



AURORA VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

January 11, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Council Members

Jose Cervantes; Ansar Kazmi; Josh Pfeuffer (Chair); Guillermo Trujillo (COA); Patricia DeVore; Scott Maxson; and Rick Lawrence.

Call to Order Chair Mr.Pfeuffer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance Completed

Moment of Silence Completed

Roll Call Present: Josh Pfeuffer, Jose Cervantes; Ansar Kazmi; Patricia DeVore; Scott Maxson; Guillermo Trujillo and Rick Lawrence. Absent: Randy Fisher (Vice-Chair); Guests: Mr. Dave Tellner and Mr. Curtis Wilson.

Mission Statement Completed

Acceptance of Previous Minutes: November 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes was not available so tabled until next month's meeting February 8, 2023.

Public Comment Mr.Curtis Wilson shared information about the Penn National Gaming Casino and their Penn Entertainment Foundation, which currently has a lot of available funding opportunities for Veteran and Military Support Programs in the Aurora, Kane County IL.area.

Treasurer's Report The December 2022 Treasurer's Report was not available. Tabled until next month's meeting February 8, 2023.

Scholarship Fund

Council Fund

Service Dogs Fund

Memorial Bricks Fund

Assistance Fund

Committee Report

Scholarship Fund No report available

AVAC Web / Social Media Mr. Cervantes reported that he is continuing to post numerous pictures and various other VSO organizations fundraising event information on the AVAC Face Book page.

Service Dogs Chair Mr. Pfeuffer no new requests received in December. No word back yet on current applicants.

Memorial Bricks Mr. Kazmi informed us no brick sales in December 2022. He is still working to improve future Memorial Bricks payment process.

Assistance Fund No new requests received in December 2022.

COA Liaison Report Mr. Guillermo Trujillo informed the membership that Lisa Brooker / Director of the Aurora Vet Center hopes to attend one of our monthly meetings in the near future to discuss more networking opportunities to assist our local Veterans. He also shared that the Carrion Clay People Club would like to present the AVAC membership in person with their donation at their next meeting on January 18, 2023 at 6:00 pm, located at 1300 Mansfield Drive in Aurora. He also informed us of Mr. Gerald Paulsen / Ambassador to Gaum has expressed a lot of interest with supporting minority owned companies.

Upcoming Events AVAC Membership is encouraged to attend the Carrion Clay People Club meeting January 18, 2023 at 6:00 pm, located at 1300 Mansfield Drive in Aurora.

Old Business:

- **Parade Update -** The COA has not finalized any parade specifics at this time however Mr. Guillermo Trujillo is continuing to work with Mr. Mike Nelson on getting details those for us.
- **Gift Cards for Holiday Food** – The 50 x \$100 Gift Cards arrived too late to be distributed during the Holiday Season. Therefore the Gift Cards will now become available for eligible Veteran's that apply for AVAC assistance in the future.
- **Schedule for 2023** – Mr. Lawrence provided & distributed a 2023 calendar to the membership. We discussed various Patriotic Holidays throughout the year but tabled any further event planning discussions for next month's meeting.

New Business:

- Chair Mr. Pfeuffer asked the group to consider us donating all of the current funds in the Service Dog Fund to Got Your Six Service Dog organization. Further discussion was tabled for now until next month's meeting.
- Chair Mr. Pfeuffer also informed us that Jennifer with Hollywood Casino would like to present their \$4K donation check to the AVAC membership in the near future too. Mr. Pfeuffer will follow up with the membership with more specific details via email once finalized.

- Mr. Tellner suggested a possible golf outing in the future to help us raise funds. He also informed us of more possible funding opportunities through the Aspen Lane Winery too.
- Ms. DeVore suggested a possible future event to honor Gold Star Mother's & Families on Sunday September 24th National Gold Star Mother's Families Day. Further discussion was tabled until next months meeting.

Announcements / Good of the Order – Ms. DeVore mentioned the Discount Tire Raffle for the Veterans Smile Program.

Next meeting is February 8, 2023

Adjournment Called at 7:15 p.m. with a motion from Ms. DeVore and a second by Mr. Lawrence Motion passed.