

Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs (OCDVA)
Relief and Business Meetings
Meeting Minutes August 4 2023

Business Meeting

The Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs Business Meeting was called to order at 11:32 A.M. in the Oceana County Annex Room meeting room by Chairman Derik Van Baale.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Derik Van Baale, Paul Dees Jr., Tracy Blamer, Bob Cramblit, Kim Tate, Ed Dodds, Gina Mead

Members Absent: None

Guest Present:

Public Comments:

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by PD

Motion 2nd by TB

Voice vote, Yes 7 No 0

Motion approved

Motion to approve last meeting minutes

Motion 2nd by ED

Voice Vote 7 Yes, No 0

Motion approved

Correspondence: None

Sub-Committee Reports

VSO (Veterans Support Officer) Report

The sign up sheet for upcoming events was provided to the committee.

The VSO received a letter of thanks from a veteran that had been denied benefits for the last 30 years. This is common and brought to the committee's attention.

A new refrigerator was given to the VSO office by a veteran.

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A service dog is being kept in the office. All vet records etc. are kept in the office.

The VSO office has obtained a total of \$400,723.25 in back pay for Oceana County veterans YTD.

Veterans Liaison

GM briefed the committee on a number of events that she is tracking and promoting.

Budget and Finance Committee

TB briefed the committee on the current budget. She has also applied for multiple other grants.

The GLE fund is upcoming as well.

Personnel Committee

No report

Policy and Procedures

No report

Community Relations

The committee will be at the Apple BBQ this year.

Strategic Planning

Work on the new logo is ongoing. The process for the building is moving along. Quotes for a wrap on the van have been requested. Another building has been identified as a possible location.

Chair/Vice

No report

County Commissioners Veterans Liaison

No report

Old Business

The committee has purchased a van for use in transporting veterans. TB is working on finances to maintain and fuel the van for this use. A volunteer schedule needs to be created as well as marketing ideas to inform the county veterans of its availability.

Discussion on the proposed building. Kathy Walicki, who worked in the building for 20 years, briefed the committee. There are some handicap accessibility issues with some parts of the building. Also the basement has flooding problems in heavy rain storms. The water will enter through the windows. The A/C in the building has also had some problems. Kathy also reported a ghost issue. The ghost's name is Fred.

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Brian Schlaack also spoke to the committee. He is a county maintenance manager for the county. He highlighted many problem areas with the building that would require immediate funding.

Grant money usage. In the past the committee has participated in parades in surrounding counties. The committee is considering using some of this grant money to host/promote an Oceana County parade to occur around Veterans Day in 2024.

New Business

Gas cards. Most of these are being provided to the volunteers that have been assisting driving veterans to the office for appointments.

RELIEF MEETING

The Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs Business Meeting was called to order at 12:26 P.M. in the Oceana County Annex Room by Chairman Derik Van Baale

Roll Call: Derik Van Baale, Paul Dees Jr., Tracy Blamer, Bob Cramblit, Kim Tate, Ed Dodds, Gina Mead

Members Absent: None

Guest Present: None

Claims for Review and Considerations

Claim # 48-23-Veteran is seeking assistance with a vehicle purchase.

After discussion there was no motion made on this claim.

Claim # 49-23-Veteran is seeking assistance with monthly cost and vehicle repairs.

After discussion on this claim there was no motion made on this claim.

Claim # 50-23- Wife of deceased veteran is seeking assistance with fuel oil as well as furnace parts. The total requested is \$1046.25.

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GM makes a motion to pay the total requested.

Voice Vote 7 Yes, 0 No

Motion 2nd by DV

Motion approved.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:14 by DV.

The next general meeting will be held on September 8th, 2023, in the County Annex Conference Room.

11:30 AM Veterans Affairs Business Meeting

12:30 PM Veterans Affairs Relief Meeting



Derik Van Baale, Chairman



Paul Dees Jr Secretary