



AURORA VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

February 8, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Council Members

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance Completed

Moment of Silence Completed

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

Mission Statement Completed

Acceptance of Previous Minutes: January 11, 2023 The motion passed to accept the Minutes as made by Ms. DeVore and seconded by Mr. Maxson.

Public Comment Miss Lisa Brooker / Director of the Aurora Vet Center, 750 Shoreline Drive, Ste 150, Aurora, IL. 60504 distributed Vet Center pamphlets and her business cards. She discussed all of the various services and counseling programs available at the Aurora Vet Center for our local Veteran's in the Aurora area.

Treasurer's Report The January 2023 Treasurer's Report totals were not available at this meeting so this was tabled until next month's meeting March 8, 2023.

Scholarship Fund

Council Fund

Service Dogs Fund

Memorial Bricks Fund

Assistance Fund

Committee Report

Scholarship Fund Mr. Guillermo Trujillo will check with the COA regarding a \$5,500.00 potential donation and will provide us with an update at next month's meeting.

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 No report available.

Memorial Bricks Mr. Kazmi informed us no brick sales in January 2023.

Assistance Fund No new requests received in January 2023. Mr. Guillermo Trujillo informed us that we are continuing to attempt to assist one of our current Veteran applicant's with his numerous moving requests at this time.

COA Liaison Report Mr. Guillermo Trujillo informed us that the Genoa Clinic in Aurora is now open. He also informed us that our 4 x new AVAC member's will be presented / voted on at the next COA Counsel Meeting on Tuesday February 14, 2023 and other AVAC Membership are also encouraged to attend.

Upcoming Events Mr. Guillermo Trujillo invited us to attend the upcoming 100th Birthday Party celebration on Sunday Feb. 12th between 12:30 – 2:30 pm at the Prisco Center in Aurora for a WWII Veteran, Mr. Ray Moore.

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. He will provide us with an update at next month's meeting.
- **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** – No updates given. Further event planning discussions will remain tabled until next month's meeting.
- **Service Dog Fund Allocation** – This discussion was tabled until next month's meeting.
- **Hollywood Casino \$4K donation to the AVAC** - Mr. Guillermo Trujillo and Mr. Josh Pfeuffer (Chair) also recently met with the Hollywood Casino Management and accepted a \$4, 643.16 donation check on AVAC's behalf.
- **Carrion Clay People Club Donation** - Mr. Guillermo Trujillo shared that he and Mr. Josh Pfeuffer (Chair) recently attended the Carrion Clay People Club meeting on January 18, 2023, where they were presented with a \$1,400.00 donation check for AVAC's programs.

- **Gold Star Mother's & Families on Sunday September 24th / National Gold Star Mother's Families Day** – No update was presented. Further discussion was tabled until next month's meeting.
- **Service Dogs** - Mr. Fisher reminded us that Chair Mr. Pfeuffer had previously asked the membership to consider donating all of the current funds in the Service Dog Fund to Got Your Six Service Dog organization. Further discussion was tabled again for now until next month's meeting when Chair Mr. Pfeuffer will be present.

New Business:

- Mr. Cervantes mentioned that Miss Kimberly Redd from the Barwell Residence's would like to attend & speak to us at one of our regularly scheduled AVAC monthly meetings. The membership asked him to redirect that discussion directly to Chair Mr. Pfeuffer for further consideration.
- Mr. Cervantes suggested we may want to consider candy sales as a AVAC fundraiser in the future.

Announcements / Good of the Order –

Next meeting is March 8, 2023

Adjournment Called at 7:55 p.m. with a motion from Ms. DeVore and a second by Mr. Maxson
Motion passed.