

## Veterans Council Minutes

Thursday 7 MARCH 2019

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

### 2. ROLL CALL:

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

Excused: Frank Curtis, MaryAnn Blackmur

Absent:

Also Present from the Hingham High School Veterans Appreciation Club: Manothini and Reed Schilb

### 3. OFFICER REPORTS:

a) Veterans Council 7 February 2019 Meeting Minutes Reviewed: Minutes Approved.

b) TREASURER Report January 2019 (Jack Rayburn): January 2019 Financial report reviewed and approved.

c) VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER Report (Keith Jermyn):

1. Half Staffing 1/1 Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker ordered the US Flag and Commonwealth of Massachusetts flag be lowered to half staff at all state buildings:  
\*Saturday 9 FEB 2019 as a mark of respect for the memory of United States Representative John David Dingall Jr. of Michigan.
2. The Town of Hingham - BoS; IAW current policy and procedures regarding the death of Town Officials and retirees, have ordered the Official Town Flag (Red) flown at half staff from sunrise to sunset at all Fire Stations and the Town Hall.  
\* Saturday 9 FEB in memory of Edward M. Lewiecki - He served several terms on both the Hingham School Committee and Board of Selectmen, including terms as member and Chair. Ed was an Army combat veteran of WWII, earning several service and campaign medals, and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1981.
3. NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED: 25 (4 Single Veterans, 13 Surviving Spouses, 4 (8) Couples)  
Benefits Expended: \$14,498.43 (Ordinary Benefits, Fuel, Doctors, Medications, Hospitals, Dental, Misc)
4. Consolidated Flag Purchase Program 2019:  
Purchases - \$3732.20  
Reimbursements - 0/ \$734.50  
Points - 154.50
5. CFPP -ToH IS #1 of 25 Reporting.
6. New criteria for MASS Medal of Liberty (KIA)
7. Jarheads Meat raffle @ Whitman VFW (08 MAR / 12 APR / 10 MAY) 1900 - 2200 hrs
8. Welcome Home Vietnam VETS 28 MAR @VAMC-JP Basement Conf. Rm. (1100-1300hrs).

Correspondence / Other items

d) PAO Report (Janine Suchecki):

\* The HHS Veterans Appreciation Club presented a check for \$750 on 15 FEB 2019 to the USCG.

\* Facebook page @ 500 likes.

\* Donation to the Dorothy Galo Scholarship. Dorothy Galo was Superintendent of Hingham Public Schools. Ms. Galo is retiring this year after 55 years of service. The Veterans Council made a motion and approved a donation of \$200 toward the Dorothy Galo scholarship fund.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Review and update Veterans Services Calendar of Annual Events for 2019:
- b) Memorial Day Principal Speaker update: Jay Ippolitto coordinated with Fr. Bill Devine US Navy (Chaplain) and will have an answer if he can support Hingham's Memorial Day ceremony.
- c) American Legion-Update: Commander Scott McMillan: Next Legion Meeting scheduled for 18 MAR.
- d) VFW Update: Commander Frank Curtis: Frank not present. Note made on VFW donation of \$250 for the Battle of Grape Island.
- e) Linden Ponds Veterans' Association (LPVA) Update: Hank Maude.
  - \* First delivery of five meals by Linden Ponds was conducted. LPVA will deliver twice a month.
  - \* Field trip and tour of GAR Hall. Mentioned his Appreciation of Scott McMillan for the tour of the GAR facility
  - \* LPVA visited the WWII Museum in Natick, MA
  - \* LPVA Veterans Luncheon speaker is LTC Chaplain w/33 years service.
  - \* LPVA Memorial Day Speaker is Master Chief, USN
  - \* 31 MAY Hank Maude will change Command of LPVA with Mr. Jack Darrow.
- f) Update/discussion snow shoveling plan for veterans in distress. Need Release of Liability forms required. Discussion to extend to year round support to include assistance with yard work and trash removal.

#### 5. COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS / SUGGESTIONS / UPDATES:

- a) Dedication of Flagpole at the South Fire Department - 14 June 2019. Fire Department had issues with the date; therefore, considering move to Saturday 15 JUN 2019.
- b) Ordered Blue Star Coins and Mary Ann has made phone calls to Blue star families. Blue star coins will be issued to families rather than stickers. Initial reports received from Blue Star families is very positive. MaryAnn is off to a great start.
- c) Hank Maude mentioned that his grandson is graduating from West Point this year and is assigned to Ft. Campbell, KY as a member of the 101 Airborne Division. Hank's other grandson was recently promoted to the rank of Captain.
- d) HHS Veteran Appreciation Club attendee, Reed Schilb, mentioned that he completed the nomination process and was accepted into the USNA.
- e) Hank Maude mentioned his scholarship of \$1000 to a Hingham High School Veterans Appreciation Club member. It was requested that Manothini and Reed (HHS Veterans Appreciation Club attendees at the Council meeting) pass this information on the HHS Veterans Appreciation Club and that they apply for this scholarship.
- f) Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 4 APR 2019

**MEETING ADJOURNED 2015 hrs.**

Respectfully submitted – Joe Sweeney