Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs (OCDVA) Relief and Business Meetings Meeting Minutes 12 September, 2024

Business Meeting

The Oceana County Department of Veterans Affairs Business Meeting was called to order at 1:32 P.M. in the Oceana County Annex Room meeting room by Chairperson Tracy Blamer.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Tracy Blamer, Ed Dodds, Ben Kaat, Sam Stitt

Members Absent: Kim Tate, Bob Cramblit (excused) Paul Dees, Jr (unexcused)

Guest Present: None

Public Comments: None

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda by ED Motion 2nd by BK

Voice vote, 4 Yes 0 No Motion approved

Motion to approve last meeting minutes TB

Motion 2nd by ED

Voice Vote 4 Yes, 0 No Motion approved

VSO (Veterans Support Officer) Report

Dani is looking for volunteers to lay wreaths at the Pentwater Cemetery. There are 278 Veterans at Pentwater cemetery. DAR is sponsoring the wreath laying event on Dec 14th at 12 pm. Anyone interested in volunteering should let Dani know at the next meeting. Jodi, Ben, and Sam volunteered.

Indigent budget \$4,465.92

Nonindigent budget \$1,537.59

Dani presented 2 hat options that would be used to give away at the Veterans Day parade and also for giveaways throughout the year at public outreach events. Cost of each hat is \$14 If bought in bulk and \$15/hat if buying 100 or less.

Part time VSO interviews are ongoing and will wrap up with a candidate selected by 30 September.

Strategic Planning

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TB presented options for 5K T shirts and give away T shirts for the parade along with costing. Conversation on changes and agreement on design ensued.

TB reiterated that the 5k is always free to students and that any help reaching out to the area school cross and track teams would be appreciated. The 5k begins and ends at Getty Park in Shelby on Nov 9th at 10 am.

TB reported that the parade registration was now online.

TB reported that the Veterans Day 5K would be renamed the Warren Varney Vet Day 5K after a large donation to the office in memory of Warren Varney a WWII POW.

Each committee member presented the businesses/organizations that they had secured parade registrants from or sponsorships.

County Commissioners Veterans Liaison TB reported that Blackmer was selected to do the work to convert offices for the building dept at the county building. There was also an improvement to fiber optics for the building approved. No ETA on the move at this time.

Old Business

Each committee member presented the businesses/organizations that they had secured parade registrants from or sponsorships from for the Nov 9th Veterans Day Parade

New Business

Motion for the purchase of 200 hats at \$14 or NTE \$15 per hat for giveaways was made by ED seconded by BK

Voice Vote 4 Yes, 0 No

RELIEF MEETING

There were no claims this month.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:23 by TB.

The next general meeting will be held on October 3rd in the County Annex Conference Room.

1:30 AM Veterans Affairs Business Meeting

2:30 PM Veterans Affairs Relief Meeting

Tracy Blamer Chairperson

Paul Dees Jr Secretary