

Veterans Council Minutes

Thursday 7 February 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER: 1900 hrs. with Pledge of Allegiance @ Town Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Frank Curtis, Jack Rayburn, Janine Suchecki, Scott McMillan, Hank Maude, Joe Sweeney, Tom Burbank, Keith Jermyn, Jack Darrow, Joe Gragg, Jay Ippolitto

Excused: MaryAnn Blackmur

Absent:

3. OFFICER REPORTS:

a) Veterans Council 10 January 2019 Meeting Minutes Reviewed: Minutes Approved.

b) TREASURER Report December 2018 (Jack Rayburn): December 2018 financial report presented. Veterans Benefit Fund balance 5,520.03, and Veterans in Need Trust Fund has a balance of \$31,123.89. Report reviewed and was Approved.

c) VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER Report (Keith Jermyn):

1. Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker ordered the US Flag and Commonwealth of Massachusetts flag be lowered to half staff at all state buildings:

* Friday 11 JAN 2019, the day of internment in honor of SFC Eric Emond, a native of Fall River, MA who was killed in Afghanistan.

2. Half Staffing 1

3. NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED: 25 (5 Single Veterans, 12 Surviving Spouses, 4 (8) Couples

Benefits Expended: \$12,570.89 (Ordinary Benefits, Fuel, Doctors, Medications, Hospitals, Dental, Misc)

4. Consolidated Flag Purchase Program 2019:

Purchases - 0

Reimbursements - 0

Points - 0

5. Veteran concerned with number of times Flags are lowered 10 1/2 Staff....feels it's not special anymore.

6. HRC interested in Flagpole at New Hull St. Playground-ongoing.

7. Elderly VETS/widows in need of snow removal VIS SP TEEN group-update.

8. HHS MILAPP2wrestling match success -VAC presented check for \$750 to MASS Military Foundation to support USCG families in our Ao.

9. VC will be picking up tab (440/MO) for Veterans coffee hour @ ToH

10. Hospice of the S. shore is in need of volunteers to visit with patients that are vets...

Lora Wooster, MA LSW

Volunteer coordinator

Hospice of the South Shore

Home & Community Care Division

South Shore Health System

30 Reservoir Park Drive

Rockland, MA 02370

781-624-7255 - direct

lwooster@southshorehealth.org

www.SouthShoreHealth.org

11. Scott Cyr/Senior Sales Engineer/Crane ChemPharma & Energy has donated a few older electronic components to Vets to repurpose. (Laptop, iPad gen3, iPad gen1)

12. Cub Scouts Pack 41 wants to participate in decorating US Graves - May
Steve Collins 617-335-5456.

Correspondence / Other items

d) PAO Report (Janine Suchecki): HHS Veterans Appreciation Club is making a donation of \$750 to Mass Military Foundation on 15 FEB at 1445hrs at HHS.

The Warrant was approved by the Selectmen. No push back is anticipated and will be presented at the Town Meeting for final vote/approval.

The Battle of Grape Island Day initial coordination meeting was held for 2020 Battle of Grape Island Day. Funding line to cover costs for 2020 event was presented and approved. This year costs, 2019, is covered by donations. The event will take place on 19 May 2019 at 1300 hrs at Hingham Harbor. The Battle of Grape Island was the second battle of the Revolutionary War.

There are currently 500 followers on the Hingham Veterans Social Media page.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a) Review and update Veterans Services Calendar of Annual Events for 2019: HHS Sophomore History Field day is 29 April 0755 - 1430 hrs

b) Memorial Day Cemetery Assignments/Principal speaker search: Frank mentioned requesting 3 candidates and Keith mentioned that he requested two candidates. Action is ongoing.

c) American Legion-Update, Commander Scott McMillan: Next meeting scheduled this March. Scott also mentioned that a new video is out on the medal of Honor winner Herbert Foss.

d) Linden Ponds Veterans' Association (LPVA) Update, Hank Maude.

* Linden Ponds Donated \$500. to the US Coast Guard in Boston during to shutdown.

* Linden Ponds coordinated and conducted a Trip to WWII Museum. It was very successful and a second trip is scheduled in the Fall of 2019.

* The Linden Ponds 6 FEB LP Veterans Breakfast successful.

* On 3 Feb Linden Ponds holding the Four Chaplains Memorial Service

* On 18 Feb Linden Ponds scheduled a tour of the GAR hall.

* Linden Ponds has confirmed a Memorial Day speaker Master Chief Petty Officer, USN.

* Hank Maude had a WWII DVD's "A complete History" which will be presented to HHS.

e) VFW Update, Commander Frank Curtis: Next VFW Meeting scheduled in February.

* Made a recommendation to have a rededication ceremony every year to a fallen Hingham Veteran.

This year rededication, scheduled on Flag Day, will honor Herbert F. Loring at the Hingham Central Fire Station flagpole. The flagpole was originally dedicated to him back in the 1940's.

f) Snow shoveling for Veterans in distress. Jack Rayburn - Hingham Students to shovel snow for veterans in distress was put on hold. A recommendation to have Keith Jermyn discuss with the town potential liability issues before making any commitment.

5. COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS / SUGGESTIONS / UPDATES:

a) Frank Curtis mentioned that the two Hingham High School members of the Veterans Appreciation Club enjoyed meeting the Veterans Council members and attending the January Veterans Council Meeting.

b) Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 7 MARCH 2019

MEETING ADJOURNED 2015 hrs

Respectfully submitted – Joe Sweeney