

Veterans Committee Minutes  
July 8, 2021 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Richardson; Committee Members Preston Allen, Jack Lawler, Dan Pemrick, Mo Wright, Benny Zlotnick; Ridge Harris, Matt Rose, Audra Hedden, Riley Flint, County Administrator; Michael Hartnett, County Attorney; Frank McClement, Veterans; John Safford.

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

**On a motion by Mr. Pemrick, seconded by Mr. Zlotnick, the minutes of the April 5, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mr. McClement said that the Veterans Office report was distributed with the agenda and gave a brief overview of the report. The office has been taking advantage of several training events at no cost through the NYS Division of Veteran Services. Mr. McClement said that pre-pandemic the van provided approximately 125 rides per month. This year between April and June only 44 rides were provided. As the V.A. begins more programming, they expect an uptick in demand and a move back to the traditional schedule. The Trust fund has a balance on hand of \$98,080.18. In April donations were received via fundraisers held by Sheriff's Deputy Ray Rodriguez Jr. and Dr. Michael Prezioso. If Supervisors have people that can benefit from the Trust Fund, they can reach out to Mr. McClement. The Tuesday's Coffee night at Saratoga Coffee Traders continues to be successful and they are averaging 20 people per night. They have started up a guitar group on Wednesday nights, Woman's walking group on Thursday nights, and have held several other events such as zoom classes, hikes etc.

Mr. Richardson said that they would like to start up the Deceased Veterans Ceremony in November. The schedule would begin where it ended prior to the pandemic. The proposed schedule distributed with the agenda would be modified to accommodate the Town of Day, the 2020 ceremony was postponed due to a snowstorm. Mr. McClement said that an updated schedule will be distributed to all Supervisors.

Mr. McClement said that they would like to move forward with the 5K run for the first Saturday in November. He has sponsorship letters prepared and ready to send out, and have already spoken to entities that have helped in the past. The last event that was held had approximately 1,000 people on site. Mr. McClement said that they have reached out to the Village of Schuylerville and are preparing a special event permit. Mr. Richardson said that the Historic Hudson Hoosick River Partnership Visitor Center was built where the run take place and will make sure center is open for the event.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lawler, seconded by Mr. Wright, to approve the Veterans Grant Applications for the Towns of Saratoga and Milton. Motion passed. Mr. Zlotnick abstained from voting.**

Mr. McClement said that these are the first two applications received to date.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Therese Connolly  
Clerk of the Board