

VETERAN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: September 20, 2016

Time 2 p.m.

Location: US Army Recruiting/Reserve Building, 412 Malcolm Drive, #102, Westminster, MD 21157, the meeting scheduled to occur at DSS following the tour was cancelled.

Veteran's Advisory Council Mission Statement: To evaluate, develop and promote new and existing programs and services for Veterans and their families within Carroll County.

Veteran's Advisory Council Vision Statement: That Carroll County offers our Veterans quality services and programs to ensure the enrichment and enhancement of life for our men and women and their families.

Council Present: Frank Valenti; Larry Burbank; Ed Rothstein; Mick Schmidt; Elaine May-Stem; Steve Yinger

County Staff Present: Commissioner Howard; Commissioner Weaver; Jim Hillman; Erin Inman; Christine Kay; Celene Steckel; Gina Valentine

Other Present: Amy Baker; Jeff Collins; Scott Kutkat; Bob Pelletier; Todd Mitchell; Liz Riggs

I. Welcome and Introductions

- A. Chair's Comments (Frank Valenti)- Frank welcomed everyone and led a tour of the facility.
- B. Commissioner's Report (Commissioner Weaver)- No report

II. Old Business

- A. Approval of Minutes (Frank Valenti) - The August meeting minutes were emailed to the Council for review on 9/14/2016. A vote to approve the minutes was not taken since the meeting scheduled to follow the tour was cancelled. A vote on the August minutes will be held at the October meeting.
- B. Monthly Program Reports (Brief Written Summary and Monthly Numbers Served)- No report
 - 1) Veteran's Program Coordinators' Reports (Jim Hillman)- No report
 - 2) Veteran's Shuttle Report (Anita Farinetti and Gina Valentine)- No report
 - 3) Veteran's Jobs Report (Todd Mitchell)- No report
 - 4) Subcommittee Reports (Access, Mentoring, Outreach)-
 - a. Access- No report
 - b. Mentoring- No report
 - c. Outreach- Steve Yinger reported that the first Veterans Book Club will begin tonight at 7 pm and will be held at the Finksburg branch of the Carroll County Public Library. Steve

also reported that a Facebook page has been established for the Council.

- C. Update on Veteran Direct Home and Community Based Services Program Grant (Jim Hillman)- No report
- D. Update on Veteran Services Program Grant (Gina Valentine and Keri Keefer)- No report
- E. Update on Veteran Friendly Business initiative (Todd Mitchell)- No report

III. New Business

- A. Tour of the US Army Recruiting/Reserve Building, 412 Malcolm Drive, #102, Westminster, MD 21157- Frank led a tour of the facility. Afterwards, the Council convened on the grounds of the facility to discuss the potential to use it as a veteran's shelter and community resource center. Next steps and the Council discussed whether to have the building and grounds assessed for suitability. A vote was taken and all were in favor to proceed with having the building and grounds evaluated for environmental and structural issues that could impact the use of the building.

IV. Announcements

- A. Jim Hillman reported that since the last Council meeting, the DAV donated \$500 to provide some additional assistance to a homeless veteran who is also being served by the Veterans Services Program grant.

- V. **Next Meeting:** October 18th, 2016 at 2pm at the Department of Social Services.