



# AURORA VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Minutes

**March 8, 2023**

**Time:** 6:00 p.m.

### **Council Members**

Jose Cervantes; Ansar Kazmi; Josh Pfeuffer (Chair); Guillermo Trujillo (COA); Patricia DeVore; Scott Maxson; Rick Lawrence; Curtis Wilson; Dave Tellner; Mike Carrasco; Mr. Randy Fisher and Pete Rodriguez.

**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:** Jose Cervantes; Ansar Kazmi; Patricia DeVore; Scott Maxson; Guillermo Trujillo; Rick Lawrence; Josh Pfeuffer (Chair); Dave Tellner; Curtis Wilson; Mike Carrasco and Pete Rodriguez. **Absent:** Mr. Randy Fisher

**Mission Statement** Completed by membership.

**Acceptance of Previous Minutes:** February 8, 2023 The motion passed to accept the Minutes made by Ms .DeVore and seconded by Mr. Carrasco with the exception of one correction to the date listed in the Treasurer's Report section.

**Public Comment** None presented.

**Treasurer's Report** The February 2023 Treasurer's Report totals were not available at this meeting so this was tabled until next month's meeting April 12, 2023.

**Scholarship Fund**

**Council Fund**

**Service Dogs Fund**

## **Memorial Bricks Fund**

## **Assistance Fund**

### **Committee Report**

**Scholarship Fund** Mr. Guillermo Trujillo will check with Mr. Randy Fisher surrounding 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** Mr. Pfeuffer (Chair) opened the floor to further discussion surrounding the possible closing of this specific AVAC Service Dog Fund going forward which could possibly result in us donating the current \$150K in available funding to the Got Your Six Service Dog organization a nonprofit. Mr. Pfeuffer (Chair) made the motion that we close this particular fund and donate the current \$150K in available funding to the Got Your Six Service Dog organization. The motion was seconded by Ms. DeVore. A vote was taken from the floor and unanimously passed.

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

**Assistance Fund** No new requests received in February 2023. Mr. Josh Pfeuffer (Chair) informed us that though we are continuing to attempt to assist one of our current Veteran applicant's, it has not been determined by the Kane County VAC if he is eligible at this time. Mr. Josh Pfeuffer (Chair) will provide us with any update at next month's meeting. Mr. Josh Pfeuffer (Chair) also distributed copies of our current AVAC Veterans Assistance Application and the process for any Veteran applicant's. Mr. Josh Pfeuffer (Chair) also distributed Habitat for Humanity applications also for our informational purposes. Mr. Rick Lawrence also informed us about the Naperville Resources For Veterans another nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that also assists eligible Veterans with various assistance ex: home repairs, etc.

**COA Liaison Report** Mr. Guillermo Trujillo distributed the AVAC apparel to the new member's. He also reminded the membership that we currently have two additional open seats available on the AVAC Council for future Veteran applicant's at this time.

**Upcoming Events** None

### **Old Business:**

- **Parade Update** - The COA has not finalized any parade specifics at this time however Mr. Trujillo is continuing to work with Mr. Mike Nelson / COA on getting details those for us. He will provide us with an update at next month's meeting.
- **Schedule for 2023** – The membership discussed many various Patriotic Holidays and Community & Veteran Service organizations events for the upcoming 2023 year. The COA is currently still in the planning stages for many of their events / celebrations at this time so Mr. Trujillo will provide us with any updates once COA plans are finalized at a later date. Ms. DeVore suggested we consider possibly co-hosting a ceremony or event to include other local

Veteran Service organizations again this year to remember & honor the National POW/MIA Recognition Day which is Friday September 15, 2023. Mr. Pfeuffer (Chair) suggested we form a POW/MIA Committee to assist with the planning and preparation stages for a potential ceremony or event. Therefore POW/MIA Committee volunteers include: Mr. Pfeuffer (Chair), Mr. Maxson, Mr. Wilson, Ms. DeVore and Mr. Trujillo (COA).

- **Gold Star Mother's & Families on Sunday September 24<sup>th</sup> / National Gold Star Mother's Families Day** – Mr. Trujillo will check with the COA to see if they are currently considering or in the planning stages for any specific event. Mr. Trujillo will provide us an update at next month's meeting.

#### **New Business:**

- (Chair) Mr. Pfeuffer informed the membership that our Treasurer and AVAC member, Mr. Randy Fisher, has now resigned from AVAC effective immediately. (Chair) Mr. Pfeuffer said we should all thank Mr. Randy Fisher for his dedication to helping Veterans while serving as Treasurer and as a member on the AVAC Council. (Chair) Mr. Pfeuffer also thanked Mr. Randy Fisher for his service as Treasurer for the AVAC Council for over the past four years. We All wish Mr. Randy Fisher the very best. (Chair) Mr. Pfeuffer also informed the membership that our AVAC Council member, Mr. Dave Tellner, has accepted to serve as our new Treasurer for the AVAC Council effective immediately. (Chair) Mr. Pfeuffer also thanked Mr. Tellner for accepting to serve as Treasurer for the AVAC Council going forward.
- (Chair) Mr. Pfeuffer discussed AVAC possibly purchasing & donating the 4 x 6 US Flags needed for the monthly Flag Dedication Ceremonies hosted by the Walter E. Truemper American Legion Post #1944 and the COA. Mr. Maxson will inform the Post #1944 membership of the same and encourage them to apply for US Flag funding.

**Announcements / Good of the Order** – Ms. DeVore asked for volunteers to help out at two upcoming events, May 6, 2023 and June 10, 2023 that will also benefit the “Veterans Smile Program” a nonprofit organization. She will follow up via email with the AVAC Council member's.

**Next meeting is** April 12, 2023

**Adjournment** Called at 7:09 pm with a motion from Mr. Tellner and a second by Mr. Maxson  
Motion passed.