

Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: December 15, 2020

Start Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Virtual on GoToMeeting Platform

Chairperson: Marc Fisher

Vice-Chair: Mick Schmidt

| Topic | Discussion |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Mission Statement | To evaluate, develop and promote new and existing programs and services for Veterans and their families within Carroll County. |
| Vision Statement | That Carroll County offers our Veterans quality services and programs to ensure the enrichment and enhancements of life for our men and women and their families. |
| Attendance | Kim Benson, Linda Bergofsky, Larry Burbank, David Galloway, Francine Hahn, Greg Kahlert, Bobbie Lawrence, Kristen Maszarose, Mike Messina, Bill Murphy, Bill Nash, Stacey Nash, Rick Pollard, Mick Schmidt, Celene Steckel, Elaine May Stem, Gina Valentine, John Veney, Leslie Wagner |
| Welcome and Introductions | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Co-Chair's Comments</u> (Mick Schmidt) – Mick opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. 2. <u>Attendee Introductions and Announcements</u> – Attendees introduced themselves. Announcements included Wreaths Across America this Saturday and Toys for Tots distribution this Saturday also. 3. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mick Schmidt. 4. <u>Commissioner's Report</u> – No report. 5. <u>Public Comment</u> – None. |
| Old Business | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A quorum (6 + voting members) was established with six voting members present. 2. <u>Approval of Minutes</u> (Mick Schmidt) – Draft minutes from the November 2020 meeting was approved. Bill Nash made a motion and Elaine May Stem seconded. 3. <u>Monthly Program Reports</u> (Mike Messina) – Brief written summary and monthly numbers served for November 2020: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Veteran's Program Coordinators' Reports <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. 8 New representations ii. 27 Claims submitted iii. 9 Office appointments iv. 0 Home visits v. 15 Phone appointments vi. 963 Telephone and email contacts |

Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: December 15, 2020

Start Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Virtual on GoToMeeting Platform

Chairperson: Marc Fisher

Vice-Chair: Mick Schmidt

- | | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">vii. Monthly return on investment, based on known awards is approximately \$942,721 for compensation and pension. Biannual Growth Rate from 1/1/2020 to 7/1/2020 was 13.2% and the Monthly Growth Rate from 11/1/2020 to 12/1/2020 was 1%.viii. Yearly return on investment, based on known awards is approximately \$31,162,000 since inception of the program in October 2013. Yearly Growth Rate for 2020 is 41%.ix. Phone appointments are going well. The National Archive is closed due to an increase in COVID cases. They are only responding to high importance requests such as homelessness and death. The VA will back-date claims to the intent to file date. The War Memorial Plaza can assist, although they are open one day weekly from 8am to 12pm. They can provide DD-214 for WWII and Korean War veterans who resided in Maryland at the time they entered the military. The American Legion has DD-214's for 90% of their Maryland members.b. <u>Veteran's Shuttle Report</u> (Stacey Nash) – November 2020:<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. 14 veterans were served and 10 home pick-ups<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Baltimore – 9 veterans served with 12 trips2. Loch Raven – 2 veterans served with 2 trips3. Ft. Detrick – 3 veterans served with 6 trips4. GBMC – 1 veteran served with 2 trips5. Walter Reed – 1 veteran served with 1 trip6. Martinsburg – 3 veterans served with 3 trips7. Total cost - \$3,059.00c. <u>Employment Initiatives for Veterans Update</u> (John Veney) – National Veteran Unemployment was 6.8% September, 5.9% October, and 6.3% for November. Working with 13 veterans this month. BERC is open by appointment only. You can visit the website to learn more information about services. Most benefits will expire by the end of December.4. <u>Update on Veteran Direct Home and Community Based Services Program Grant</u> (Francine Hahn) – A long term veteran in the program has passed away. Currently they are serving three veterans. |
|--|--|

Carroll County Veterans Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Date: December 15, 2020

Start Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Virtual on GoToMeeting Platform

Chairperson: Marc Fisher

Vice-Chair: Mick Schmidt

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| | <p>5. <u>Update on Veteran Services Program Grant</u> (Francine Hahn) – There is a multi-generational veteran family and a single veteran in the hotel. The grant has been used to assist with rent, water bill, toys for tots and car repairs. A formerly homeless veteran’s family that was previously served with the grant has reached out for assistance. The veteran passed away suddenly and there are many needs. DAV and American Legion have also offered to help.</p> |
| New Business | <p>1. <u>Status of vacant positions – Veterans Services Program</u> – They are still working to hire a Coordinator for the Case Management position of the Veteran Services Program Grant.</p> <p>2. <u>Monthly Column in Carroll County Times – Establishment of a Sub-Committee</u> – This group would gather ideas, reach out to obtain articles and submit to Gina. The members agreed that this is something the Executive Committee can assist. New Executive Committee meetings will be scheduled at the beginning of 2021.</p> |
| Announcements | <p>1. Tom Woerner, Veterans Advisory Council member, has passed away. The obituary will be forwarded to the membership. Funeral services are for family and friends only with others able to view online. The VAC will send flowers.</p> <p>2. If you know of someone who is past due on their rent or needs assistance with energy, gas, electric, or oil please reach out to HSP. There are funds available through the Eviction Prevention Program. Assistance needed does not have to be only COVID related.</p> |
| Next Meeting Date | <p>The next meeting date is Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. Meeting and participation information will be forwarded. Call 410-386-3818 for more information.</p> |