

WINNEBAGO COUNTY COUNCIL OF VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

DATE: November 10th, 2022 @ 9:30 AM
LOCATION: J.P. Coughlin Building

PRESENT:	Jeff Bucholtz	Jim Hoyman	Francis Mathe	Tom Snider
	Richard Daseke	Patti Julius	Rich Martin	Lydia Wilz
	David Felten	Chad Koehler	Mark Mennen	
	John Hoeft	Nicole Koehler	Paul Rhyner	

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: No introductions were made.

Guest Speaker's:

Bridlewood Insurance Nicole Koehler: Medicare Specialist came to discuss the different levels of Medicare and how those benefits intertwine with VA Health Care, CHAMPVA/CHAMPVA Life and TriCare/TriCare Life.

There are two types of care an individual can select while on Medicare: Supplemental (aka Gap Insurance) or Medicare Advantage plans (aka part c).

This education was extremely helpful and if you have questions as to if you are on the right plan please call Nicole at 920-533-0204

5. Old Business:

- Military Veterans Museum:
Nothing new to report at this meeting
- Just a reminder for the upcoming winter:

Salvation Army:

***Coats for Kids Distribution** is increasing their distribution from one drop off to three due to the increase of needs. They meet the needs for infants up till the age of 18 (as long as they are still in school). After the kids needs are met, they then will meet the needs of the homeless population.

They generally run out of hats and gloves!!!

***The Toy Store:** Toys for Tots and the Oshkosh Fire Department are doing their annual toy drive. The Toy distribution is for infants up to the age of 18. The roll over from this program goes to the birthday Program so that families in need can pick up a cake and a gift on their children's birthday.

Holiday Sign Up starts September 15th, 2022... This is an online sign up for Oshkosh, Winneconne, & Omro residence. They can also call and do it over the phone if they do not have access to the online platform.

Neenah and Menasha residence will have to reach out the Fox Cities Salvation Army at 920-734-3324.

Salvation Army is anticipating a busy year due to the fact that their Back To School Program assisted 1,000 families in the Winnebago Area.

Bell Ringing Season starts November 4th through Christmas Eve. They are looking for volunteers for their Holiday Programs. Call 920-232-7660, ask for Al or Patty. Al.rolph@usc.salvationarmy.org

Day by Day Warming Shelter:

Cory emphasized that they have a separate storage for specific donations for veterans and that there is also the opportunity to sponsor a veteran.

Items that are needed:

Cold Weather Sleeping Bags

Cold Weather Boots

Cold Weather Gear

6. New Business:

Roundtable of events:

2023 Meetings will be hosted at the same time: 9:30 am on the second Thursday of the month.

7. VA Updates and Local Community Updates:

Jeff detailed the following handouts:

- PACT ACT SPECIAL HEALTH CARE ENROLLMENT PERIOD: Oct. 1, 2022- Oct. 1, 2023. This is important because it waives the five year eligibility window that was in place. So if you served in the Persian Gulf or in combat against hostile forces aft November 11,1998, you have ONE YEAR to get into VA Health Care without the VA looking at your income.
- VA Life Insurance (VALIFE) enrollment is opening up. S-DVI will not be accepting anymore applications after Dec. 31, 2022 as the VA is merging to the VALIFE.
- Marine Corps League is opening their doors to anyone who would like to watch Packer Night Games. Finger food is available, or bring a small dish if you would like too.
- Omro Post 234 is having Monday Night BINGO on the 3rd Monday of the month. There is FREE Parking!
- *Recap from last month's meeting*, Jeremy Otto from WDVA is looking for a locally owned veteran business that can do their story on. WDVA would put together a 3 minute video on the veteran and their product that they would share publicly. They would own the rights to the video, but the veteran could use it whenever he or she would like too.
- Military Veterans Museum started their 52 Week Sportsman's Raffle.
- Tony Evers \$10 Million dollar Investment was discussed. We are still unsure of how this will impact Winnebago County. Once we know more we will share it.

8. Upcoming Events:

- Please check with your local post as to where their events will be or check it out at our Winnebago County Website!

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

9. Next Meeting Time, Date and Place:

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held December 9th, 2022 @ 9:30 AM, at the James Coughlin Building; Meeting Room A. We will have a few guest speaker at this meeting:

- UW Extension (Financial)
- Memory Project

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