

WINNEBAGO COUNTY COUNCIL OF VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

DATE: September 8th, 2022 @ 9:30 AM
LOCATION: J.P. Coughlin Building

PRESENT:	Jeff Bucholtz	Ron Griffin	Marissa Mielke	Roy Rogers
	Duane Cannon	Jim Hoefft	Joe Miller	Al Rolph
	Teresa Cook	Jim Hoyman	Dave Mix	Cory Smith
	David Felten	Francis Mathe	Jeff Murphy	Bill Trombley
	Tom Galica	Mark Mennen	Mark Nielson	Lydia Wilz

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:

Teresa Cook was introduced as our newest hire. Her husband is an Army Veteran who Deployed to Iraq.

Guest Speaker's:

Al Rolph with the Salvation Army: Al came to discuss the upcoming Holiday Programs and the needs they are attempting to fulfill through these programs.

***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

Cory Smith from Day by Day Warming Shelter:

Cory was previously an Intern for Winnebago CVSO, and is now the Operations Director and Veteran Outreach Coordinator at the Day By Day Warming Shelter. The Day By Day Warming Shelter is a 25 bed shelter and a last chance shelter. The new shelter will be a 50 bed facility with the capability of 72. It will also be a 365 day shelter.

Cory discussed the needs of the veterans who are utilizing their shelter, but also updated us on the new shelter being built.

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

They are always looking for volunteers, so please share the word.

5. Old Business:

- Military Veterans Museum:

They are having their 1st Preliminary meeting for the new addition. They also getting ready for their Sportsman Raffle. It's \$50 a ticket and one of their biggest fundraisers.

6. New Business:

Roundtable of events:

State Street Building is a public resource center that is free to utilize. They have clothing (kids and adults), a free phone that anyone can use, and offer an array of free informal counseling for AODA and Mental Health with more of a holistic approach.

7. VA Updates and Local Community Updates:

Jeff detailed the following handouts:

- Jeff discussed the new sheet that we put together to simplify the new changes the PACT ACT has implemented to our Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange: new locations, new dates, new presumptive conditions.
- Mental Health Summit that is being hosted in Fond Du Lac on September 20th. There will be numerous of Guest Speakers from the VA. There will be multiple break out rooms and the American Legion will have food for purchase. THERE WILL BE VETERAN READY TO HIRE EMPLOYERS THERE!
- VVA Chapter 437 is hosting a POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony on 09/17/2022. This will be at the SouthPark Memorial in Oshkosh.
- Glacier Dental is providing free cleaning, extraction or filling for Active Duty or Veteran Service Member. Please contact them at 920-550-4091
- VFE Post 1908 is hosting a golf outing at Farview Golf Course September 24th, 2022
- We want to emphasize that there are MANY SCAMS that are going around. Please be aware of this and be very careful. Please call us if you have any concerns.
- Jeff did an update on the PACT ACT and highlighted a couple of things. He is asking that everyone understands that we can't put into words how busy we are. Please be patient and understand that we will return calls, but it could be a 2-3 day wait period.

8. Upcoming Events:

- September 17th POW/MIA Remembrance Ceremony at South Park War Memorial in Oshkosh. Hosted by VVA Chapter 437

- September 20th Mental Health Summit at Fond Du Lac County Expo Center
- September 24th, 2022 VFE Post 1908 is hosting a golf outing at Farview Golf Course
- October 31st, 2022 American Legion Cook Fuller Post 70 is hosting a Safe Halloween Party from 5:00-7:00 at their Post.

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 October 13th, 2022 @ 9:30 AM, at the James Coughlin Building; Meeting Room A. We will have a few guest speaker at this meeting:

- Heat 4 Heroes
- Camp American Legion

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