

WINNEBAGO COUNTY COUNCIL OF VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

DATE: January 11th , 2024 @ 9:30 AM
LOCATION: J.P. Coughlin Building

PRESENT:	Jeff Bucholtz	Joe Miller	Gail Minks	Dave Steinert
	Duane Canon	Mark Mennen	Jon Pylypiv	Diane Steinert
	Alene Helmer	Marissa Mielke	Richard Rettler	Lydia Wilz
	Jim Hoyman	Marissa Mielke	Paul Rhyner	Guest: Mike Hert (DAV)
	Jim Meinke		Roy Rogers	Kyle Newkirk (VA)

1. Call To Order:

Jeff Bucholtz called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance:

Jeff Bucholtz led pledge of allegiance and moment of silence held for Michael Dart; a very active member with the Neenah American Legion.

3. Roll Call/Introductions:

Introductions were made: many new faces in the meeting so we took the time to introduce ourselves.

Guest Speaker's: Mike Hert with DAV Chapter 17 & Kyle Newkirk with the Department of Veterans Affairs

Volunteer Services:

A few years ago DAV chapter 17 joined the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce. This partnership has opened the door to give DAV Chapter 17 the opportunity to start a transportation hub. What this means is that veterans in Oshkosh, Omro and Winnebago are can receive no cost transportation to VA Clinics:

Appleton VA Clinic: Mon/Wed/Fri

Green Bay Clinic: Tue/Thur

Kyle Newkirk brought up how this is a pilot program that they are really hoping will take off as he believes the southern part of Oshkosh and the rural communities are being lost in the original 20 mile radius they are using now. In order for this to work out, the DAV Transportation program really needs volunteer drivers and office staff to make this a success.

If you would like to be a volunteer driver or office personnel, please contact Kyle Newkirk, VA Volunteer Services.

Phone Number: 920-431-2639

Email: Kyle.Newkirk@va.gov

4. Old Business:

- Military Veterans Museum: They are looking for volunteers!
- Still fundraising for the education center.

5. New Business and VA Updates:

Jeff detailed the following handouts:

- Marissa from the VA updated us on the VA Clinic that is opening up in Oconomowoc. She also provided us with prescription disposable bags. They are free via the VA should anyone need any.
- Winnebago County Veterans Services Office is continuing their outreach with Winneconne and will begin their outreach with Omro once the Community Center is open.
- Fox Valley Veterans Council is looking for additional Volunteers to assist with their case management. If you are interested in doing this, please contact them via their contact info on their website.

- FVVC 4th Thursday of the month. American Legion Post 38 in Appleton at 6:00pm.
- Fox Valley Veterans Council is hosting Veterans Prohibition Ball on March 7th, 2024 in Oshkosh Wisconsin. This is one of their biggest fundraising events. If you know of a business that wants to get involved let them know about it. Plans are still getting finalized.

Come dressed like 1920's Guest speaker is

6. Local Community Updates:

- 40&8 and VFW Post 2126 is preparing for their flag initiative. They will begin going into schools starting in March to explain what the flag means. If you are interested in helping with this initiative, please contact one of these posts.
- DAV Chapter 17 has been working with the inmates at the Correctional Facility with providing them volunteer services, they are reaching out the Warming Shelter to fulfill some volunteer needs, and they are getting involved with the Outpost (Oshkosh Public Media).
- DWD is hosting an Apprenticeship via Hire Heroes. This is a 10 week course that assists veterans with gaining industry credentials. At the end of this event there will be employers ready to hire.

7. Upcoming Events:

- 01/25/2024 Omro Auxiliary is doing a presentation with the Damascus Road Project at the Omro Community Center. Doors open at 5:30 and presentation starts at 6:00pm.
- 01/30/2024 Oshkosh Marine Corps League is hosting their Spaghetti Dinner. This is \$10.00 per person or \$5.00 if you are a veteran. There is a Cash Raffle: tickets are \$10.00.
- 02/01/2024 There is a job and internship fair at the Oshkosh Arena from 12:30-3:30. If you sign up you are gifted with a free ticket to the game that night.
- 03/09/2024 DAV is hosting a Veterans Information Seminar. This will take place at the Oshkosh Marine Corps League from 12:30-5:00.
- 03/07/2024 Fox Valley Veterans Council is hosting Veterans Prohibition Ball
- Omro Post 234 is having Monday Night BINGO on the 3rd Monday of the month. There is FREE Parking!

Please see our Winnebago County Veterans Service Office Website for more upcoming events

8. Next Meeting Time, Date and Place:

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held February 8th, 2024 @ 9:30 AM, at the James Coughlin Building; Meeting Room A. We will have a guest speaker at this meeting:

Any new information the office has received will be distributed and discussed. Participation in this meeting is encouraged.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lydia Wilz