Mr. Wright said that a working group meeting was held recently for the Labor Day Concert at SPAC. All planning is moving along. Mr. Wright said that as in past years they will be looking for Supervisors to hand out programs and volunteers for various other tasks. Mr. McClement said that representatives from the Band will be sent on June 27 to do a site visit at SPAC and he would like the representatives to also meet with the working group.

Mr. Wright said that he had a discussion with the County Clerk and Mr. McClement. He would like to see a month long display for each Honor the Deceased Vet recipients. Mr. Wright suggested that this can be done in the glass display case by the Clerk's office that currently houses a blanket from the Fair. Mrs. Roberts can remove the blanket and preserve it, and this will provide a space to display the items brought in by the family for the month. Mr. Wright said that Steven Dennis, a WWII veteran that recently passed away, donated a hand drawn map of all the battles in WWII to the county. Mr. Wright said that they will have Buildings & Grounds build a display case for this map.

Mr. Wright said that they had an unofficial request for funds from the Halfmoon VFW for funds to purchase a new flagpole as theirs was damaged in the recent storms. Mr. Wright said that they checked the bylaws and it's a grey area since the trust fund was set up to help individual veterans

and not groups. Mr. Wright wanted to discuss this with the group as an official request has not yet been submitted. It was decided that it would be in the best interest of the Trust Fund to possibly set a limit to requests for groups in the future. Mr. Wright said that he would hate to say no to anyone however granting requests from groups could quickly deplete the funds in the Trust Fund. Mr. Tollisen said that the Town of Halfmoon has never refused requests for funding from this group. Mr. Tollisen said that he will reach out to the group.

Mr. Cooke said that Dr. Prezioso and his daughter will be completing a CrossFit challenge on memorial day. Dr. Prezioso has reached out to all department heads and all donations received will benefit the Saratoga County Veterans Funds. Envelopes can be set aside in each departments and collected by Dr. Prezioso after Memorial Day. Mr. Wright said that he will have the details emailed out to all Supervisors.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Therese Connolly
Deputy Clerk of the Board