

WINNEBAGO COUNTY COUNCIL OF VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

DATE: May 16th, 2024 @ 9:30 AM
LOCATION: J.P. Coughlin Building

PRESENT:

Jeff Bucholtz	Duane Canon	Dave Mix	Diane Steinert
Randy Miller	Francis Mathe	Paul Rhymer	Kathi Boyette
Zak Zuehlsdorf	Bill Christianson	Jim Meinke	Tony Glugla
Alene Helmer	Tom Snider	Dave Steinert	Jon Pylypiv
Jim Hoyman	Guest: Bill Mulcrone	State Rep. Michael Schraa	

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

3. Roll Call/Introductions:

Introductions were made: Introductions were waved today due to time constraints. Jeff did introduce Zak Zuehlsdorf, the new Benefits Specialist in the Neenah Office.

4. Guest Speaker:

Guest Speaker: Bill Mulcrone, Helmets to Hardhats

Helmets to Hardhats' (H2H) mission is to help transition our military heroes into successful civilian careers in the building trades.

H2H was created by the Center for Military Recruitment, Assessment and Veterans Employment. H2H is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit joint labor-management driven entity that connects transitioning active-duty military service members, veterans, National Guard and Reservists with skilled training and quality career opportunities in the construction industry. Since 2003, we've helped over 40,000 military personnel successfully transfer into civilian careers in the construction trades.

How do we do it? We've partnered with 15 international construction trade unions – like the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers (SMART) – that have made a commitment to help our military heroes successfully transition to civilian life and work. We help service members explore the construction trades, get them started with earn-while-you-learn apprenticeship training programs through these partner organizations, and help connect them with employers. We also educate service members on how they can use their G.I. Bill benefits to supplement their incomes while participating in a registered apprenticeship program.

We're proud and honored to be our military heroes' gateway to meaningful, long-lasting, well-paying careers in the construction trades through world-class apprenticeship education programs.

<https://helmetstohardhats.org/about-h2h/>

5. Old Business:

- Jeff talked about the success of Mission Possible and planning for next year.

6. New Business and VA Updates:

Discussion of the following handouts:

- Jeff distributed the following handouts:
 - Annual Oshkosh, Neenah/Menasha, Omro, Winneconne Memorial Day Events May 27th
 - Protect Older Adults: Advocate Against Elder Abuse 12 June
 - Milwaukee Brewers Free Tickets for Military/Veterans
 - Green Bay Vet Center Open House/Fry May 22nd
 - Lakeview Memorial Park Memorial Day Event May 23rd
 - Luck Dogz Bar & American Legion Memorial Day Car Show May 27th
 - CVMA D-Day Remembrance Ride June 8th
 - Neenah/Menasha Veterans Armed Forces Day Isle of Valor May 18th
 - T-Rattlers Support the Fox Valley Veterans Council Hot Dog Night July 6th
 - HOOAH Serves for Suicide June 29th
 - Military Vehicle Preservation Association International Convention and Show 12-14 September
 - 2024 Mini JOB Fairs (see flyer for dates)
 - Fox Cities Employment Fair May 22nd
 - Veterans Voice (see flyer for details)
- American Legion Post 70 will be placing flags at Lakeview Cemetery, AMVETS Post 7 will be placing flags at Riverside Cemetery, Peace Lutheran Cemetery and Ellenwood Cemetery.
- Omro VFW is handing out Poppy's at Piggly Wiggly May 24th.
- Oshkosh VFW is handing out Poppy's at Festival and Fleet Farm May 24th-25th.
- Fox Valley Veterans Council is putting together classes on Identifying Theft Training for Veterans and Senior Citizens June 20th 4:30-6:30pm
- Fox Cities Employment Fair Wednesday, May 22 10am-2pm at the Fox Cities Exhibition Center, Appleton, WI. Also mini job fairs throughout the summer (check flyer for updates).
- Representative Michael Schraa spoke about legislative bills introduced at the state level. Specifically discussed the bill (AB 102) allowing Veteran disability property tax threshold being dropped to 70% which was voted down. Also discussed AB 91, AB 102, AB 1079, Senate Bill 251 and Senate Bill 546. Rep Schraa mentioned budget increase to Kings Veterans Home on the table.
- American Legion Post 33 flags posted in all cemeteries. Brat Fry 20-21 June at Festival in Neenah.
- VFW Post 216 Armed Forces Day May 18th at the Isle of Valor in Menasha.
- American Legion Auxillary Unit 33 discussed a GWOT Monument being created by a spouse of a deceased service member that is short of funds if anybody knew of anybody willing to help.
- American Legion Auxillary Unit 33 discussed the State of Wisconsin ADA Pet Bill that recently adopted ADA requirements and Neenah City Ordinance adopted the Wisconsin Bill.

7. Local Community Updates:

- Winnebago County Veterans Services Office is continuing their outreach with Winneconne and started outreach in Omro. We will be alternating sites each month.

8. Upcoming Events:

- Omro Post 234 is having Monday Night BINGO on the 3rd Monday of the month. There is FREE Parking!
- MVPA-HA is coming to Oshkosh WI. This is their 49th International Convention and is most likely a one time thing for this area. This is a huge event.
- 05/18/2024 Armed Force Day at the Isle of Valor in Menasha
- 05/27/2024 is Neena/Menasha's Memorial Day Parade followed by Lucky Dogz Annual Car Show
- Vietnam Veterans Wall is coming to the Sunny View Expo 10/10-10/13
- 06/01/2024 Marine Corps League 13th Annual Veteran Benefit & Ride
- Reminder Brat Fry Season is here! Support your local organizations by checking out our Event Calendar.

- Reminder for upcoming Poppy/Blossom/Viola/Forget Me Not Drives. This fundraising helps many local veterans in our areas. Dates and Locations are on Winnebago County Veterans Services Office Event Calendar.

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

9. Next Meeting Time, Date and Place:

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held July 11th, 2024 @ 9:30 AM, at the James Coughlin Building; Meeting Room A. We will have a guest speaker at this meeting from Ever Lasting Memories.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Zachary Zuehlsdorf

Benefits Specialist